



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Harry Childress (276) 889-2257

Cell: (276) 365-6219

E-mail: Harry@virginiacoalenergy.com

Maxxim Shared Services Wins Annual Governor's Cup Mine Rescue & Safety Contest

Wise, VA – The Maxxim Shared Services team took top honors in the 30th annual Governor's Cup Mine Rescue and Safety Contest Thursday, June 4, 2015. The competition was held on the campus of University of Virginia's College at Wise. The rescue and safety contests were co-hosted by the Virginia Coal & Energy Alliance (VCEA), Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy (DMME) and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA).

Teams competed to conduct rescue and recovery operations in a staged mine disaster scenario laid out on the university's football field. Team members donned full mine rescue gear, including oxygen breathing apparatus, to determine underground mine conditions, construct ventilation controls and locate and extract accident "victims".

The teams were judged on their thoroughness in recording mine conditions on a map as they advanced into the "mine" and their ability to identify and respond to hazards that could endanger the team or trapped miners.

DMME Deputy Director Butch Lambert and DMME Mine Chief Randy Moore presented trophies to the winning individuals and teams. VCEA's Director, Harry Childress had this to say about the competition, "I've worked several mine disasters in my coal career and I know how important these mine rescue teams are in an emergency. We are more than honored to host this competition to make sure these miners' skills stay sharp and hope they never have to use them."

Moore, says this is a way to continue Virginia's focus on emergency preparedness. "Our first goal is to make sure these coal miners make it home safely to their families every night. There is no better way to ensure that in the work place than to be trained on working safely and to always be prepared to respond to any emergency situation. Competitions like the Governor's Cup are the place where mine rescue teams hone their skills to prepare for such mine emergencies if they should ever occur."

Governor's Cup/ 1st Place Team: Maxxim Shared Services

2nd Place Team: Buchanan Black Team

3rd Place Team: Lone Mountain Processing

Combination Skills 1st Place Team- Lone Mountain Processing

Combination Skills 2nd Place Team- Maxxim Shared Services

Bench 1st Place: BG4- Josh Richardson, CONSOL Buchanan Mining

Bench 1st Place: 240R- Caleb Schoeff, Wellmore Coal Company

Pre-Shift: Kenny Richardson, CONSOL Buchanan Mining

First Aid: Lone Mountain Processing

Governor's Cup Teams: Maxxim Shared Services, CONSOL Buchanan Red Team, Wellmore Red Team, VA Small Operators Gold Team, Lone Mountain Team, Wellmore Gray Team, Buchanan Black Team and VA Small Operators Silver Team.

Sponsors: Alpha Natural Resources, National Mine Rescue Association Virginia Post 7, CONSOL Energy, Jewell Smokeless/SunCoke Energy, Patriot Mining, LLC, Regent Allied Carbon Energy, Inc., United Central Industrial Supply, Victaulic, West River Conveyors & Machinery, Dominion Generation, EMI, Lee Supply Company, Inc., Lone Mountain Processing, Buchanan Pump Service and Supply and Nexans/AmerCable

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