2012 MINEXPO INTERNATIONAL
September 24–26 • Las Vegas, Nevada • USA
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Session: New Mine Developments
Wednesday, Sept. 26
10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
Room N253, Upper Concourse, Las Vegas Convention Center

Title: Underground Coal Mining, Grande Cache Coal Corporation – Roadmap to World Class Safety and production in Canada

Presenter: Udo Renk, P.E., underground mine manager, Grande Cache Coal Corporation

Abstract:

Grande Cache Coal Corporation is an Alberta; Canada based coal mining company, which operates surface and underground operations in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The company produces 2 million t of low volatile metallurgical coal in the Smoky River coalfield for export around the world.

In August 2011 the development of a new underground coal mine, 12 South B2, was started. This mine will continue to incorporate world-class safety technology and to utilize the most advanced production set ups combined with the newest production technology in underground coal mining.

The presentation will show controls for the main underground hazards such as ventilation, strata control and coal dust explosion prevention. It will highlight the progressive implementation of world-class safety technology into the underground operation such as Mobile Roof Support (MRS), self-drilling fiberglass bolts, foam dusting, explosion barrier types; wireless communication system, person tracking and escape recharge stations.

Further to the above safety aspects the presentation will also give an overview of production technology combined with advanced production set ups for enhancing development and depillaring operations. It will highlight Dual and Single Crew Super Sections for utilization of high-performance underground operations. The presentation will give a future outlook of the application of high wall mining in the Smoky River coalfield.