

Media Release

MineWare solution for risk management

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For the past 11 years, MineWare Consulting has developed and produced a range of software solutions for the mining and allied industries. The company recently introduced its Incident Management System (IMS), which facilitates the recording of any Safety, Health, Environment Community (SHEC) related incidents that occur at a mine.

SHEC incidents are initially categorised as Telephonic, Consolidated Risk Assessment, Significant Incident Report (SIR) or Incident Causal Assessment Method (ICAM). Telephonic input may be anonymous and after hours telephony is recorded for later input into IMS.

Incidents are classified as pro-active (Lead) or re-active (Lag) and further categorisation qualifications result in automatic "Risk Ratings" and "Likelihood Factors" being assigned to each incident.

Incidents and corrective activities are assigned to a 'Responsible Person' and the relevant Head of Department. The 'Responsible Person' may, in turn, supply sub-tasks to persons under his jurisdiction. Time constraints are input for both primary and sub-activities and participants are informed via the IMS and also by email that a SHEC related task has been assigned to them. If the 'Responsible Person' does not respond within a set time limit, the Head of Department is informed automatically by email. If the Head of Department fails to respond the next level of management is also automatically informed. Locally termed as 'closing the loop' on incident reporting, nearly 100% compliance has been achieved.

Information gleaned from the analysis can be used to determine what type of incidents happen more frequently than others, allowing the mine to implement a course-of-action to prevent the same thing happening again. In addition, high-risk activities can be identified and plans for training can be implemented to prevent incidents.

As an example, several months prior to the implementation of the IMS, a significant number of Fall Of Ground incidents had occurred, with no fatalities, but the Fall Of Ground issue had never been discussed in an incident forum because the incidents, in their entirety, had not been recognised. The IMS provides the analysis platform to easily identify and highlight these issues.

During the Department of Minerals and Energy's recent Safety Compliance investigation, instigated by Thabo Mbeki, the IMS was examined and subsequently awarded a 5/5 rating with a recommendation that it should be installed on all mines.

According to MineWare Manager **Ken Ansell**, the system provides a very thorough methodology to manage risk and that, together with the promotion of a "Family Safety Environment" has resulted in a measurable trend of reduced LTI's (Reportable Injuries). On one account this has been measured as a 30 to 33 % reduction in such incidents.

In an industry governed by rigorous safety measures and strict analysis and reporting laws, the IMS provides solutions that comply with the Department of Minerals and Energy's policy while keeping the process efficient and simple.



Issued on Behalf of MineWare Consulting by Ngage Public Relations

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