



Sink Line

AN UPDATE FROM OMR ON YOUR MINE RESCUE PROGRAM

ISSUE #42 SUMMER 2020

Mine Rescue training resumes



SOCIAL DISTANCING - Left to right, Taylor Trahan, Al Desbois, Zac Clouthier, Josh Gagne, and Corbin MacDonald from Sudbury INO - Glencore's Onaping Depth Project keep their distance during a June Introductory Mine Rescue Course at the Onaping Mine Rescue Station. For more training photos, [see Page 5](#).

'Near normal' training expected to resume in fall

As Ontario re-opens from the pandemic, so does Ontario Mine Rescue (OMR).

While precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 will continue, OMR introductory and refresher training will move to "more normal" operations late this summer, says Shawn Rideout, Chief Mine Rescue Officer.

Surface training had been scheduled to resume at mine sites in late August, and it was hoped underground training would be

resumed later in the fall, Rideout said, but the province's move into Stage 3 in July, will permit underground training to resume immediately in late August.

Beginning late August and September, all new training sessions, including cross mine site sessions, will be scheduled to be held at mine sites and involve underground activities, he said.

All mine site-specific COVID-19 procedures, which may include cage or travel limitations, will be followed.

Enhanced cleaning procedures for mine rescue substations will continue, as will the stricter washing and sanitizing procedures

now required for BG4s.

Participants are still asked not to attend training if they have any COVID-19 symptoms or have come into contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Conversations with mine rescue coordinators indicate they and their sites are able and willing to open to underground training, Rideout said.

Throughout the pandemic, Mine Rescue Officers and mine rescue volunteers have continued to respond promptly and effectively to emergencies.

[See 'VOLUNTEERS' Page 5](#)



A, B, C OR D? - Joce Vignola searches for an answer during the 2019 Timmins District MCQs.

While you're waiting for the next competition

Did you miss this year's district and provincial mine rescue competitions?

Don't know how you're doing to make to the 2021 season?

Regretfully, we can't stage a four-hour underground mine rescue scenario to sate your appetite.

But here's a short challenge to keep competitors in the mood, or for those who have never competed before, a little idea of what to expect - a sample MCQ or knowledge test, and there's a Technician MCQ on [Page 4](#) for the eager for an extra challenge.

So put away the Mine Rescue Handbook, and grab a pencil and paper. There is no time limit.

Ready, begin . . .

1. What are the two greatest hazards to life during and after mine fires?

- A. Oxygen deficiency, carbon monoxide
- B. Carbon dioxide, smoke
- C. None of the above
- D. Methane, sulphur dioxide

[See 'PSSST' Page 3](#)

Thank You for being prepared

30 Years

Sudbury District

Peter Buratti
Vale, Creighton Mine

20 Years

Algoma District

Marcel Ouimette
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Island Gold Mine

Southern District

Jim Ahrens
Compass Minerals,
Goderich Mine

Perry Altenbeck
K+S Windsor Salt,
Ojibway Mine

Sudbury District

Dave Chalmers
Vale, Copper Cliff Mine

Dave Griffiths
Sudbury INO – Glencore,
Nickel Rim Mine

Don Tremblay
Vale, Copper Cliff Mine

10 Years

Algoma District

Steve Levesque
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Island Gold Mine

Martin Tremblay
Barrick Hemlo,
Williams Mine

Kirkland Lake District

Norm Gannon Jr.
Kirkland Lake Gold,
Macassa Mine

Joey Roy
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Young-Davidson Mine

Jeffrey St-Martin
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Young-Davidson Mine

Ben Young
Kirkland Lake Gold,
Holt McDermott Mine

Onaping District

Paul Leclair
Sudbury INO Glencore,
Mill

Justin Roy
Vale, Coleman Mine



TOP HONOURS for years of service this year belongs to 30-year veteran Peter Buratti of Vale's Creighton Mine, pictured from 1994. Buratti competed in nine provincial competitions, all but one for Inco, now Vale, and won three times. In 1991, his first provincial competition, he competed for Denison Mines, representing Elliot Lake/Algoma District.

