**2002 International Mine Rescue contest**

**Mine Rescue Competition**

Real Mine Emergencies Benefit from Rescue Contests 

RENO, Nev., Aug. 19 /U.S. Newswire/ -- Just three weeks after
one of the most successful mine rescue efforts in history, more
than 30 rescue teams from the U.S. and abroad will compete in the
2002 National and International Mine Rescue Contest, August 20-22,
at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 4590 S. Virginia St. The
contest is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety
and Health Administration (MSHA).
"The rescue of the nine Quecreek miners in Somerset, Pa., last
month was a remarkable example of training and teamwork at their
best," said Dave D. Lauriski, assistant secretary of labor for
mine safety and health. "Mine rescue contests are an ideal forum
for sharpening skills that rescue teams undoubtedly will rely upon
in the event of a real emergency."
Twenty-eight American teams, including five from Nevada, will
participate in the three-day event, along with groups representing
Canada, China, Peru and Poland.
The rescue capsule that successfully pulled the nine miners to
safety from 240 feet below ground also will be on display.
Mine rescue competitions test the knowledge of highly trained
teams of miners who have diligently studied and practiced to
respond to a mine emergency. Teams must work through a hypothetical
mine emergency -- such as an underground fire, flood or cave-in --
while judges rate them on their adherence to mine rescue procedures
and how quickly they complete specific tasks.
Mine rescue training began in the United States in 1910. The
training efforts evolved into local and regional competitions
leading up to the national contest.
For complete results of the competition, visit MSHA's web site
at [www.msha.gov.](http://www.msha.gov.)