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Nevada Mining Association Announces 2026 Mine Operator and Contractor Safety Award Winners

27 mine operators and 5 contractors recognized for advancing Nevada's industry-leading culture of Workplace Safety

RENO, Nev. (July 14, 2026) – The [Nevada Mining Association](#) (NVMA) announced the recipients of its 2026 Mine Operator and Contractor Safety Awards, recognizing 27 mine operations and 5 contractors for outstanding safety performance. The annual awards honor companies that demonstrate exceptional safety performance and set the standard for operational excellence and employee well-being.

“These awards recognize an outstanding commitment to workplace safety,” said NVMA President Amanda Hilton. “Every operator and contractor recognized is committed to sending their crew home safely, shift after shift. More than recognizing strong safety records, these awards reflect the shared responsibility and effort that define our industry.”

The Operator Safety Awards are determined using data from the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) for the previous calendar year. Recipients are the top-performing mine operators and contractors based on a safety rate formula accounting for employees on site, total hours worked in 2025, penalties for lost-time accidents, reportable incidents and lost-time days. Many of this year's honorees achieved the coveted “triple zero” distinction, recording no reportable injuries, no days of restricted duty and no lost-time incidents.

Five contractors were also recognized for their role in strengthening Nevada's industry-leading culture of safety. The Contractor Safety Awards recognize third-party companies whose employees work alongside mine operators across the Silver State, reflecting the collaborative approach that defines the industry.

The annual safety awards are part of the NVMA's commitment to promoting continuous improvement across the mining industry. By recognizing exemplary safety performance, the NVMA celebrates operational excellence, encourages the sharing of best practices and reinforces the importance of building strong safety cultures at every operation.

These honorees join the 45 recipients of the 2026 Individual Safety Awards. All honorees will be recognized together at the Celebration of Excellence during the NVMA's 2026 Convention on Friday, September 11, in Lake Tahoe.

The 2026 NVMA Operator Safety Award Winners:

Aggregate

- 1st Ames Construction Inc.
Ames Backfill Portable Crusher
- 1st Granite Construction Company
Lockwood Quarry
- 1st Western Nevada Materials
Spanish Springs Quarry

Non-Metals

- 1st Arcosa Specialty Materials
Arcosa Adams Claim #1850
- 1st Empire Mining Company
Empire Mine
- 1st Lhoist North America
Amargosa Quarry and Plant
- 1st U.S. Silica Company
Clark Operations
- 1st U.S. Silica Company
Colado Mine
- 1st U.S. Silica Company
Colado Plant
- 1st U.S. Silica Company
Fernley Operations

Surface – Large (300+)

- 1st KGHM International
Robinson Operation
- 2nd SSR Mining
Marigold
- 3rd Nevada Gold Mines
Twin Creeks

Surface – Medium (100-299)

- 1st McEwen Mining
Gold Bar

Surface – Small (20-99)

- 1st Mining Americas Inc.
Pan Mine
- 1st Hycroft Resources
Hycroft Mine

- 1st Lithium Nevada Corp.
Thacker Pass
- 1st Kinross Nevada
Bald Mountain South Operation
- 1st i-80 Gold
Ruby Hill Mine

Underground – Large (300+)

- 1st Nevada Gold Mines
Cortez
- 2nd Nevada Gold Mines
Turquoise Ridge
- 3rd Nevada Gold Mines
Leeville

Underground - Medium (100-299)

- 1st Nevada Gold Mines
Exodus
- 2nd Nevada Gold Mines
Pete Bajo

Underground – Small (20-99)

- 1st i-80
Granite Creek
- 1st Nevada Gold Mines
El Nino
- 1st Kinross Nevada
Round Mountain Underground

The 2026 NVMA Contractor Safety Award Winners:

- Small Mine Development (SMD)
Leeville
- Small Mine Development (SMD)
North Post - Meikle Underground
- Small Mine Development (SMD)
Rita K
- Cementation USA Inc.
Gold Rush Underground
- GenX Mining Contractors

For more information about the NVMA and its commitment to safety, visit www.nevadamining.org.

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About the Nevada Mining Association

The mission of the Nevada Mining Association (NVMA) is to unite, inform, advocate, and serve as the public voice of Nevada's modern mining industry. From advocacy on major policy issues to developing innovative ways to connect members with opportunities, the NVMA builds recognition of the mining industry's contribution across the Silver State. The Nevada Mining Association is committed to leading environmental stewardship and the health and safety of workers, residents, and communities. The NVMA envisions Nevadans embracing the mining industry as forward thinking, respected, and essential for a vibrant future. For more information, visit www.nevadamining.org. Stay up to date with all Nevada Mining Association activities on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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