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Mine Safety Award Honorees Announced

PARK CITY, UTAH - The Industrial Minerals Association – North America (IMA-NA) today announced the companies and mining operations that will receive its safety recognition awards. IMA-NA Chairman Doug Smith and IMA-NA President Chris Greissing presented the awards at the IMA-NA’s Annual Meeting in Park City, UT. The safety recognition awards program is run in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor’s Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA).^{*} Four companies and three individual mining operations were honored.

The IMA-NA Safety Achievement Award recognizes the best reportable injury rate for an individual IMA-NA member company by size category for the preceding calendar year, in this case 2020. The award criteria evaluate a company’s safety performance at all of its mines. This year’s winners include:

- **Ciner Wyoming, LLC**
Green River, Wyoming
Large Category (700,000 or more employee hours)
(751,816 hours)
- **Old Hickory Clay Co.**
Mayfield, Kentucky
Medium Category (Fewer than 700,000 but more than 100,000 employee hours)
(198,844 hours)
- **Vanderbilt Minerals LLC**
Norwalk, Connecticut
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(62,091 hours)

“The safety performance of these IMA members is truly inspiring,” enthused IMA-NA’s Chris Greissing. “Large Category Honoree Ciner Wyoming worked 751,816 employee hours with 2 injuries for an injury rate of 0.53 per 200,000 employee work-hours. Medium Category Honoree Old Hickory Clay Co. had zero injuries while working 198,844 hours employee hours, for an injury rate of 0.00 per 200,000

^{*} MSHA provides the IMA-NA with data on injuries and employment information for awards purposes. This data relies on self-reported injury and employment information submitted by IMA-NA members and is not independently verified by MSHA.

employee work-hours. Small Category Honoree Vanderbilt Minerals also had a zero-injury rate, while working 62,091 employee work-hours. To put that in perspective, the injury rate for all metal and nonmetal mines in 2020 was 1.83.” “MSHA and IMA-NA strive to help the industry achieve its ultimate goal – sending safe and healthy miners home to their families, every shift, every day,” said Douglas Smith, IMA-NA’s Chairman and Vice President & General Manager, Polymers and Coatings, for Imerys (Roswell, Georgia). “We’re pleased to recognize IMA-NA member companies that have compiled excellent safety records and who serve as examples for other companies.” One additional member company in the Medium Category operated all of its mines with zero injuries, although working fewer hours than the honoree (102,194 hours). **American Gilsonite Company** (Bonanza, Utah) will receive a certificate marking this significant achievement.

Also recognized are three individual IMA-NA-member mining operations for having the best reportable injury rate for the preceding calendar year in each of the previously described size categories. In every case, each mine had zero injuries for a total injury rate of 0.00 per 200,000 employee work-hours. This year’s honorees include:

- **Imerys Refractory Minerals**
Mulcoa Plant - Andersonville
Sumter, Georgia
Large Category (700,000 or more employee hours)
(225,316 hours)
- **KaMin LLC**
Macon Site
Twiggs, Georgia
Medium Category (Fewer than 700,000 but more than 100,000 employee hours)
(260,212 hours)
- **Vanderbilt Minerals LLC**
Gouverneur Minerals
St. Lawrence, New York
Small Category (Fewer than 100,000 employee hours)
(41,725 hours)

Fifty-five percent (55.56%) of all IMA-NA member company operations had zero injuries for Calendar Year 2020, although working fewer hours than the honorees.

IMA-NA was formed in April 2002 and represents mineral producer members and associate members providing goods and services to the industrial minerals industry. Membership is comprised of companies that are leaders in the ball clay, barite, bentonite, borates, calcium carbonate, diatomite, feldspar, industrial sand, kaolin, perlite, salt, soda ash (trona), talc, wollastonite and other industrial minerals industries. IMA-NA is the principal trade association representing the industrial minerals industry in North America. To learn more, visit <https://www.ima-na.org>.

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