



Jeff Kravitz
Holmes Meeting, VA Beach, VA
June, 2019

About Alex



Mines Rescue

Effective Emergency Response – A Critical
Component of Every Mine's Safety Infrastructure



Mine Rescue Makes “Front Page News”



What is Mines Rescue?

Mines rescue is the specialized job of rescuing miners and others who have become trapped or injured in underground mines. Mine rescue teams are specially trained and equipped to deal with a wide range of hazards and situations including combating minefires, explosions, rockfalls, toxic gases, influx of water while rescuing injured workers.



How did IMRB come to be?

- IMRB formed after 10 mine rescuers injured (6 fatally) at the Niwka-Modrejow Mine Poland in 1998.
- The follow-up investigation and inquiry found rescuers died from heat stress.
- Numerous other contributing factors.
- Realized there was a tremendous pool of mine rescue knowledge globally.
- Opportunity to learn from one another.



Information Sharing Creates a Safer World



Novokuznetsk, September 4 – 6, 2017



Why it continues to Exist?

The IMRB is a not-for-profit organization that was created to:

- Share information freely,
- Improve emergency response capability and response,
- Improve global mines rescue standards



Who belongs to the IMRB?

- The International Mines Rescue Body has 24 nations and 4 associate member organizations that have an interest in improving rescue globally.





Mines Rescue is a very Unique Occupation

- Fraternity, a brotherhood doesn't have political boundaries.
- World watched rescue of the 33 trapped Chilean miners in 2010.
- Mines rescue most dangerous work in mining.
- Mines rescue is a very safe profession.
- Full-time or volunteer service they are well trained.



Improving Global Mine Rescue Standards

- Poland hosted workshop in 2000 followed by a conference in 2001.
- Necessary to evaluate and compare standards with other jurisdictions.
- Convinced USA to host an International Mines Rescue Competition.
- First Held in Louisville Kentucky in 1999.
- IMRB Conferences and Competitions are hosted Biennially by volunteer nation.
- Conferences are held each odd-numbered year.
- Competitions are held every even-numbered year.



Previous IMRB Hosts



The IMRB Fraternity is Different

- IMRB is a unique partnership.
- We share information openly to improve safety.
- IMRB events are unique:
 - Forum for information exchange,
 - Technical presentations,
 - Field visits to mines and rescue stations,
 - Rescue related Research,
 - Cultural aspects, and
 - Tight-knit network for honest information exchange.



IMRB Improving Mines Rescue Globally



August 5, 2010 San Jose Copper Gold mine 33-17-69



IMRB Improving Mines Rescue Globally



June 13, 2018 Luang cave Thailand 12-14-18

IMRB International Rescue Support

- Provide information to media, rescuers, incident commanders and others who request our assistance.
- Identify potential rescue resources and connecting with those in need.

