



MINISTER FOR PRIMARY INDUSTRIES
MINISTER FOR ENERGY
MINISTER FOR MINERAL RESOURCES
MINISTER FOR STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

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Further safety improvements being developed for mining industry

Improved health and safety standards will be developed for the mining industry following the recent CEO Culture Change Summit of all key players in Sydney, according to NSW Minister for Primary Industries, Ian Macdonald.

“Industry leaders, unions and Government were brought together by the NSW Government for the summit so we could start working together on further safety improvements for the mining industry,” Minister Macdonald said.

“I compliment the industry on performance improvements to date, but injuries are still occurring and industry still has some way to go to reach our objective of zero harm.

“The summit agreed that a culture change was the priority and an agenda has been set to implement strategies to encourage changes to occupational health and safety (OHS) culture.”

“A communiqué has been issued by the summit which outlines a joint vision for the industry and an agreement on a set of guiding principles which will help ensure the industry has a dynamic culture to address key OHS issues” he added.

The Communiqué calls for the development and implementation of joint strategies to:

- Foster non-technical skills through education programs to improve OHS culture;
- Educate communities about good OHS principles at and beyond the workplace;
- Promote the value of non-technical skills of consultation, communication, situational awareness, teamwork, decision making and leadership.

“It is clear that addressing non-technical issues at all levels of the industry will enable continued improvement in OHS performance,” Minister Macdonald said.

Minister Macdonald said all sections of the mining industry and unions will continue playing their part in making further OHS performance improvements under the umbrella of the NSW Mine Safety Advisory Council.

“I am very optimistic that MSAC will build on the commitment shown at the Summit to make the next major step improvement to occupational health and safety in the NSW mining and extractives industry,” he said.

The Summit Communiqué is available at

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/minerals/safety/consultation/ceo-culture-change-summit>

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