



British Columbia Mine Safety Awards

Open Pit Mine and Quarry Awards

General Rules

1. At the discretion of the Chief Inspector of Mines, awards will be given to those eligible open-pit mines and quarries which have the lowest injury-frequency rate in the competition period or year.
2. Eligible operations are those permitted mines which accumulate 15,000 or more worker hours per year or period. The hours worked by all employees are to be counted except for those persons who do not come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas, such as in cement works, lime kilns, ready-mix plants, etc. Worker hours include contractor hours.
3. The competition year is from January 1st to December 31st.
4. There are four categories for Open Pit Mine and Quarry Awards:

a. **Certificate of Achievement**

Awarded to mines whose worker-hour totals have reached 15,000 hours while sustaining an injury-frequency rate of zero. Worker hours may be added over successive calendar years. Once a certificate has been awarded, the mine must restart at zero hours in order to be eligible for receiving another certificate.

To enable companies with multiple small operations to be eligible for a Certificate of Achievement, worker hours among all operations may be combined to reach the 15,000-hour total. All operations must fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Natural Gas. The company will be eligible for a single certificate.

b. **Stewart/O'Brian Safety Award**

This will be awarded to the operation with the lowest injury-frequency rate that has accumulated between 35,000 and 200,000 worker hours.

c. **Edward Prior Safety Award**

This will be awarded to the operation with the lowest injury-frequency rate that has accumulated between 200,000 and 1,000,000 worker hours.

d. **John Ash Safety Award**

This will be awarded to the operation with the lowest injury-frequency rate that has accumulated at least 1,000,000 worker hours.



5. Certificates of Achievement and all trophy awards are based on lost-time accident frequencies, and the following formula applies:

$$\text{Injury-frequency rate} = \frac{\text{Number of lost-time injuries} \times 200,000}{\text{Number of hours worked}}$$

6. Other factors considered in the adjudication process include lost time accident frequencies for the two most recent consecutive years, and a comparison to the industry average which is determined from WorkSafeBC's estimated injury rates.*
7. A mine that has had a fatal accident in the competition year cannot receive an award even if it has the lowest injury-frequency rate in the category.
8. Industrial diseases are not classed as injuries.
9. When disputed accidents are adjudicated in favour of the injured person after **February 1st** of the following year, they will be charged to the year in which the adjudication was made.
10. The Chief Inspector of Mines administrates this competition.

* Injury rate as defined by WorkSafeBC is the number of short-term disability claims per 100 person years of WorkSafeBC-covered employment. Person years as defined by WorkSafeBC is one year of work in the given industry by one person.