OVERVIEW AND ELIGIBILITY

The Health & Safety Operational Excellence Award was established in 2012 and is presented to a mining operation engaged in exploration, mining and/or metallurgy. The award recognizes operations that demonstrate improved health or safety performance as a result of (1) designing, launching, and/or tracking initiatives over at least the past three years or (2) maintaining programs for more than three years that require a considerable commitment of resources.

For consideration, operators should submit documentation that demonstrates their improved health or safety performance and describes the nature and level of effort associated with the initiative/program. Examples of supporting documentation may include:

1. Self-reported survey data indicating improved confidence in critical competencies
2. Safety and health management systems
3. Engineering standards and practices
4. Risk management practices
5. Training and education module/curriculum
6. Emergency response practices
7. MSHA & OSHA compliance practices
8. Behavior optimization practices
9. Safety culture practice

*Please note: If your operation is selected as a finalist, additional supporting documentation may be requested. SME reserves the right to revoke the award prior to its presentation should the Health & Safety Award Subcommittee determine honoree ineligibility subsequent to recipient notification. SME reserves the right to highlight the awardees’ initiative/program and the associated successes in Mining Engineering or other promotional mediums to promote greater adoption of best practices among operators.

TIMELINE

The Health & Safety Operational Excellence Award typically adheres to the following timeline:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Task</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 1</td>
<td>Call for nominations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 1</td>
<td>Nomination deadline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Committee chair provides qualified applications to members of committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 15</td>
<td>First round of voting complete; committee chair schedules conference call to discuss results (if needed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July 25</td>
<td>Second round of voting complete (if needed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Recipient name and citation provided to awards coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 15</td>
<td>Recipient is notified</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SME Annual Conference &amp; Expo</td>
<td>Award is presented</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Health & Safety Operational Excellence Award require the following information:

1. Completed nomination form including demographic and contact information for the operation’s point of contact.
2. Documentation detailing improved safety or health initiative, program, or performance that is the focus of the nomination (no longer than two pages).
3. Documentation detailing the nature and level of effort associated with the initiative/program (no longer than two pages).
4. Operation biography (no longer than one page).
5. How the nominee would like the operation to be named/referenced in the award citation if selected.

All nominations submitted will be considered active nominations for a period of three years. Nominations must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines provided on the award nomination form, which may be downloaded here: smenet.org/awards-recognition

ADMINISTRATION

The Health & Safety Operational Excellence Award is administered by a subcommittee of SME’s Health & Safety Division under the direction of the SME Board of Directors. The Health & Safety Awards Subcommittee members are selected annually by the Chair of the Health & Safety Division.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

Recipients of the Health & Safety Operational Excellence Award shall be selected by a majority vote by the Award Committee, subject to the approval of the SME Board of Directors. The award need not be presented in any given year if a suitable candidate is not agreed upon.

AWARD

The award is TBD.

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

The Health & Safety Operational Excellence Award will be presented at the Health and Safety Division’s annual breakfast held in conjunction with the SME Annual Conference & Expo.

FUNDING

All expenses incurred with respect to the award shall be the financial responsibility of SME and the Health & Safety Committee. Travel to receive the award at the SME Annual Conference & Expo will be the responsibility of the awardee.

AMENDMENTS

These regulations may be amended by the Health & Safety Award Subcommittee, subject to approval by the Health & Safety Division and the SME Board of Directors. Any such amendments must be reflected in all appropriate award documentation.

QUESTIONS

Questions may be directed to:
Awards Coordinator Email: awards@smenet.org or SME Member Services Department Phone: 303-948-4200