

VISION ZERO AND THE 7 GOLDEN RULES IN MINING

Your First Steps to Success in Prevention



ISSA MINING – WHO WE ARE

ISSA Mining cares globally for safety, health and wellbeing in mining, connecting stakeholders who are sharing passion, responsibility and professional interest in occupational safety and health for mining. All mining enterprises, associations, researchers and academics, governments and their agencies, trade unions, suppliers and other stakeholders are invited partners. Whoever deals with the safety, health and wellbeing of mine workers is a potential member of the ISSA Mining community.

Under the umbrella of the ISSA, the International Section on Prevention in the Mining Industry, in short ISSA Mining, aims to bring forward social security in mining, particularly in the field of prevention. By means of worldwide cooperation, the not-for-profit organization ISSA Mining aims to achieve worldwide acceptable working, OSH and social conditions in mining enterprises of all sizes – small businesses included! ISSA Mining is clearly committed to the prevention strategy VISION ZERO, targeting a working environment in which nobody is injured, killed or so severely injured or falls ill that she or he suffers lifelong harm. VISION ZERO is the strategic backbone of ISSA Mining's work.

With more than 100 members around the world and board members from five continents, the independent organization ISSA Mining is a part of the global network of the International Social Security Association (ISSA), headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. ISSA Mining hosts and joins international congresses and workshops focused on health and safety. Uniting a vast array of stakeholders, mining companies and their economic situation stay in the focus while pursuing the ultimate goal: to protect the life and health of every miner!

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BECAUSE LIFE MATTERS

340 million accidents at work happen worldwide every year, only counting those leading to more than four days absence. 360,000 end fatal. Two million people die every year due to work-related diseases. To sum this up: around 2.4 million people die every year because of unacceptable work conditions. Among many risky industries, mining stands out.



Mining operations go along with a variety of hazards. Not only in large operations, as they first come to mind, but also in the manifold small scale mines, with an estimated 13 million workers worldwide. Miners are exposed to all kinds of risks from nature, from machinery and vehicles, from various substances such as dust, mercury and other chemicals, while also dealing with poor ventilation, inadequate space and overexertion. Fatalities, injuries with lifelong consequences and severe occupational diseases are unacceptable; every miner has the right to return safely back home after work every day, with no adverse effects to her or his health. At ISSA Mining, we are committed to the aim of VISION ZERO. But how to reach this goal?

At ISSA Mining, we had the privilege of talking to many mining stakeholders across the world, many of them producing remarkable outcomes in safety and health. We extracted what we believe to be the most successful elements, aligned them around what we called the “7 Golden Rules for Safe and Healthy Mining” and introduced them at numerous international congresses and workshops. The sound feedback we received showed us that the need for solutions like these are vast, and the style matched the requirements of mines perfectly. You will find the 7 Golden Rules in this brochure; please also refer to our additional media for further information on implementation in your company, in particular also “Vision Zero – 7 Golden Rules for zero accidents and healthy work”, a guide for employers and managers by the ISSA, which offers additional input and checklists.

In June 2015, all thirteen prevention sections of the International Social Security Association, in short the ISSA, decided to adapt the VISION ZERO prevention strategy and the “7 Golden Rules” as the harmonized tools to reach the aim of zero harm, in all sectors of industry across the globe. We are very proud to say that it all started here, in mining, together with you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'U. Meesmann'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

Ulrich Meesmann
President ISSA Mining

WHAT VISION ZERO MEANS

Being the basic prevention strategy of the ISSA, Vision Zero is the vision of a world without occupational accidents and work-related diseases. Its highest priority is to prevent fatal and serious work accidents and occupational diseases. Vision Zero is the goal of a comprehensive culture of prevention.

VISION ZERO is about nothing less than our life and health – our most valuable asset. But not only that: it is also about the success of enterprises, efficient production, and motivated, productive employees. Although it is sometimes also called a vision or a philosophy, VISION ZERO is in fact a strategy for more efficient prevention that is based on results and characterised by values.

