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Mine Safety Award Honorees Announced

WASHINGTON, DC - The Industrial Minerals Association – North America (IMA-NA) today announced the companies and mining operations that will receive its safety recognition awards. IMA-NA Chairman Kevin Porterfield and IMA-NA President Mark Ellis presented the awards at the IMA-NA's Spring Meeting here. The safety recognition awards program is run in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA). An impressive list of 14 companies and 28 individual mining operations were honored. The two classes of awards recognize different levels of safety performance.*

The IMA-NA Safety Achievement Award recognizes the best reportable injury rate for an individual IMA-NA member company by size category for the preceding calendar year, in this case 2011. The award criteria evaluate a company's safety performance at all of its U.S. facilities and non-U.S. mining sites in North America. This year's winners include:

- **OCI Wyoming L.P.**
Atlanta, Georgia
Large Category (700,000 or more employee hours)
(808,808 hours)
- **Badger Mining Corporation**
Berlin, Wisconsin
Medium Category (Fewer than 700,000 but more than 100,000 employee hours)
(287,671 hours)

* MSHA provides the IMA-NA with data on injuries and employment information for awards purposes. This data relies on self-reported injury and employment information submitted by IMA-NA members and is not independently verified by MSHA.

- **Old Hickory Clay Company**
Mayfield, Kentucky
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(75,625 hours)

“The safety performance of these IMA members is truly inspiring,” enthused IMA-NA’s Mark Ellis. “OCI Wyoming had only 1 injury while working 808,808 employee hours, for an injury rate of 0.25 per 200,000 employee work-hours. This is the third time that OCI Wyoming has earned the large company category award in as many years. Badger Mining Corporation also had only 1 injury while working 287,671 employee hours, for an injury rate of 0.70 per 200,000 employee work-hours. Old Hickory Clay Company had a zero reportable injury rate, while working 75,625 employee work-hours. To put that in perspective, the preliminary injury rate for all metal and nonmetal mines in 2011 was 2.43.”

Eleven additional Small Category companies tied the winning zero reportable injury rate, but had fewer employee hours. Of these companies, Ellis said, “These honorees operated all of their mines throughout 2011 with zero injuries. That truly is benchmark mine safety performance.” Each company received a Safety Achievement Certificate in recognition of their outstanding safety performance. The companies include:

- **Ricci Brothers Sand Co., Inc.**
Port Norris, New Jersey
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(68,232 hours)
- **Superior Silica Sands LLC**
Kosse, Texas
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(67,272 hours)
- **Manley Brothers, Inc.**
Troy Grove, Illinois
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(64,326 hours)
- **Ohio Basic Minerals LLC**
Denver, Colorado
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(39,144 hours)
- **A.F. Gelhar Co., Inc.**
Fairwater, Wisconsin
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(36,465 hours)

- **Bryan Rock Products, Inc.**
Shakopee, Minnesota
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(30,717 hours)
- **S&B Industrial Minerals North America, Inc.**
Berwyn, Pennsylvania
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(25,796 hours)
- **Mankato Kasota Stone, Inc.**
Mankato, Minnesota
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(14,719 hours)
- **Southern Ohio Sand**
Willoughby, Ohio
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(12,131 hours)
- **George W. Bryant Core Sands, Inc.**
McConnellsville, New York
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(9,992 hours)
- **RLF Baldwin Operations LLC**
Magnolia Springs, Alabama
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(7,432 hours)

Also recognized are 28 individual IMA-NA-member U.S. mining operations for working 200,000 continuous employee hours during 2011 without a single reportable employee injury. This year's honorees include:

First-Time Honorees

- **OCI Wyoming L.P.**
Big Island Mine & Refinery
Sweetwater County, Wyoming
(616,803 hours)
- **Badger Mining Corporation**
Taylor Plant
Jackson County, Wisconsin
(307,464 hours)

