



Winter Maintenance

During winter maintenance activities, miners are often placed in different working conditions and asked to perform different tasks than are required in their normal daily activities. This guide will help identify key items to consider when miners are performing different tasks during winter maintenance.

General Reminders

- Ensure the appropriate task training has been conducted and review the details of the task prior to starting.
- Depending on the physical nature of the task, stretching or warming up of various muscles may be warranted
- Due to the decrease in sunlight this time of year, it is good to make sure the light plants are serviced as well as other light fixtures to ensure adequate illumination.
- Ensure adequate use and protection from devices that may be used to thaw frozen materials/part (i.e., weed burners).
- Check highwalls, benches, and roadways, especially after each rain, freeze or thaw
- Maintain equipment to operate safely in winter weather

Workspace Considerations

- Clear any snow or ice to ensure a clear and safe workspace.
- Utilize traction ice cleats where appropriate. Do not use traction cleats on steel surfaces only on snow and ice.
- Review the workspace and determine if the work location is a confined space



Protection from Cold Weather

- Monitor your physical condition and that of your co-workers.
- Ensure appropriate clothing is worn to help prevent from negative impacts from the cold weather.
- Protect your ears, face, hands and feet in extremely cold or wet weather.
- Wear waterproof and insulated boots and clothing.
- Wear foot gear that grips
- Wear a hat to reduce the loss of body heat from your head.
- Use radiant heaters in break areas and limit the amount of time outside.
- Carry or make available a thermos of hot liquid
- Maintain adequate hydration and nutritional requirements.

Roadways Reminders

- Remove snow and ice
- Allow ample space between vehicles
- Slow down and be patient

Walkway Maintenance

- Keep clear of ice and snow
- Remove all slip and trip hazards
- Apply sand to maintain traction

