



Thank you for visiting our stand at the 35th International Geological Congress

About the MHSC:

The Mine Health and Safety Council is a national public entity (Schedule 3A) established in terms of the Mine Health and Safety Act, No 29 of 1996, as amended. The entity comprises a tripartite Council represented by the State, Employers, and Organised Labour members under the chairmanship of the Chief Inspector of Mines. The MHSC is funded by public revenue and is accountable to Parliament.

The Council as part of its mandate must:

1. Advise the Minister on health and safety issues at the mines including, but not limited to any legislation on mine rehabilitation as far as it concerns health and safety.
2. Co-ordinate the activities of its committees, receive reports from the committees and liaise with the Mining Qualifications Authority on matters relating to health and safety.
3. Liaise with any other statutory bodies concerned with matters relating to health and safety.
4. Promote a culture of health and safety in the mining industry.
5. At least once every two years arrange and co-ordinate a tripartite summit to review the state of health and safety at mines.
6. Perform every duty imposed upon the Council in terms of this Act.

In order to accelerate the attainment of Zero Harm in the sector, through the implementation of risk-specific activities, the 2014 OHS Summit Milestones were collectively developed by the tripartite stakeholders and agreed upon by the SAMI principals in November 2014.

The milestones provides a roadmap to assist the sector to eliminate fatalities, injuries, occupational lung diseases and noise induced hearing loss as well as the reduction and prevention of tuberculosis (TB), HIV and AIDS infections. For Safety, it was agreed that fatalities shall be eliminated by the year 2020, serious injuries shall be reduced by at least 20% year on year by December 2016, whilst lost time injuries shall be reduced by 20% per year from January 2017 onwards.

Falls of ground are still the major cause of mine fatalities and injuries, ahead of Machinery and other causes. The MHSC have completed a number of research projects on FOG aimed at assisting the SAMI to mitigate against the risks from FOG.