Joffre Sanftenberg
Sudbury INO Glencore,
Fraser Mine

Perry Simon
Vale, Coleman Mine

Jessica Taylor
Sudbury INO Glencore,
Fraser Mine

Red Lake District

Chris Leroux
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Rick Smith
Newmont Goldcorp,
Musselwhite Mine

Trevor Thurier
Newmont Goldcorp,
Musselwhite Mine

Heather Willis
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Southern District

John Maggio
CGC Inc.,
Hagersville Mine

Justin Reinbrecht
CGC Inc.,
Hagersville Mine

Sudbury District

Anthony Chevrier
Vale, Creighton Mine

Eric Perreault

Sudbury INO – Glencore,
Nickel Rim South

Richard Roy
Sudbury INO – Glencore,
Nickel Rim South

Justin Whitmore
Vale, Creighton Mine

Thunder Bay District

Rylan Vesa
Impala Canada,
Lac des Iles Mine

5 Years

Algoma District

Dave Forbes
Wesdome Gold Mines,
Eagle River Mine

David Stone
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Island Gold Mine

Bruce Tangie
Wesdome Gold Mines,
Eagle River Mine

Kirkland Lake District

Adam Bailey
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Young-Davidson Mine

Drew Doxsee
Kirkland Lake Gold,
Holt-McDermott Mine

Dewald Janse
Van Rensburg
Kirkland Lake Gold,
Holt-McDermott Mine

Mario Lachapelle
Kirkland Lake Gold,
Macassa Mine

Kevin Metatawabin
Alamos Gold Inc.,
Young-Davidson Mine

Maciej Watorek
Kirkland Lake Gold,
Macassa Mine

Onaping District

Serge Tousignant
KGHM,
McCready West Mine

Red Lake District

Carla Adams
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Andre Brouillard
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Clayton Connolly
Evolution Mining
Red Lake Gold Mines

James Dobbyn
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Kyle Fry
Newmont Goldcorp,
Musselwhite Mine

Dan Kuppinen
Newmont Goldcorp,
Musselwhite Mine

Mitchell Halteman
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Scott McKean
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Nicholas Plouffe
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Mike Rubenick
Newmont Goldcorp,
Musselwhite Mine

Edgar Arce Saenz
Evolution Mining,
Red Lake Gold Mines

Colin Samas
Newmont Goldcorp,
Musselwhite Mine

Southern District

Matt Peebles
CGC Inc.,
Hagersville Mine

Sudbury District

Aaron Brouse
Vale, Totten Mine

Al Chenier
Vale, Totten Mine

Kordell Hull
Vale, Copper Cliff Mine

Michael James
Sudbury INO – Glencore,
Nickel Rim South

Curtis Poirier
Sudbury INO – Glencore,
Nickel Rim South

Serge Solomon
Vale, Copper Cliff Mine

David Wylie
Sudbury INO – Glencore,
Nickel Rim South

Timmins District

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Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Pat Desmarais
Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Philip Doucette
Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Matt Foy
Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Shane Fris
Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Mathew Johnson
Pan American Silver,
Lakeshore Gold –
Timmins West

Michael (Paul)
MacDonald
Pan American Silver,
Lakeshore Gold –
Bell Creek

Mario Madore
Newmont Porcupine,
Hoyle Pond Mine

Corey Schneider
Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Keiran Swanton
Glencore,
Kidd Operations

Serge Roy
Pan American Silver,
Lakeshore Gold –
Bell Creek

Nathan Tietz
Pan American Silver,
Lakeshore Gold –
Timmins West

Pssst! What's the answer to . . .

Continued from Page 1

2. What is the explosive range of ammonia?

- A. 28 to 75%
- B. 15 to 38%
- C. 15 to 75%
- D. 15 to 28%

3. The reciprocating saw is equipped with _____ battery packs, capable of approximately _____ hours of cutting.

- A. 4, 2 hours
- B. 3, 1 hour
- C. 2, 1 hour
- D. 1, 1/2 hours

4. What is the first step for treatment for gas poisoning?

- A. Keep casualty at rest, talk to him/her
- B. Remove to fresh air ASAP
- C. Give artificial respiration, if not breathing
- D. Give oxygen and continue as long as required

5. In high sensitivity mode on the MSA Thermal Imaging Camera, objects will be light yellow at a temperature of?

- A. 360 degrees F (160 degrees C)
- B. 297 degrees F (147 degrees C)
- C. 275 degrees F (135 degrees C)
- D. 212 degrees F (100 degrees C)

6. Oxygen-cylinder rebreathing apparatus used by Ontario Mine Rescue teams have an approved operating time of?

- A. 30 min. to 5 hours
- B. 30 min. to 90 min.
- C. 30 min. to 4 hours
- D. 30 min. to 3 hours

7. Oxygen made by liquefaction processes that conforms to standard contains no impurities, and shall contain?

- A. 98% laughing gas, 2% argon and traces of inert gases
- B. 19.5% oxygen and no more than 5% carbon monoxide
- C. 98% oxygen, 2% argon and traces of inert gases
- D. 98% oxygen, 2% nitrogen and traces of inert gases

8. How many steps are there for the general treatment of gas poisoning?

- A. 4
- B. 5
- C. 6
- D. 7

9. Brief exposure to levels of ammonia as high as _____ may cause death due to suffocation or edema of lungs.

- A. 1,000 ppm
- B. 3,000 ppm



HEADS OF THE CLASS - Newmont Goldcorp's Musselwhite Mine's mine rescue team had the highest team score on their MCQs at the 2019 Ontario Mine Rescue Competition in Red Lake, winning the Theory Exam Award.

