

<b>DIVISION OF MINES GUIDELINES FOR APPLICATION OF REGULATORY STANDARDS MANUAL</b>	
<b>COAL MINE SAFETY ACT</b>	<b>CHAPTER 14.3</b>
<b>ARTICLE 14</b>	<b>VENTILATION, MINE GASES, AND OTHER HAZARDOUS CONDITIONS</b>
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**Section 45.1-161.209.**

**On-shift Examinations**

**Sections Where Coal is Produced**

On-shift examinations are required by the MSA at least once during each shift where coal is produced, and more often if necessary, by a certified mine foreman. The examination for hazardous conditions must include active roadways, travelways, working places, approaches to abandoned areas and pillar lines, and equipment on the underground section.

**Other Areas Requiring On-shift Examinations**

Those areas where mechanized mining equipment is being installed or removed during the shift must receive an on-shift examination. Belt conveyor set-ups and curtailment are considered to be installation of mechanized mining equipment. Also, longwall set-up and recovery activities would require on-shift examination.

When non-production work (such as scooping roadways, rock dusting, roof bolting places mined on previous shifts, or spot bolting and moving power centers, pumps or chargers) is being performed, an on-shift examination is not required.

**Surface Areas of Underground Mines**

Daily and on-shift examinations of surface areas of underground mines shall be made in accordance with the requirements of daily and on-shift examinations at surface coal mines as provided in 45.1-161.256.

On-shift examinations for hazardous conditions on belts that extend from underground must be conducted by a certified person at least once during the shift when the belts are in operation. Examinations must include all mobile equipment used on the surface at the underground mine. This would include loaders, haulers, fork lifts and other mobile equipment dedicated to surface work. The performance of a pre-operational check by equipment operators or other authorized persons will meet this examination requirement. A record of these examinations should be kept in a book for that purpose. Pre-operational and on-shift examination records should be available for 10 consecutive workdays. The

pre-operational examination will suffice for DM's on-shift, however, any hazardous conditions found and corrected must be entered into the mine on-shift report and maintained for twelve months.

Preparation plants (each floor), conveyor belts, draw off tunnels, silos, catwalks, shops, stock piles, and other locations where coal is stored or handled must have on-shift examinations conducted when coal is being processed. Mine refuse piles must also be examined daily by an authorized person on any day a person works at such location. Any other work area physically attached to the mine would require on-shift examinations.

Records of on-shift examinations are required pursuant to 45.1-161.213 D and 45.1-161.257 C.