



SAFEST YEAR EVER FOR AGGREGATES

According to MSHA's preliminary estimate, aggregates operations attained a **new** record low injury rate in 2017. This year's rate is estimated at 1.74 per 200,000 hours worked, marking the 17th consecutive year that the rate improved. This translates to less than two reportable injuries for a workforce of 100 miners over the course of a year.

According to the most current data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, it is safer to work in a quarry than a retail store. MSHA is expected to release the finalized figures later this month.

NSSGA recently met with MSHA Assistant Secretary David Zatezalo, deputy secretaries and a senior advisor to discuss the aggregates industry's demonstrated commitment to safety and compliance. NSSGA expressed a desire to help update outdated equipment standards and communicate best practices on seat belt use and fall protection. NSSGA reinforced the differences between coal and aggregates operations to the Assistant Secretary, who recently acknowledged that the agency has typically been viewed as a coal-centric organization. Zatezalo reiterated his desire for uniform enforcement across aggregates operations. He cautioned that it will take time to bring about these kinds of reforms and that he wants to hear any legitimate concerns from stakeholders.

Source - NSSGA