ISSA'S VISION ZERO STRATEGY

Accidents at work and occupational diseases are neither determined by fate nor unavoidable – they always have causes. By introducing the VISION ZERO strategy at workplaces, these causes can be eliminated and work related accidents, harm and occupational diseases can be prevented. Seven GOLDEN RULES have been developed to establish this strategy successfully at workplaces.

The ISSA's VISION ZERO strategy is flexible and can be adjusted to the specific safety, health or well-being priorities for prevention in any given context. Thanks to this flexibility, Vision Zero is beneficial to any workplace, enterprise or industry in all regions of the world.

SAFETY AND HEALTH REQUIRE LEADERSHIP

Improving safety and health in the enterprise does not necessarily mean to increase spending. More important is that the management acts with awareness, leads consistently and builds a climate of trust and open communication at every level in the company. Implementing the Vision Zero prevention strategy requires the active contribution and participation of many different actors at company level.

One thing is clear: the success or failure of implementing the Vision Zero strategy will ultimately be determined by dedicated employers and executives, motivated managers and vigilant employees.

7 GOLDEN RULES FOR VISION ZERO

Golden Rule 1 Take leadership – demonstrate commitment

Golden Rule 2 Identify hazards – control risks

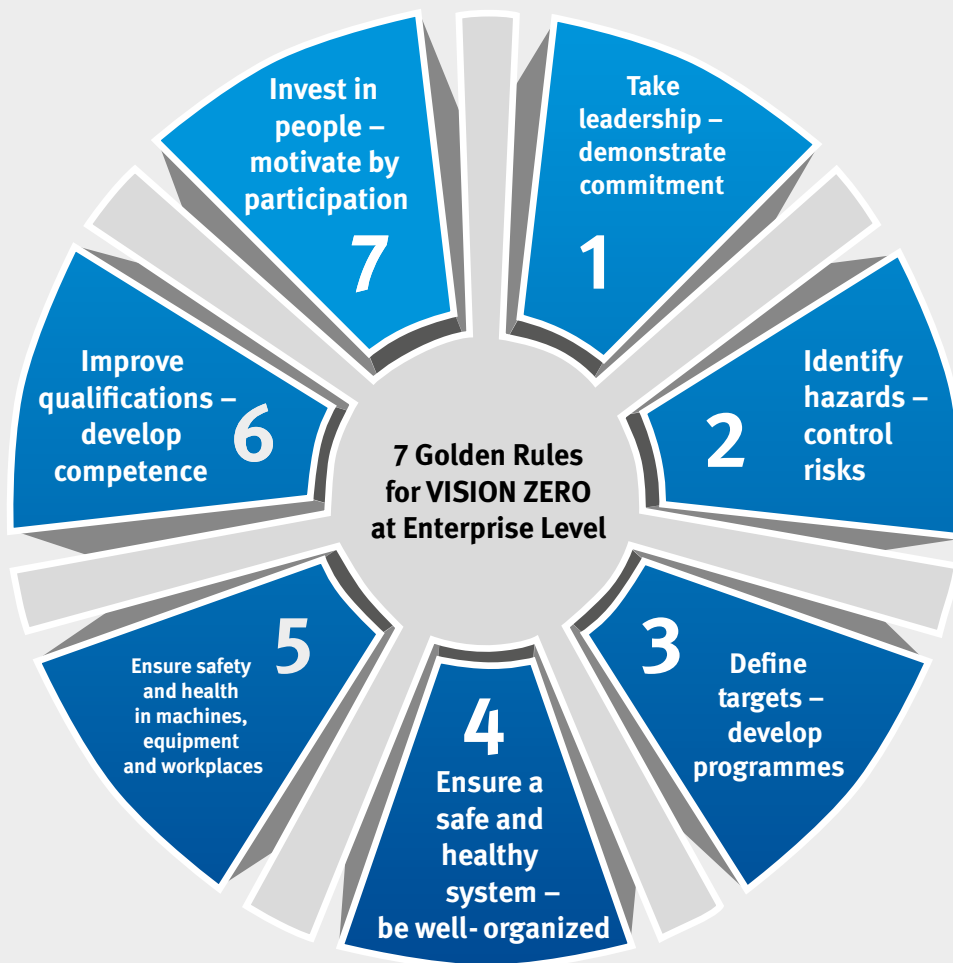
Golden Rule 3 Define targets – develop programmes

