



NORA Symposium 2003

Abstracts

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Hand Injuries Associated with Hand Tools Used in Mining

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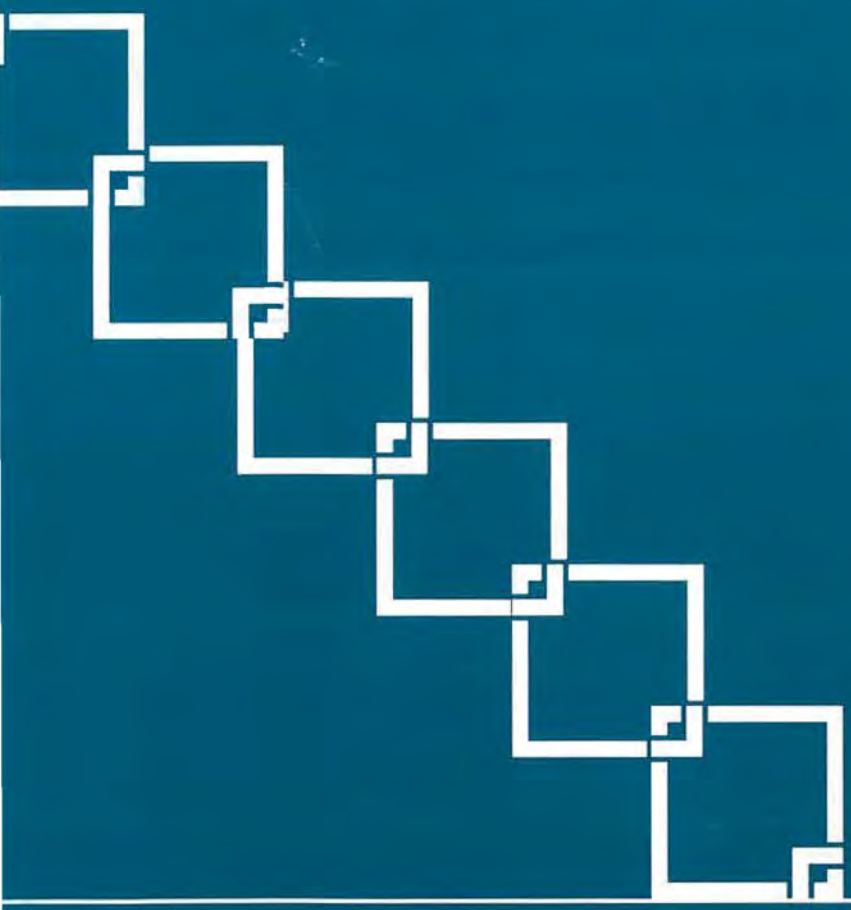
Results from a review of 1997-2001 Mine Safety and Health Administration data showed that more than 5,500 hand tool injuries occurred in the mining industry. Non-powered hand tools accounted for the majority of injuries followed by machine maintenance and powered hand tools. One-hundred and eight-four underground metal miners were surveyed to determine the level of hand tool experience they had received and how many hours of hand tool training they had received on the job. Results showed that 14 % of the workers had no safety training in powered hand tools and 18 % had no training on non-powered hand tools. Based on this sample, an estimated 48,963 mine workers nationwide have no safety training on the use of powered hand tools, and 62,411 mine workers nationwide have no safety training on the use of non-powered hand tools. It is concluded that a NIOSH-funded safety program developed at training mine workers on safety procedures for use of powered and non-powered hand tools could be effective in reducing the high frequency of hand injuries associated with hand tool use in mining.

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