

Group #6

WMEA Group Meeting Notes: San Antonio, Tx November, 2012

2 Del Seaver –TMEIC

3 Tim Winger – Buckskin Mine

4 Michael Kleineider Western Power Inc.

5 Brian Clark – Barrick Goldstrike

6 Chad Viator – Walnut Creek Mine

1 Rob Marnell – Drives & Controls Services, Inc.

We began by introducing ourselves and sharing a brief background of our experience. I thought this was really neat, in that we got to know each other a little better.

Safety:

Chad Viator – Walnut Creek Mine spoke of getting mentally engrossed in a repetitive operation and becoming complacent about the procedure, noting that it was easy to get into the “zone” and loose track of where you are in the process. He suggested breaking the project up to avoid getting carried away by the repetitive nature of the task.

Michael Kleineider Western Power Inc. related an incident he was involved with while preparing his vehicle for a road trip. He was added air to a low tire, and found that the tire had worn through to the steel belt. If he had not been adding air, he felt he would have started the trip with the damaged tire. He suggested a check list for personal vehicle inspection, much like the ones used on mine sites for company vehicles.

Chad Viator – Walnut Creek Mine discussed the Job Safety Analysis process used at his mine, and how a JSA would be filled out for each task he was assigned during a shift.

Rob Marnell – Drives & Controls Services, Inc. shared the details of an incident with one of his co-workers who was injured while trying to pry over a Motor Generator Set. The pry bar was jammed between generator coupling bolt, and the coupling to roll the armatures over. The pry bar slipped, causing the employee to fall and fracture some ribs.

Brian Clark – Barrick Goldstrike spoke of a contractor who had a V-Ohm Meter fail on his mine site. While not confirmed, he thought the contractor had tried to measure the voltage on a live 13.8 kv source with the hand held meter. The unit was destroyed, but no one was injured.

Rob Marnell – Drives & Controls Services, Inc. spoke of a Wyoming State Mine Inspector who visited one of their project sites and asked to see the employees task training certificates. In specific, he was interested in seeing the documentation for V-Ohm meter training.

Michael Kleineider Western Power Inc. shared some of the details of a worker who tried to measure a live 13.8 kv line with a V-Ohm meter and was killed in the process.

Del Seaver –TMEIC talked about the lapse in concentration experienced after taking a meal break. He noted that we are not as focused after eating, and should take steps to insure we do not lose sight of the safety issues, (Take Five)

Tim Winger – Buckskin Mine spoke of an electrician who was working on a high voltage starter. Another repetitive motion issue, the electrician was de-energizing the primary feeder, and “Fuzzing” the line with a ground stick before working on the starter. He lost track, and ended up

“Fuzzing” the energized line. No injuries were reported, but the incident tripped power to the mine site.

Tim Winger – Buckskin Mine spoke of the hazards involved with box cutter type knives, Brian Clark – Barrick Goldstrike added that his company is issuing safety gloves supplied by “Cutless” for use with knives that have extra protection for palms and fingers.

New Innovations and Technology:

Michael Kleineider Western Power Inc. spoke of a new product by Central Electric for Arc Flash Protection, and indicated we may see a presentation on the product at one of the next meetings.

Chad Viator – Walnut Creek Mine spoke of the details involving the retrofit of some of the shop area high bay lights with a LED option. Working very well, the system improves the lighting levels in the shop area.

Brian Clark – Barrick Goldstrike talked about a retrofit to LED lighting on a loader shovel application. He was able to conduct a cost analysis of maintenance, and material costs to estimate a 2 year payback on the project.

Tim Winger – Buckskin Mine is in the process of upgrading some Allen Bradley PLC5 equipment to a Allen Bradley Controllogix platform. He is really familiar with the PLC5 equipment, and noted some the differences with the Controllogix platform.

Del Seaver –TMEIC discussed some of the corporate re-structuring he has recently experienced. Hopefully the TMEIC crew will have a chance to share some of the details during their presentation later today.

Rob Marnell – Drives & Controls Services, Inc. discussed replacing equipment position feedback units such as encoders and resolvers with a compass based device.

DCS has developed a computer based machine performance analyzer to document machine efficiency.

DCS has developed a PLC based “Anti Backlash” subroutine for excavator equipment. This system reduces the mechanical wear on swing motion machinery.

There have been some applications of a resolver based master switch module to replace potentiometer and Hall Effect type units. And a new operator chair design that has been well received by machine operators.

DCS is replacing an outdated PLC system with a new Allen Bradley PLC platform on a loader shovel application.

Problems and Solutions:

No input on this topic from the group.

Future Meeting Topics:

Brian Clark – Barrick Goldstrike felt that it would be nice to have some educational presentations during the WMEA meetings which could focus on testing and trouble shooting, equipment maintenance and operation topics. He felt that this would be a good addition to the product oriented presentations presented at these meetings.

Rob Marnell – Drives & Controls Services, Inc. would like to see some applications of wireless transducers for vibration and temperature monitoring. Satellite phone communication with remote mining machines.

Meeting Locations:

The group felt that the Denver, Tucson, San Antonio, Salt Lake City, Billings, Rapid City