Golden Rule 4 Ensure a safe and healthy system – be well-organized

Golden Rule 5 Ensure safety and health in machines, equipment and workplaces

Golden Rule 6 Improve qualifications – develop competence

Golden Rule 7 Invest in people – motivate by participation



GOLDEN RULE 1

TAKE LEADERSHIP – DEMONSTRATE COMMITMENT

Be a leader – wave the flag! Your conduct as a leader is decisive for the success or failure of safety and health in your company.

Every employer, every executive and every manager is responsible for safety and health in their enterprise. The quality of leadership not only determines how safety and health are practiced in the enterprise, but also how attractive, successful and sustainable it will be. Leadership demands open communication and a clear management culture. Good leadership is exhibited for example by predictability, consistency and attentiveness.

Executives and managers are role models: they lead by example. They establish the rules, and they follow the rules. They make sure that everyone knows the rules and that they are followed. Violations of the rules need to be addressed immediately – look at things! Pointing out hazardous conditions is to be rewarded. What managers do, tolerate and demand sets the standard for other employees.



GOLDEN RULE 2

IDENTIFY HAZARDS – CONTROL RISKS

Risk assessment serves as the essential tool for the timely and systematic identification of hazards and risks and to implement preventive actions. Accidents, injuries and near misses should also be evaluated.

You are smart, you use risk assessment that helps you to identify hazards and risks before accidents and production downtimes occur, and it assists you with evaluating the risk potential as well as establishing and documenting the required protective measures. That is why this tool is used around the world today.

Properly done, a systematic risk assessment is ideal for practical instruction of employees in your enterprise. Evaluating occupational accidents, injuries and near misses is important for identifying main focus points or potential improvements.



GOLDEN RULE 3

DEFINE TARGETS – DEVELOP PROGRAMMES

Success in occupational safety and health requires clear goals and concrete steps for implementation, which should be established in a programme.

Occupational safety and health has many facets. Prioritize, establishing clear goals for OSH in your enterprise and striving to implement them over the medium term – for example in a three-year programme.

There are several options for a goal-oriented, programme-based approach: Either you set a goal to continuously reduce the number of accidents, or you establish themes to focus on – such as the operation of machines, the use of forklifts and personal protective equipment, or the reduction of dust exposure. Once your employees recognize that their safety and health is important to you personally and that something is being done in the enterprise, success will not be long in coming. You should also communicate regularly about the achievement of goals.



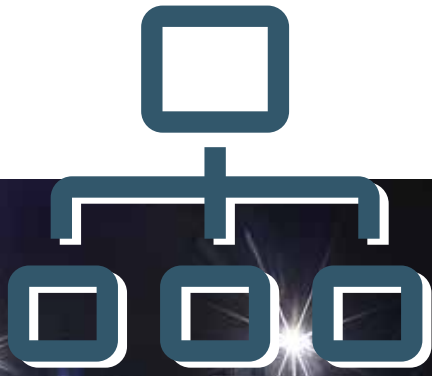
GOLDEN RULE 4

ENSURE A SAFE AND HEALTHY SYSTEM – BE WELL-ORGANIZED

Systematically organizing occupational safety and health in your enterprise is a good idea. It pays off and is easy.

With well-organized occupational safety and health, every enterprise runs more smoothly because disruptions, production downtime and quality problems are reduced. These are all good reasons for you to make sure your OSH organization is effective – it pays off!

Checklists can help you. Those who want to do more should implement an OSH management system that allows for continuous improvement. Once everything is in place, a successful audit is rewarded with a certificate and recognition.



GOLDEN RULE 5

ENSURE SAFETY AND HEALTH IN MACHINES, EQUIPMENT AND WORKPLACES

Safe production facilities, machines and workplaces are essential for working without accidents. Health effects have to be considered as well.

