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Czech Republic Mining Association (Těžební unie)

David Póč, Coordinator for EU

***International Cooperation and its Importance within the
Mining Industry***

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International Cooperation - Tools for the Development of Mining Industry in the CZ

- Role of global organizations operating in the mining industry – eg ICMM (International Council for Mining and Metals)
- Czech membership in the EU - a major impact on the situation in the mining industry in the Czech Republic, legislative and other aspects
- The involvement of the Czech Republic in processes at EU level - the key element is the exchange of information
- Efficiency of cooperation within European platforms (eg Euromines, Eurometaux, EuraCoal, UEPG)
- Involvement of national associations and companies in the process of debate on the future of the mining industry in the Czech Republic as part of the open economy of the EU Member States

International Cooperation - Tools for the Development of Mining Industry in the CZ (2)

- Key Aspects of International Cooperation
 - Legislative processes at EU or other level (United Nations etc.)
 - Presentation of the extractive industry (eg <http://eumining.org/>)
 - Exchange of information on the key procedural procedures at the level of, for example, individual EU Member States (issues of differentiated mining law systems and others)
 - Occupational safety - exchange of knowledge related to technological procedures
 - Education targeted at different target groups (eg primary and secondary schools) - exchange of information on didactic aids, teacher involvement, etc.
 - Possibility of mutual support on different platforms with impact on the legislative area - eg principles of voluntary agreements

Examples of the international cooperation (1)

- **Voluntary NEPSI Agreement - Agreement between Parties in Social Dialogue - Employee Health Protection**



- Representatives of employers, employees, industrial associations
- Main instruments - adoption of voluntary health protection tools
- 25th of April 2006 -

Examples of the international cooperation (2)

- The key principle is the effort to find innovative solutions with minimal administrative burdens for all stakeholders
 - The agreement is focused on:
 - Health protection of employees
 - Minimizing exposure to crystalline silica by applying good practices
 - Raising awareness of health risks related to working with crystalline silica (silica, cristobalite, tridymite) and good practice



Examples of the international cooperation (3)

- **Issues of the current development of the NEPSI Voluntary Agreement (<http://www.nepsi.eu/>)**
 - Revision Directive 2004/37 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the protection of workers from the risks related to exposure to carcinogens or mutagens at work (Sixth individual Directive within the meaning of Article 16 (1) of Council Directive 89/391/EEC)
 - For many industrial sectors, the questionable classification - breathable SiO₂ despite its inclusion in the NEPSI (www.nepsi.eu)
 - The technical design from the side of the EC is set at the 0.1 mg / m³ treshold on the outputs
 - The European Parliament's Employment Committee proposed at the end of 02/2017 as a target value of 0.05 mg / m³ where there would be a transitional phase with a rolling value of 0.1 mg / m³ with a total horizon of 10 years - a further reduction 50%
 - Currently, further negotiations between the EC, the EP and the Council - closure of the negotiations 04/2017 and adoption of the proposal of the EC during 07/2017

Examples of the international cooperation (4)

- **The issue of so-called mining law**
 - The turbulent development of the Czech mining law (eg recent substantial amendments)
 - In the years 2015-2016, discussions at EU level on the possibility of unification of the mining law
 - In the various Member States, they are quite different - for example, the difference between mining law in the so-called Nordic countries (Finland ad.) and the Czech Republic
 - The possibility of inspiration by structure as well as individual legislative elements
 - Exchange of information via Euromines (European Association of Mining Industries)

Examples of the international cooperation (5)

- The possibilities of cooperation in the field of best available techniques
 - Issues of BAT and BREF position papers
 - MWEI BREF - Best Available Techniques Reference Document for the Management of Waste from the Extractive Industries. This is a reference document that is prepared in accordance with Directive 2006/21 / EC (Directive 2006/21 / EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 March 2006 on the management of waste from extractive industries and amending Directive 2004/35 / EC)
 - Impact can be seen in two basic areas:
 - Supporting an information base on waste management from mining for the relevant state administration bodies, but also for other entities such as non-governmental non-profit organizations or professional and lay public.
 - Supporting the decision-making process itself, according to the guidelines and best practices presented in this document, all necessary measures should be taken to prevent or reduce potential adverse effects on the environment and human health caused by the treatment of mining waste as stated in Article 4 (2) of Directive 2006/21 / EC.
- Example of information exchange at EU level - involvement of Member States and others.

Conclusion

- The mining industry in the Czech Republic is directly influenced by a large number of international elements - international and multinational entities, platforms associating employees and employers ad.
- Key roles for the activities of the mining industry in the Czech Republic in environmental, process (eg authorization processes) or CSR areas
- There is still a certain lack of reflection on the importance of EU membership for the functioning of the extractive industry in the Czech Republic
- Exploiting the potential of cooperation within the EU and other platforms - the need for cooperation between all stakeholders in the Czech Republic



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Thank you for your attention!



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