Refuge Alternatives

Thomas Todd PBS Coals, Inc. May 27, 2010

Factors Affecting Decision to Purchase

- Size constraints of unit
 - -9' x 16' x 32"
- Area inside tent when deployed
 - Temperature
- Quality of tent when deployed
 - Outer shell
 - Infrastructure
- Manufacturer experience
 - Mining industry
 - Units in service
 - Good service experience

Purchase

- ◆ AL Lee Model 3236-30 Rescue Chamber
 - -Unit size 9' x 16' x 32"
 - -Tent size 14' x 30' x 36"
 - Rated at 30 persons
 - -Purchased 12 units for sections
- Built units consisting of "15 psi" stoppings for outby areas
 - -8" wet laid block

Emergency Response Plan (Section Units)

- Located in an area with adequate roof conditions
- Location shown on mine map and escapeway map
- Miners will be trained
- Manufacturer's Specifications

Emergency Response Plan (Outby Units)

- First unit located within 6600' of surface
 - -6600' between units
 - -Outby workers within 3300'
- Maximum 4 persons
- Approximately 1100 cubic feet

Emergency Response Plan (Outby Units)

Supplies

- Oxygen and air cylinders
- Soda Lime curtains
- MREs or equivalent food and drinking water
- First aid kit
- Light sticks
- Sealant material
- Blankets
- Chemical toilet and supplies
- Hand pump and chemical tubes
- Reading and writing material

Outby Units









Transportation

- Skid mounted with perimeter protection
- Scoop and chains
 - Hook to back and drag
- Average 3 weeks between moves
- 1 shift or less



Transportation Issues





- Tow bars
 - Very heavy
 - Adds 83" in length
 - Can turn 90 deg.
- Wheel kits
 - Can dig into bottoms
 - More difficult to maneuver
 - Add 3 5" in height
 - Add 10 12" in width

Placement

- Area with good roof and rib conditions
- Dry
- Relatively level
 - Rolling, hilly conditions may present problem with tent
- Mark off perimeter for tent deployment to keep clear
- Not within direct line of face or future development

Placement









Inspections (Section)

- Preshift Inspections
 - Check roof, ribs and perimeter of unit
 - Seals, gauges
 - Assure tent deployment area not blocked
- Weekly Inspections
 - Open door and break seal
 - Equipment inside
 - Cylinder Gauges
 - Communications
- Six month Inspections by manufacturer

Inspections (Section)







Inspections (Outby)

- Preshift examination
 - Roof and rib conditions
 - Assure all materials intact
 - Date board inside
- No weekly examination required
 - Check communication

Miscellaneous Issues

- Caps difficult to remove on outby cylinders
 - Oil filter wrench
- Not in line with working face
- ◆ 500′ radial distance
- Deactivating to transport between mines













Where to place training unit?



















Questions?

