



Ted Neely

Principal Risk Engineer

Ted Neely joined IMIU as a Principal Risk Engineer in early November 2012. Ted's career includes 20 years in the US coal mining industry and 13 years as a mining risk engineer at Zurich Services Corporation. He brings a wealth of invaluable knowledge and experience to our work at IMIU.

Ted was born and bred in Virginia, USA. His working life began in 1978 with the US Mine Safety and Health Administration in Virginia where he was initially employed as an engineering aide in 1978. Ted joined Virginia based United Coal (UCC) in 1981 (a producer of coking and steam coal located in the Central Appalachian region of the United States). He pursued a growing interest in safety and joined the Company's Safety and Training Department. It was his responsibility to manage safety inspections for all surface mines & process facilities plus shared responsibility for underground safety. He conducted and organised all mandatory/regulatory training for both surface and process facilities. He created and implemented the Company's first safety programme. This was during an early period of company expansion and acquisition across the region (rail-loading facilities, preparation plans and other coal companies).

Ted attended Marshall University in West Virginia, graduating in 1983 with a Regent's BA in Safety. He also completed coursework in Environmental Law & Safety, and studied Business Administration at Averett University later in his career.

In 1989 he moved into UCC's mainstream operation. He was appointed as Surface Production Superintendent and managed all phases of surface mine operations: 5+ surface mines including overseeing the work of 4 contracted mining companies. This role was diverse and challenging involving long term planning, budgetary control, fleet and manpower logistics, supplies and equipment purchasing, mining processes and regulatory compliance. Five years later, UCC promoted Ted to manage one of their smaller operations - the Riverside Coal Company (1995), a main coal barge loading facility at Proctorville, Ohio.

In 1996, he progressed to Underground/Surface Mine Superintendent/Coal Prep at United Coal. He was only in this role for one year when United Coal Company was acquired by AT Massey Coal Company and Ted was appointed as Safety Director.

Ted was responsible for performing health, safety and loss prevention inspections of Company operated underground mines and preparation plants (including where needed, to the underground and surface mine operated by KCCC's contractual mine operators). He conducted regulatory/mandatory training for supervisors and miners, in depth accident investigations for personal injury and equipment damage accidents (specifically root cause analysis). He drafted & developed plans for underground coal mine roof control and ventilation for engineering and regulatory agency approval. He also initiated a 'Return to Work Program' for injured employees. After a year in this role, and as a result of meeting a Zurich Mining Risk engineer at an insurance survey, Ted decided he wanted to work within the specialist area of Mining Insurance, and more specifically Risk Management.



Ted joined Zurich in 1999 and worked there for 13 years. He started within the domestic market in the US but later travelled the world visiting mines in all continents. His career with Zurich has enabled him to experience a wide variety of international mining production and processing systems. He also has a very keen interest in developments within the Mining Industry and makes time to network and keep up with industry news, developments and information.

Ted's substantial career background gives him the ability to understand operations both from the 'grass root' perspective and also at director level which is invaluable.

Awards & Qualifications

- Regent's Bachelor Degree in Safety, Marshall University, West Virginia, USA
- Graduate coursework in Environmental Law and Safety, Marshall University, Virginia, USA
- Graduate coursework in Business Administration, Averett University, Virginia, USA
- Zurich International Fire Protection Course (2006)
- Zurich International Risk Engineering Course (2011)

Ted is married and father of one daughter. He has a strong love of the outdoors and his hobbies reflect this, but his true passion is finding a nice river to cast his line, relax and wait for a fish to take the bait.

After more than 44 years in the mining industry, Ted retired from IMIU at the end of 2022, continuing to consult with us until the end of 2024.