

FACT SHEET February 2025

NEW MINE HEALTH AND SAFETY MILESTONES FOR ADOPTION BEYOND 2024



MINERALS COUNCIL SOUTH AFRICA

#MiningMatters

The mining industry continues its commitment to improving the health and safety of its workforce through ambitious milestones set for adoption beyond 2024. This fact sheet highlights these key objectives and outlines the steps being taken to ensure safer, healthier, and more inclusive mining environments.



SAFETY MILESTONES

ELIMINATION OF MINING FATALITIES

Objective: Achieve zero fatalities in mining operations.

Key Commitment: Every fatality is one too many. Mining companies are striving to reach a target of zero fatalities industry-wide.

ELIMINATION OF REPORTABLE ACCIDENTS

Falls of Ground (FOG) Accidents: Targeting a 20% annual reduction.

Transportation and Machinery Accidents: Targeting a 20% annual reduction.

General-Type Accidents: Targeting a 20% annual reduction.

MONITORING PROGRESS

Milestone assessments will be conducted every two years to evaluate the effectiveness of initiatives and make necessary adjustments.



HEALTH MILESTONES

OCCUPATIONAL LUNG DISEASES

Respirable Crystalline Silica Dust:

By 2034, 95% of exposure measurements will be below 0.03mg/m³. Review in 2029.

Respirable Coal Dust:

By 2034, 95% of exposure measurements will be below 1.25mg/m³. Review in 2029.

Respirable Platinum Mine Dust:

By 2034, 95% of exposure measurements will be below 1.0mg/m³. Review in 2029.

Elimination of Pneumoconiosis:

By 2034, no novice cases of silicosis, coal worker's pneumoconiosis, or platinum dust pneumoconiosis among individuals entering the industry post-2024.



HEALTH MILESTONES

NOISE-INDUCED HEARING LOSS

Noise emissions from equipment must not exceed 104dB(A) by 2034.

By December 2034, no novice cases of noise-induced hearing loss will occur among individuals entering the industry post-2024.

TB AND HIV PREVENTION

TB Incidence: Aligning TB rates in the mining sector with or below national rates by 2034.

HIV and AIDS: Annual HIV counselling and testing (HCT) for 95% of employees, with eligible individuals linked to antiretroviral therapy (ART).

MENTAL HEALTH & NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (NCDS)

Mental Health: 95% of employees screened annually, with 100% of identified cases linked to care.

NCDS: 100% of employees screened for metabolic risk factors during medical surveillance.

CULTURE TRANSFORMATION MILESTONES

IMPLEMENTATION OF CULTURE TRANSFORMATION FRAMEWORK



1

Leadership

Pillar: 100% implementation by December 2026

2

Risk Management

Pillar: 100% implementation by December 2026.

3

Bonus and Incentives

Pillar: 100% implementation by December 2026.

4

Diversity Management

Pillar: 100% implementation by December 2026.

5

Leading Practices and Technology

Pillar: 100% implementation by December 2026.



WOMEN IN MINING MILESTONES

SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR WOMEN

Elimination of gender-based violence and harassment (GBVF) incidents.

Clean, well-maintained ablution and hygiene facilities across all mines.

Dedicated lactating facilities for nursing mothers.

CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE MILESTONES

ADVANCING MINING HEALTH AND SAFETY

Phase 2 of the Centre of Excellence will be implemented by December 2030, focusing on research, innovation, and capacitating mine employees to manage health and safety risks effectively.



CONCLUSION

The mining industry is committed to achieving these milestones through a collaborative approach involving all stakeholders. The MHSC will monitor progress through the Summit Action Plan to ensure timely implementation and sustainable outcomes.

RESPONSIBLE STAKEHOLDERS

Lead: Mining Health and Safety Council (MHSC).

Supporting: Mining companies, industry partners, and government.

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