

Mine Rescue Digital Communication: A case study in the use of electronic devices and peripherals for underground Mine Rescue communication

Co-Presenters: Tim Ebbinghaus,
Chief Emergency Services Officer, Ontario Mine Rescue
Workplace Safety North
Jeff Brown
President, Focus Field Solutions (FocusFS)

The purpose of this paper is to present a case study conducted by Ontario Mine Rescue in partnership with Canadian software and mining solutions developer FocusFS on the use of digital data recording during underground Mine Rescue work. The case study at its core explores the replacement of hand-written incident documentation with an electronic log (tablet).

The scope of the project includes the development of electronic tablet software, use during the 2016 International Mines Rescue Competition (IMRC), proposed implementation as an Ontario Mine Rescue standard, and proposed next-step developments to add more data intelligence including BA & gas detection communication with device.

The case study is mainly explores the specific requirements of the Ontario Mine Rescue program, however the overarching technology concept that the project explored is extremely important for all Mine Rescue administration bodies to consider going forward.