Diane Kowalski

Mine Manager

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Summary

Mine manager with 16 years in open pit iron ore, now leading a 320-person taconite mine moving 48 million tons a year. Owns safety, budget, mine planning and fleet management, and works closely with union leadership on labor relations. Licensed PE with a long record of hitting tons and cost targets.

Experience

Mine Manager

Mesabi Range Iron Company — Hibbing, MN — 02/2021 - Present

Open pit taconite mine feeding a 6-million-ton pellet plant.

- Lead a **320**-person mine with a $160M operating budget and 48 million tons moved per year.
- Cut the total recordable injury rate from 2.1 to 0.9 through a new safety management system and field audits.
- Approve the 5-year mine plan and production scheduling with engineering, geology and the pellet plant.
- Negotiate staffing and shift changes with the union, reaching 2 agreements without lost production.

Mine Superintendent

Iron Range Pellet Partners — Virginia, MN — 05/2015 - 01/2021

Open pit iron mine with a 70-truck haul fleet.

- Managed fleet management for 70 haul trucks and 9 shovels, raising truck productivity by 11%.
- Directed 6 shift supervisors and 180 operators across 4 crews.
- Started a pre-shift hazard review that lowered equipment incidents by 30% in 2 years.
- Reduced fuel cost per ton by 8% with new haul profiles and dispatch rules.

Senior Mine Engineer

Iron Range Pellet Partners — Virginia, MN — 06/2010 - 04/2015

Engineering role in the same mine.

- Designed pit pushbacks and dumps for 45 million tons per year of ore and waste.
- Built yearly capital and operating budgets of $95M for the mine department in Microsoft Excel.
- Wrote ground control and dump stability procedures that passed 20 straight MSHA inspections.

Education

Bachelor of Science

South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
Mining Engineering
Rapid City, SD
05/2010

Skills

Mine Operations Management	Budgeting	Mine Planning	Production Scheduling
Fleet Management	Safety Management System	Labor Relations	MSHA Regulations
Microsoft Excel	Leadership		

Certificates

Professional Engineer (PE), Mining and Mineral Processing

Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience and Interior Design
08/2015