- **Imerys**
Mulcoa Plant No. 2
Sumter County, Georgia
(302,062 hours)
- **Imerys**
Gleason Mills and Mines
Weakley County, Tennessee
(275,508 hours)
- **Lhoist North America**
Crawford Mine & Mill
McLennan County, Texas
(258,720 hours)
- **Lhoist North America**
Anderson Mine & Mill
Franklin County, Tennessee
(253,364 hours)
- **M-I SWACO**
A Schlumberger Company
Amelia Barite Plant
Assumption Parish, Louisiana
(235,151 hours)
- **Carmeuse Lime & Stone Inc.**
Winchester Plant
Frederick County, Virginia
(225,939 hours)
- **Active Minerals International, LLC**
Active Minerals Attapulgit Division
Gadsden County, Florida
(224,927 hours)
- **Unimin Corporation**
Unimin Roff Plant
Pontotoc County, Oklahoma
(220,433 hours)
- **Imerys**
Deepstep Road Plant
Washington County, Georgia
(218,427 hours)

- **Lhoist North America**
Alabaster Mill
Shelby County, Alabama
(215,996 hours)
- **Imerys**
Fernley Plant
Lyon County, Nevada
(210,448 hours)

Repeat Honorees

- **Bentonite Performance Minerals LLC** (2009 & 2010)
Lovell Mill
Bighorn County, Wyoming
(572,567 hours)
- **Old Hickory Clay Company** (2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 & 2010)
Hickory Clay Mill
Graves County, Kentucky
(508,428 hours)
- **Imerys** (2007 & 2010)
Three Forks Mill
Gallatin County, Montana
(492,974 hours)
- **KaMin LLC** (2010)
Sandersville Plant
Washington County, Georgia
(428,878 hours)
- **U.S. Silica** (2003 & 2004)
Kosse Plant
Limestone County, Texas
(389,983 hours)
- **Carmeuse Lime & Stone Inc.** (2009 & 2010)
Middletown Quarry
Frederick County, Virginia
(339,834 hours)

- **Imerys** (2009 & 2010)
Deepstep Land and Mines
Washington County, Georgia
(326,025 hours)
- **Imerys** (2005, 2007 & 2008)
Sandersville Calcine Plant
Washington County, Georgia
(293,947 hours)
- **A.F. Gelhar Co., Inc.** (2009 & 2010)
Markesan Plant
Green Lake County, Wisconsin
(277,148 hours)
- **U.S. Silica Company** (2010)
Rockwood Plant
Wayne County, Michigan
(250,203 hours)
- **Imerys** (2009 & 2010)
Macon County Mines
Macon County, Georgia
(247,693 hours)
- **KaMin LLC** (2010)
Wrens Plant
Jefferson County, Georgia
(224,619 hours)
- **U.S. Silica** (2006)
Dubberly Plant
Webster County, Louisiana
(222,633 hours)
- **U.S. Silica** (2003)
Jackson Plant
Madison County, Tennessee
(214,810 hours)
- **Premier Silica LLC** (2007)
(formerly Carmeuse Industrial Sands)
Brady Plant
McCulloch County, Texas
(210,436 hours)

“MSHA and IMA-NA strive to help the industry achieve its ultimate goal – sending safe and healthy miners home to their families, every shift, every day,” said Kevin Porterfield, IMA-NA’s General Manager (Talc) of Specialty Minerals, Inc. (Bethlehem, Pennsylvania). “We’re pleased to recognize IMA-NA member companies that have compiled excellent safety records and who serve as examples for other companies.”

MSHA is the federal agency responsible for promoting and protecting the safety and health of the nation’s miners. MSHA carries out its mandate at all mining and mineral processing operations in the United States, regardless of size, number of employees, commodity mined, or method of extraction. To learn more, visit <http://www.msha.gov>.

IMA-NA was formed in April 2002 and represents mineral producer members and associate members providing goods and services to the industrial minerals industry. Membership is comprised of companies that are leaders in the ball clay, barite, bentonite, borates, calcium carbonate, diatomite, feldspar, industrial sand, kaolin, magnesia, mica, soda ash (trona), talc, wollastonite and other industrial minerals industries. IMA-NA is the principal trade association representing the industrial minerals industry in North America. To learn more, visit <http://www.ima-na.org>.

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