

SECURING THE SAFETY OF YOUR MINE

How to Address Key Challenges and Mitigate Risk

Mine safety and security are top priorities for the mining sector, given the high-risk nature of the industry and the public interest mining activities attract. Having the appropriate strategies in place to protect the mining company's people, assets and reputation is critical to the ongoing success of the organisation.

While each site has its own unique risk factors, there are common security challenges across the sector:

- Safety issues, including hazards, potential injuries and fatigue
- Site access compliance, including visitor, staff and contractor inductions
- Emergency response
- Protestor activity
- Unauthorised access
- Theft
- Vandalism
- Threats including domestic terrorism.

The first step in addressing these challenges is to conduct a site safety/security risk assessment to identify the individual site risk factors. This should form the basis of a detailed security plan which outlines the strategies, responsibilities and contingency plans to mitigate the risks involved.

The security team needs to take a proactive approach and remain vigilant in implementing the security plan, particularly when it comes to monitoring threats such as terrorism or large and disruptive protests.

Success Factors

There are a number of key success factors in effectively managing the safety and security of the mine:

- Comprehensive security risk assessment of the site, resulting in site-specific security, access control and safety recommendations
- Detailed security plan with clear guidelines and responsibilities
- An experienced, highly trained security team to implement the plan
- Effective communication between the security team and the management and staff at the mine
- Robust occupational health and safety procedures
- The ability to immediately deploy additional security resources to scale up in the event of an emergency.

An experienced security team which has completed a comprehensive training programme tailored to the mining and resources sector is vital to an effective and efficient security operation. The team should

be prepared for any situation and be capable of effectively responding to emergencies with minimal disruption to the mine.

The comprehensive training programme should encompass:

- Risk management – identifying risks and determining the safest response
- Compliance with health, safety and environment (HSE) policies and procedures, focusing on the ability to identify and control workplace hazards
- Drug and alcohol testing
- Customer service training focused on communication, helpfulness, attitude and interpersonal skills
- Conflict resolution strategies to neutralise conflicts and avoid escalation of aggression
- Occupational first aid in line with Mine Access Controller (MAC) / ESO / ERT qualifications
- Emergency response including road accident rescue, vertical rescue, breathing apparatus, G5 fire training, bomb threats and site evacuation
- Cultural awareness
- Investigative procedures
- Vehicle searches and compliance
- Monitoring the potential fatigue risk of all persons entering / leaving the site
- Report writing to ensure that all security related matters are appropriately recorded and communicated.

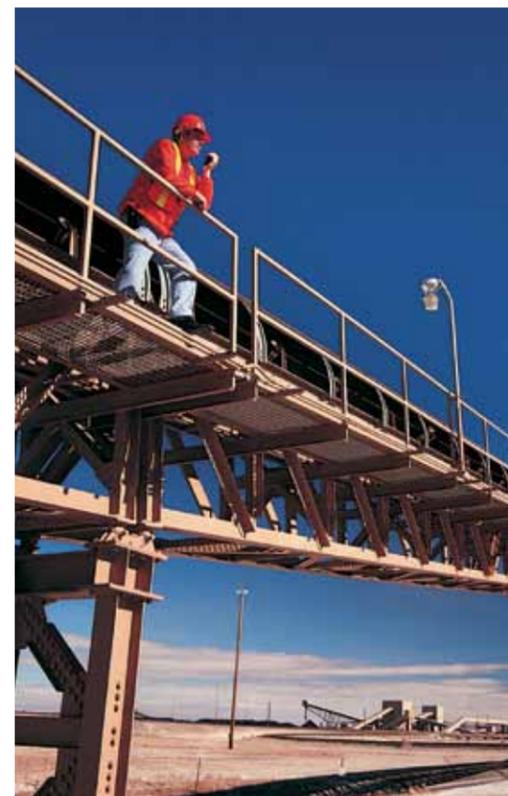
Jason Maley, State Operations Manager Queensland and mining expert for MSS Security, agreed that the experience and training of the security team directly correlates to the overall successful security operation of the mine. "Providing comprehensive and customised training and development for our security personnel provides them with the qualifications, skills and competencies they need to ensure the security and safety of our clients' mining sites," explained Jason. "The mining and resources sector is a unique one and the training programme needs to reflect this. We expect our people to be proactive and go that extra mile – so we give them the tools and support they need to achieve this. MSS Security is so committed to training that we have established our own Registered

Training Organisation to support our clients' needs."

Another factor which should be used to mitigate risk at the mining site is a scalability plan used to ensure that there are additional resources available to rapidly respond to any incidents or cover any additional requirements (such as a protest).

"In 2009 MSS Security implemented an Incident Response Team (IRT) to meet client requests for a rapid response service for surge requirements," Mr Maley said. "The IRT has been engaged a number of times over the past twelve months for expected protest action and other events. The team is not designed to replace the role of the police but to lock down and protect sites from any unauthorised entry which may affect the operations of the site and to support the on-site permanent guarding services."

It is important that the security team works closely with police and emergency services, as well as the management team at the mine. When a potential threat or emergency occurs, these relationships must already be established and appropriate plans must be in place so that there can be an immediate response before issues are escalated. With the right planning, training and people, any potential hazards can be averted, mitigating the risks in securing the mine.



You're only as strong as your weakest link



When it comes to safety and security, you can't afford second best.

As Australia's largest security company, MSS Security has unrivalled experience in protecting the nation's critical mining sites.

We work closely with our clients to support their activities and ensure a seamless security service.

What makes MSS Security the industry leader?

- Rapid response for surge management
 - Largest pool of resources
 - Unique and highly trained Incident Response Team (IRT) and emergency response trained officers established to specifically meet the needs of the mining sector
- Mine site access controllers trained and skilled in the delivery of emergency response services
- Comprehensive mining training programme
- MSS Training Academy (RTO accredited)
- Proven experience and customer satisfaction in the mining sector.

MSS Security's Incident Response Team (IRT) and ERT trained officers provide an additional layer of protection for our clients' sites. We are able to immediately deploy highly trained resources to rapidly respond to emergencies and support the on-site mine access control and safety compliance services.

MSS Security prides itself on the calibre of its security personnel. Our comprehensive training programme facilitated by our RTO ensures that all of our officers are fully equipped to effectively deal with any situation, mitigating any potential risk involved.

Our specialist contract management teams are experienced in conducting thorough site safety/security risk assessments which form the basis of a detailed security plan. Our expertise, effective planning, innovative infrastructure and depth of resources provide you with a strong partner to ensure the safety and security of your mine.



Leaders in Security

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