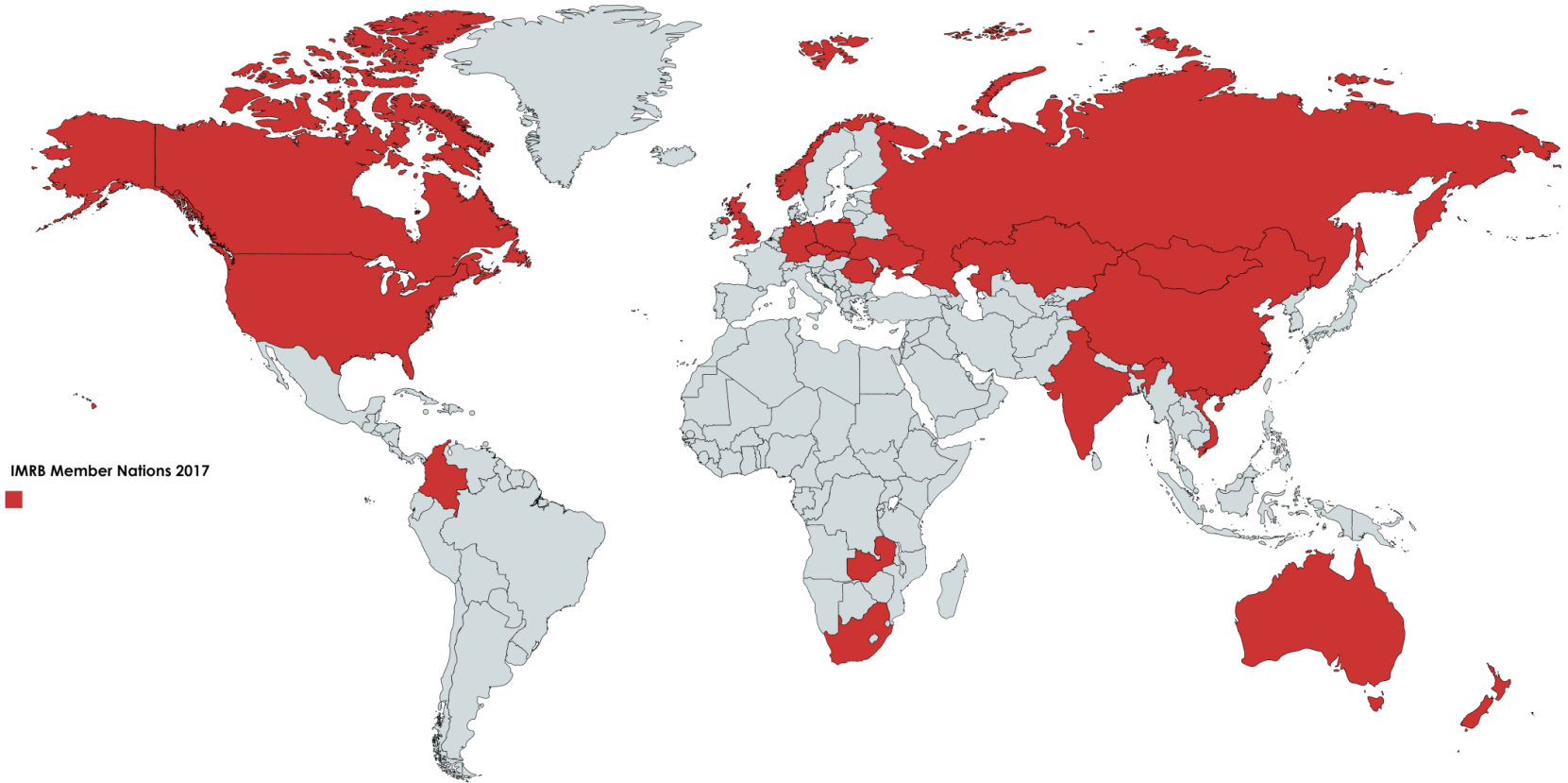


IMRB Key Initiates

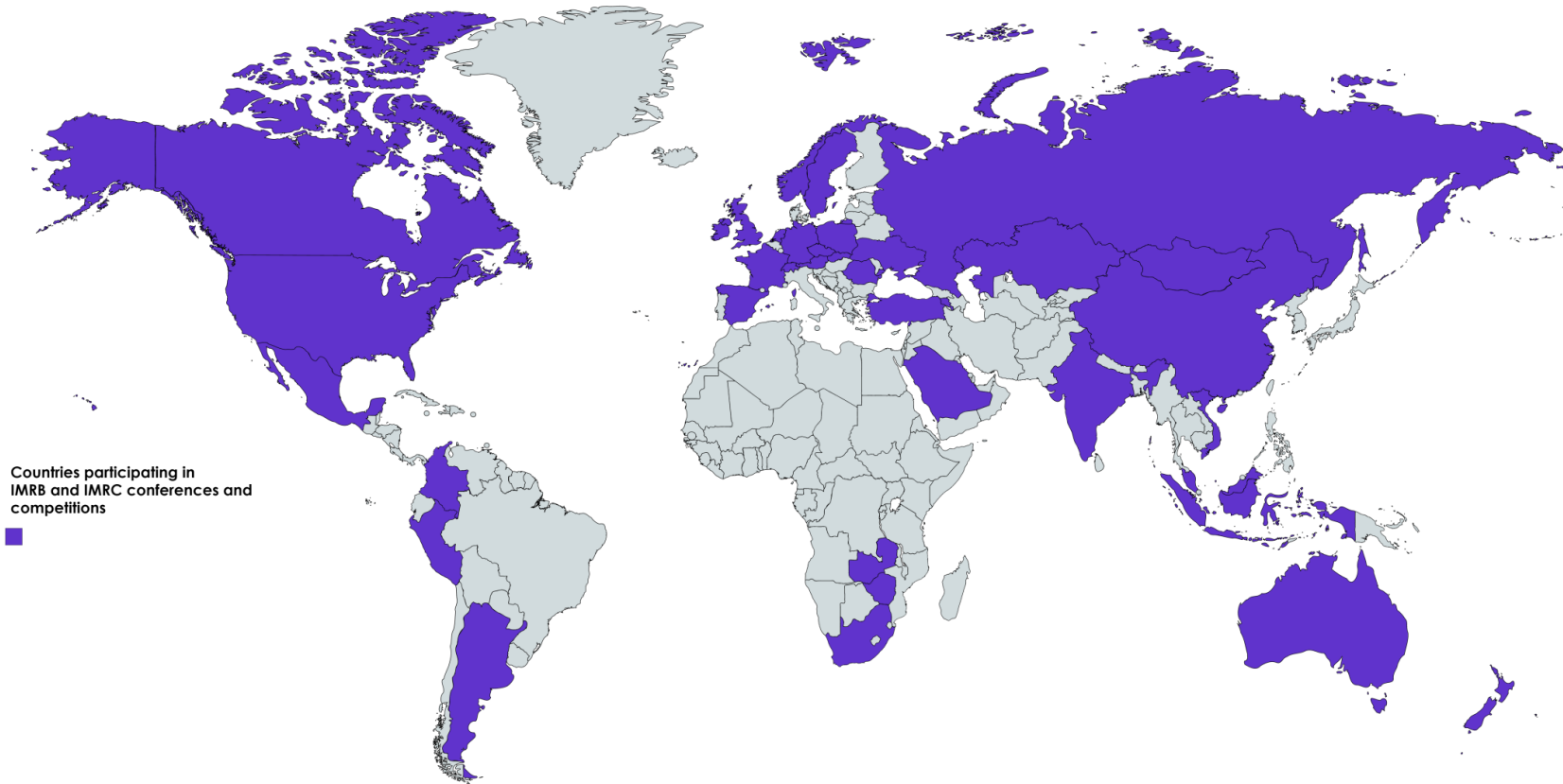
- Sharing emergency preparedness and response information.
- Identify mines rescue research projects.
- Collaborate with mining academia.
- Host international conferences and competitions
- Maintain a network of global rescue experts.
- Host the IMRB website www.minesrescue.org.
- Maintain the largest network of mines rescue expertise in the world.



