



Mine Health and Safety Council

# MINE HEALTH & SAFETY JOURNEY

MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY COUNCIL'S OFFICIAL e-NEWSLETTER

**NEWSLETTER: GUIDELINE FOR THERMAL STRESS AND GUIDELINE FOR NOISE**

## **GUIDELINE FOR THERMAL STRESS AND GUIDELINE FOR NOISE**



**S**ignificant hazards (such as noise and thermal stress) and risks to health exist in mining. In order to protect, monitor and promote employees' health, an occupational health programme is required where exposure to such significant risks occur.

The Mine Health and Safety Council (MHSC) through its Mine Occupational Health Advisory Committee (MOHAC) revised two Occupational health existing guidelines to assist the employer at every South African mine to update existing codes of practices. These are:

- a. Guideline for the compilation of a mandatory code of practice for an occupational health programme (Occupational Hygiene and Medical Surveillance) for noise
- b. Guideline for the compilation of a mandatory code of practice for an occupational health programme (Occupational Hygiene and Medical Surveillance) for thermal stress

The guidelines, if properly implemented and complied with, would assist in protecting the health of employees at the mine by monitoring and reducing their exposure to noise and thermal stress through the relevant health programmes. The guidelines will further assist the employer in complying with the requirements of the Mine Health and Safety Act (29 of 1996 as amended). The Chief Inspector of Mines (CIoM) issued the guidelines, under section 49 (6) of the MHSA on 11 February 2022. Dissemination and workshopping of the guidelines is underway. On the 04th and 05th of May 2022, The MHSC will be hosting a physical workshop for the Thermal Stress Guideline and the Noise Guideline respectively, in Gauteng.

The Mine Health and Safety Council remains committed to the health and safety of employees through the spirit of Tripartism. The Guidelines can be accessed on the MHSC website using this link: <https://mhsc.org.za/code-of-practice-promulgated-guidelines/>