- C. 30,000 ppm
- D. 5,000 ppm

10. Which is correct about hydrogen?

- A. Has colour
- B. Dangerous to breathe
- C. Explosive
- D. Has odour

11. A Class C fire extinguisher has the letter "C" in a _____ symbol.

- A. Blue circle
- B. Yellow star
- C. Green triangle
- D. Red square

12. Which is not a component of the BG4 breathing loop?

- A. Breathing bag
- B. Moisture relief valve
- C. Minimum (demand) valve
- D. Pressure relief valve

13. Smoke that has hydrocarbons in sufficient concentrations may explode.

- A. True
- B. False

14. What is the explosive range of hydrogen sulphide?

- A. 4.1 to 74%
- B. 2.5 to 81%
- C. 4.3 to 46%
- D. 5 to 28%

15. Oxygen self-generating apparatus are simple in design in that they eliminate the need for all of the following, except?

- A. Mechanical components
- B. Regulating valves

- C. Oxygen cylinders
- D. Regular maintenance

16. Severe irritation to eyes, nose and throat will occur when exposed to ammonia at?

- A. 400 to 700 ppm
- B. 400 to 1,000 ppm
- C. 200 to 400 ppm
- D. 300 to 400 ppm

17. Ammonia, in concentration of approximately _____ per cent or higher, can cause skin burns (particularly to moist skin).

- A. 3
- B. 5
- C. 7
- D. 2

18. If relative humidity exceeds _____ per cent, the air has a limited ability to absorb moisture from the skin and cooling is minimal.

- A. 60
- B. 70
- C. 80
- D. 90

19. The governing body that specifies the requirements of oxygen used in rescue apparatus is?

- A. U.S. Bureau of Mines
- B. Ontario Mine Rescue
- C. Ontario Ministry of Labour
- D. Canadian Transport Commission

20. What is the specific gravity of NH₃?

- A. 0.60
- B. 0.97
- C. 0.55
- D. 0.91

For answers, see 'Definitely' Page 6



LIFELINE - Need help? Jean-Yves Doiron of Vale, won the technician competition at the 2019 Ontario Provincial Mine Rescue Competition in Red Lake.

More than just nimble fingers

A mine rescue technician's job is far more complicated than 'Slide Tab A into Slot B'. It is detailed knowledge, for detailed work.

Think you can do it?

Close your books, get your pencil (no pens, please), and try the Technician's MCQ.

1. No oil or grease of any kind should be used in any type of high pressure oxygen pump. A _____ between the oil or grease and the oxygen is possible and very likely to result in an explosion. When using any oxygen pump, ensure good ventilation in the pumping room to dilute the concentrations of oxygen.

- A. Mixture
- B. Contamination
- C. Introduction
- D. Chemical reaction

2. The Test-it 6100 is a sturdy, portable test device – compact in a suitcase design – intended specifically to test the functions of Dräger closed-circuit breathing apparatus including the BG4. The Test-it 6100 will not perform which test on the BG4?

- A. No pressure warning
- B. Exhalation valve
- C. Bypass valve
- D. High pressure leak test

3. When rebuilding a oxygen cylinder valve which components are discarded?

- A. Sliding ring, plastic ring, lower spindle
- B. Lock ring, Teflon ring, lower spindle
- C. Sliding ring, plastic ring, upper spindle
- D. Lock ring, sliding ring, upper spindle



SECOND LIFELINE - Need more help? Kirkland Gold's technician Norm Gannon Jr. placed second in last year's provincial competition..

4. How often must the Sentinel on the BG4 have a pressure indicator comparison check performed?

- A. Every 3 years
- B. Every 5 years
- C. Every 4 years
- D. Yearly

5. When reassembling the SSR 90M trainer: to install the top cover of valve housing, orient the top cover of the valve housing so that the exhaust holes for the heat exchanger are to the _____ and _____ side of the pressure relief valve.



FINAL LIFELINE - Final call for help? Try Steeve Pinel, of Alamos Gold, Island Lake Gold Mine, placed third in the provincial.