IMRB Member Nations



Countries Participating in IMRB/IMRC Events



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IMRB Conferences

- 9th “IMRB Colombia 2019 ”
 - Bogota, September 7 to 14, 2019.
 - Workshop
 - Field Visit Mines and Mine Rescue Stations
 - Technical presentations
 - Cultural Exchange
 - Information: <https://imrb2019.anm.gov.co/es/>
- 10th “IMRB 2021 Queensland Australia (Pending Approval)”
- 11th “IMRB South Africa 2023 ”





INTERNATIONAL MINES RESCUE BODY
conference

colombia
2019



**Bogota Colombia September 7 to 14,
2019**

International Mines Rescue Competitions

- Have evolved to become prestigious world-class events.
- Attract teams from around the world.
 - Realistic learning events.
 - International judges.
 - Viewer friendly environment ensuring optimum learning.



IMRC Summary

Country	Year of Competition (Number of teams)										
	1999	2000	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018
USA	1	1	1	2	2	1	3			1	
Ukraine	1	1		2	1	1	1	3		1	
Russia	1				1		1	2	1	2	7
Canada	1	1	1			2		2	2	7	2
Poland	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	5	5	3	2
Peru		1	1	1	1	1					
Mexico		2				1					
China			1	1	2		2	2	2	3	2
Slovakia				1				1	1	1	1
Albania				1							
Australia					1	1	4	4	2	1	2
India					1	1	2	2	1	2	2
Vietnam								1	1	1	
Romania								1	2	1	
Mongolia								1	1		
Kazakhstan								1	1		1
Turkey								1	1		1
Colombia									1	2	2
Ireland										1	
Multinational										1	
Zambia											1
Donetsk											1
Lagansk											1
Total Teams	5	7	5	10	11	10	16	26	21	27	24
Number Countries	5	6	5	7	8	8	7	13	13	13	14