Effective occupational safety and health strategies include technical, organizational and personal measures. Technical measures should take precedence. Therefore it is essential to keep machines, facilities, equipment and also the workplaces up to current OSH standards, and to also exclude or minimize detrimental effects on health. Naturally, it is not always possible to use the latest technology.

This is where retrofitting is required. Informing purchasing that safety comes first and that the principle that safety equipment must be part of any activity has proven itself. It should be borne in mind that most accidents occur in the course of troubleshooting, repairs or maintenance because design and construction is often not applicable to these tasks and also because safety devices are bypassed or fail to function. Preventing this is a management responsibility.



GOLDEN RULE 6

IMPROVE QUALIFICATIONS – DEVELOP COMPETENCE

Invest in the training and skills of your employees, and make sure that the required knowledge is available at every workplace.

After an accident one often asks: How could this happen? Technical facilities and production machines are becoming increasingly productive and faster, but also more complex and prone to malfunctions. This makes it all the more important to systematically deploy well qualified and trained persons at the workplaces. It is a top management responsibility to make sure that a detailed description of the qualification requirements for every position in your enterprise has been made and that every worker is able to perform the duties of his or her position.

The workplace changes constantly. The half-life of knowledge is growing shorter and shorter, and the skills of workers need to be refreshed at regular intervals. More than ever, providing training and continuing education is a must, while leadership and management need to be learned too!



GOLDEN RULE 7

INVEST IN PEOPLE – MOTIVATE BY PARTICIPATION

Motivate your staff by involving your employees in all safety and health matters. This investment pays off!

Motivating your employees to act in a safe and healthy manner is one of your most important leadership responsibilities. Enterprises that show appreciation for their employees and also actively involve them in safety and health within the enterprise are tapping into important potential: their knowledge, abilities and ideas.

When employees are consulted, for example while conducting the risk assessment or in the development of operating instructions, their willingness to follow the rules is improved. Motivation is promoted through regular interactive events or awareness days where safety and health can be “lived” or “experienced”. It costs nothing to praise employees for safe behaviour, ask them about their ideas, and express interest in difficult work tasks and also to address unsafe actions or near misses immediately. This can shape the personal attitude of the employees and motivate them to work safely and with awareness and above all, confidence.

The goal is for everyone to look after their colleagues as well as themselves – “one for all – all for one!”





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The German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the raw materials and chemical industry (BG RCI) is entrusted with the organization of this ISSA Section. It is among many other sectors also the statutory accident insurance for all mining operations and for all extractive and quarrying works in Germany and offers prevention for underground and surface mining as well as for the processing of the raw material.

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YOUR BENEFITS AS ISSA MINING MEMBER

ISSA Mining is a unique platform to learn, share and connect and to demonstrate commitment to health and safety in mining. Membership in ISSA Mining entails tangible and soft benefits.

Become a Member and Benefit

- ∞∞ Demonstrate commitment in safety and health in mining
- ∞∞ Benefit from the independent international network
- ∞∞ Get free advice on safety and health
- ∞∞ Get in touch with international key players, stakeholders, suppliers and experts
- ∞∞ Be involved in international events, congresses and workshops
- ∞∞ Benefit from reduced congress fees
- ∞∞ Profit from special offers for ISSA Mining members
- ∞∞ Prove Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)
- ∞∞ Play an active role in creating recommendations and tools
- ∞∞ Get the latest information
- ∞∞ Benefit from good practice of the members
- ∞∞ Be part of the VISION ZERO community

Your gateway to membership: www.issa.int/prevention-mining



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The ISSA Mining Media Series

ISSA Mining's media is published in three categories:

- ISSA Mining Network – explaining what we do and how we do it
- VISION ZERO Strategy – Basic knowledge on the VISION ZERO prevention strategy
- VISION ZERO Practice – Tools to put the 7 Golden Rules into practice in mining companies

This publication is part of the series ISSA Mining Strategy.

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