- A. Right, same
- B. Right, opposite
- C. Left, same
- D. Left, opposite

6. If a SSR 90M is mainly carried on a vehicle when is the "End of Employability"?

- A. After 5 years
- B. After 10 years
- C. After 3 years
- D. After 6 years

See 'DO YOU' Page 5



CLOSING THE DISTANCE – Left to right, Josh Rocheleau, Brent Kraayenbrink, Scott Deslippe, Jacob Fuerth, and Ray Barrette close the distance while wearing Drager BG4s during recent refresher training at K+S Windsor Salt.

Volunteers glad to be training

Continued from Page 1

The province’s move in mid-June into Stage 2 of re-opening meant that refresher training and introductory courses could resume at mine sites on surface, Rideout said.

But after talking with mine rescue coordinators, he said, it was decided already scheduled training would continue to be held at mine rescue stations.

There was insufficient time before refresher training slowed down for the summer to reschedule planned training to mine sites, Rideout said.

Training at mine sites had halted in March due to the pandemic, prompting OMR to begin to develop short online refresher seminars. The seminars had not been rolled out before in-person, participatory training resumed following the Victoria Day weekend in May.

At that time, district Mine Rescue Officers resumed refresher training with restrictions at OMR stations across the province. Class sizes were limited, social isolation was required, activities were limited to the surface, and station cleaning processes were enhanced. Washing and sanitizing procedures for the BG4s were reviewed and enhanced.

The resumption of training in late May went well, he said. The volunteers were happy to be back. Some had not trained in two or three months and rust was beginning to show, Rideout said.

For many Southern District volunteers, “it was the first time they got to see the Delaware Station”, due to the station’s unique central dispatch location between the three mine sites at Hagersville, Windsor and Goderich.



CLOSING THE DISTANCE – From left, Dan Rulli, Southern Ontario District Mine Rescue Officer, and Compass Minerals Goderich Mine volunteers Peter Hendriks and Dave Kelly review rope rescue training.

Do you know your battery test?

Continued from Page 4

7. When performing the battery test on the BG4 Sentinel, the “Battery Warning 1” icon was observed and a long beep was heard on startup. What does this indicate?

- A. Battery charge “OK”
- B. Battery discharged, needs replacement
- C. Battery charge sufficient for four hours, needs replacement
- D. Alarm functioning properly

8. BG4s held in reserve must have the O-ring on the pressure relief valve replaced every _____ years.

- A. 5 years
- B. 10 years
- C. 6 years
- D. 3 years

9. The moisture relief valve drains moisture that accumulates in the breathing bag. The valve opens when the pressure in the moisture trap is _____ than _____.

- A. >15 mbar
- B. ≥ 15 mbar
- C. <15 mbar
- D. = 15 bar

10. The Test-it 6100 operating panel is clearly divided into flow and pressure areas. An integrated display is located in the centre of the panel where either the flow or the pressure is indicated. The display indication can be switched by pushing the button below the display. If the button is pressed for a longer period, _____.

- A. The display switches from mbar to psi
- B. Error code E1 appears
- C. Error code E2 appears
- D. Sensor offset adjustment is carried out

For answers, see ‘Definitely’ Page 6

Definitely, No Peeking!

16. A - 400 to 700 ppm
 17. A - 3
 18. B - 70
 19. A - U.S. Bureau of Mines
 20. A - 0.60
- Tech MCQ Answers**
- Questions begin on Page 3
1. D - Chemical reaction
 2. D - High pressure leak test
 3. A - Sliding ring, plastic ring, lower spindle
 4. D - Yearly
 5. D - Left, opposite
 6. B - After 10 years
 7. C - Battery charge sufficient for four hours, needs replacement
 8. C - 6 years
 9. B - ≥ 15 mbar
 10. D. - Sensor offset adjustment is carried out
 11. D - Regular maintenance

1. A - Oxygen deficiency, carbon monoxide
 2. D - 15 to 28
 3. B - 3, 1 hour
 4. B - Remove to fresh air ASAP.
 5. C - 275 degrees F (135 degrees C)
 6. C - 30 min. to 4 hours
 7. D. - 98% oxygen, 2% nitrogen and traces of inert gases
 8. C - 6
 9. D - 5,000 ppm
 10. C - Explosive
 11. A - Blue circle
 12. C - Minimum (demand) valve
 13. A - True
 14. C - 4.3 to 46%
 15. D - Regular maintenance

Team MCQ Answers

Questions begin on Page 1



WHO IS THAT? - We know that's the 1976 Timmins District champions Dome Mines. We even know most of the names (we think) - R. Heise, B. Robertson, C. Papaioannou, V. Fauvelle, D. Fenato, and N. Jacksic - but we don't know who is who. If you can put a name to a face or identify other members of the team, email kensitter@workplacesafetynorth.ca.



ABOUT THE ONTARIO MINE RESCUE NEWSLETTER

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