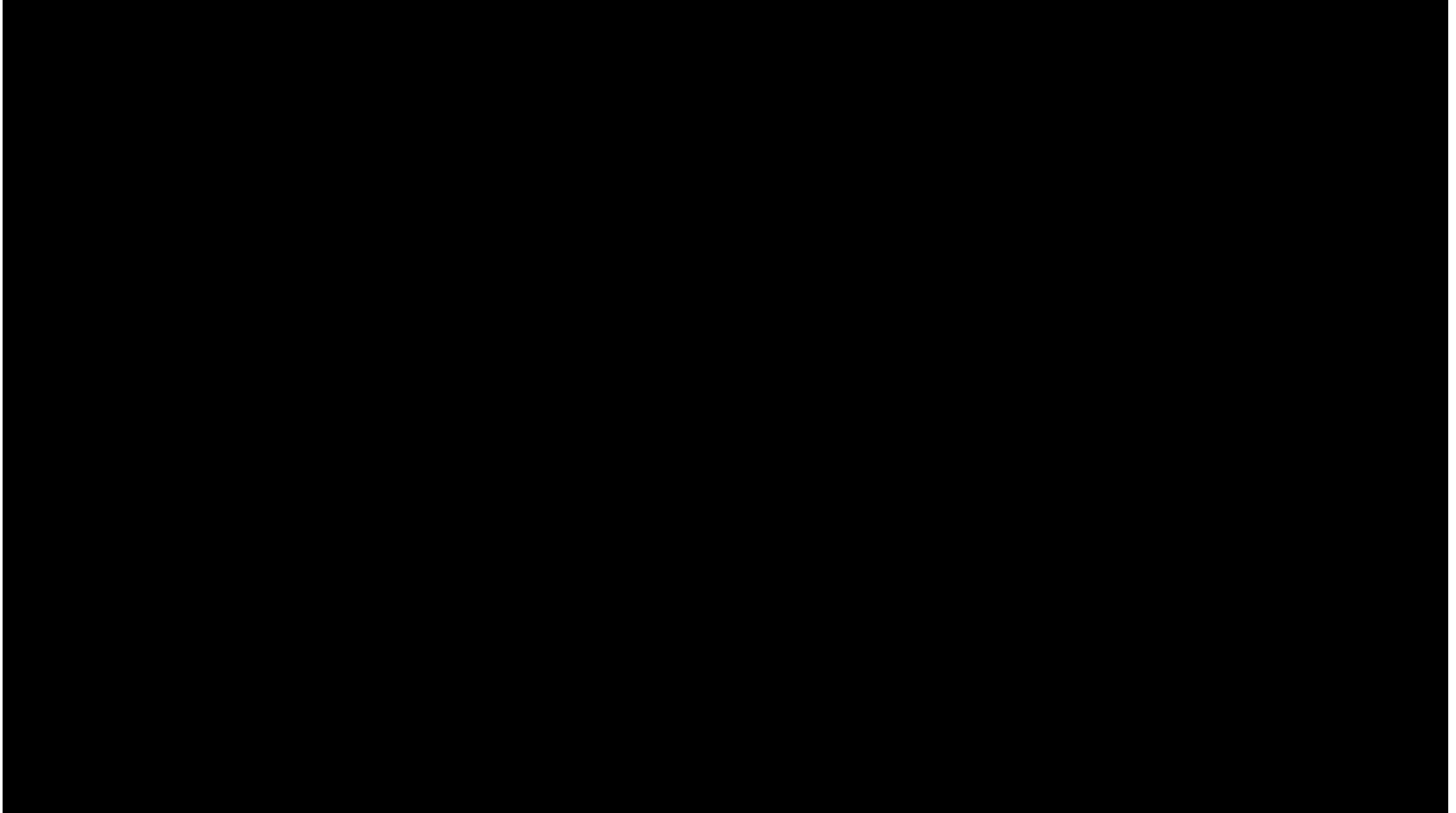
Upcoming International Competitions

Competitions

- 12th IMRC United States 2020 (confirmed)
- 13th “IMRC Colombia 2022” (confirmed)



Typical International Competition



IMRB

- Share Information freely.
- Establish, evaluate and improve global mines rescue standards.
- Establish and maintain a global mine rescue networking platform.
- Assist one another in times of need.



IMRC 2020

- 12th International Mines Rescue Competition
- National Mine Safety & Health Academy
 - Beaver, West Virginia
- September 12-18, 2020
- Maximum of 30 teams will compete
- USA will have 5 teams
 - 1 MSHA MEU
 - 2 Metal and Nonmetal
 - 2 Coal



IMRC 2020

- Metal Nonmetal and Coal Teams from the USA will be chosen from the winners of the Mine Rescue Events During the National Contest
- Venues will be:
 - Mine Rescue Field Event
 - Fire Fighting
 - High Angle Rope Rescue
 - First Aid
 - Bench – Oxygen Breathing Apparatus
 - Gas Detection
 - Incident Command



Always Remember!

"The most important thing to come out of a mine is the miner."

Frédéric Le Play (1806-1882)

French sociologist and inspector general
of mines of France



Thank You!

For additional information visit our website:

alexgryska@gryskaimrb.com

