

FIVE SAFETY HAZARDS TO ANTICIPATE AND HANDLE WITH TECHNOLOGY

Safety hazards are a major concern in many industries, but mining presents its own unique set of challenges. CORESafety's Modules 4, 5, and 13 all contain information about mining hazards. Here are five hazards to anticipate and handle with the necessary technology.

#1

VEHICLE FIRE SUPPRESSION

Fire is one of mining's greatest safety threats. Control the risk of fire early on with **fire suppression systems** installed on underground and surface vehicles. These can be highly effective in detecting and extinguishing fire without the need for human interaction.

#2

PERSONNEL, VEHICLE AND ASSET TRACKING

Mines are often large, spread out and remote. It's essential to always know the location of your miners and their equipment in the event of an emergency. Use tools that can track all humans, vehicles and assets through **WiFi, RFID real-time tracking** or other platforms.

#3

COMMUNICATION & DATA SYSTEMS

While it's vital to track your miners, you must also be able to communicate with them. Being underground poses particular challenges. Use a **wireless network and a software management tool** to get information according to zone, time or asset. Many operations communicate through **VoIP** once they've deployed their digital networks.

#4

RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

To protect from exposure to hazardous airborne dust and from diesel engine exhaust, miners should wear **suitable respiratory protection**. Choose the mask, the airflow and the cartridge that matches the hazard.

#5

GAS DETECTION & ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Gas detection should be specific to the hazards that exist – gases expelled during blasting, methane escaping from coal beds, vehicle exhaust and others. Several types of **gas detectors** and **environmental monitors** may be needed to protect miners. The need for ventilation always requires airflow, heat and humidity to be accurately measured.

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