

Arch Coal's Coal-Mac Unit Achieves One Million Hours of Mining with No Lost Time Injuries

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ST. LOUIS/ Oct. 18, 2004 - Arch Coal, Inc. and its Coal-Mac unit are celebrating the attainment of a significant safety milestone: one million hours without a single lost time work injury. That translates to over 1,050 days - or nearly three years - of safe and continuous operation at Coal-Mac.

"This milestone exemplifies a corporate-wide dedication to health and safety," says John W. Eaves, Arch Coal's chief operating officer. "It takes commitment, teamwork and the vigilance of every employee to set such a notable record. The men and women of Coal-Mac are to be congratulated for this rare accomplishment, and now they've set their sights on two million."

Coal-Mac's mining complex is located in southern West Virginia near Ragland. The mining operation has approximately 200 employees, and produced 2.1 million tons of coal in 2003. Coal-Mac recently earned the Silver Good Neighbor Award from the U.S. Department of the Interior for exemplary interaction, communication and involvement with the surrounding landowners and community. Last year, Coal-Mac earned the Mountaineer Guardian Award from the West Virginia Office of Miners' Health, Safety & Training for significant accomplishments in mine safety in 2003.

Arch Coal, Inc. (NYSE:ACI) is the nation's second largest coal producer and mines low-sulfur coal exclusively. With subsidiary operations in West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah, Arch Coal provides the fuel for approximately 7 percent of the electricity generated in the United States. Arch's combined safety incident rate is more than two-times better than the industry average.