



# The CODE

The Newsletter of  
the International Cyanide  
Management Institute  
[www.cyanidecode.org](http://www.cyanidecode.org)

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2026 Edition

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Welcome to the 1st Quarter 2026 edition of *The Code*.

## Seminar in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



Training seminar in Addis Ababa

ICMI conducted a day-and-a-half Cyanide Code training seminar in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on February 5-6, 2026. The training session was opened by Ethiopia's Minister of Mines, Habtamu Tegegne, and ICMI President Paul Bateman. ICMI Senior Vice President Dr. Eric Schwamberger delivered the training to 71 participants, who represented 11 mining companies: five from Ethiopia along with representatives from mining operations in India, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Tanzania. Attendees also included transporters from both West Africa and East Africa, as well as warehouse operations. The Cyanide Code has one mining signatory, [MIDROC Gold](#), in Ethiopia, which is also a signatory as a transporter. MIDROC Gold's operation, the Legadembi mine, was certified in full compliance with the Cyanide Code in January.



"The Government of Ethiopia encourages all mining companies and service providers to pursue internationally recognized standards, such as the Cyanide Code, and to embed these principles in their operational culture, not as a compliance exercise but as a core value."

*Habtamu Tegegne, Ethiopia's Minister of Mines*



The MIDROC Gold Mining team were presented with certificates for their company's mining and transport operations being certified in full compliance with the Cyanide Code.

## Chad Ellis to Join ICMI Staff



Chad Ellis

Chad Ellis, Ph.D., a chemist with 20 years of academic, industrial, and consulting experience in the advancement of sustainability technologies, joined the ICMI team on April 15 as Director of Program Support. He joined ICMI after having most recently served as the Chief Executive Officer of the George Miksch Sutton Avian Research Center in Oklahoma. He is also an adjunct professor in chemistry at Rogers State University, teaching introductory chemistry and laboratory courses to pre-health students.

Prior to his work at the Sutton Center, Chad was a Process Development Chemist at Trillium Renewable Chemicals, where he focused on process troubleshooting and scale-up, and contributed to technical IP strategy and development. Earlier, as a Consultant at Darcy Partners, he scouted innovators developing technical solutions in the carbon capture and methane emission spaces, assessed regulatory drivers, and communicated opportunities to clients.

Building on his experience in the renewable chemical industry, Chad served as a Research Scientist at Chevron Phillips Chemical and as a Research & Team Lead Scientist at Phillips 66, contributing to petrochemical research and development.

Chad's academic credentials include a Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry from Carnegie Mellon University, where he was a Graduate Teaching Assistant and Researcher developing inorganic homogeneous oxidation catalysts for purifying water. He also served as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Cornell University, writing original research proposals and administering research funding. Chad also holds a Master of Business Administration from Quantic School of Business and Technology and a Bachelor of Arts from Washington and Lee University.

## ICMI Board Visit Vehrad Transport & Haulage

ICMI's Board of Directors visited the transport and warehouse operations of [Vehrad Transport & Haulage](#) in Tema, Ghana, in early March. Vehrad has been a transport signatory to the Cyanide Code since 2008, and a producer signatory since 2013, operating two warehouses and repackaging facilities. The company also operates a facility where cyanide packaging and other hazardous materials are incinerated.

ICMI's President Paul Bateman said about the visit, "Our Board of Directors were very impressed during its tour of Vehrad's transport, warehousing, and repacking operations. The company's commitment to safety and environmental protection is sterling, and their continuous compliance with Cyanide Code over a decade and a half is demonstration of their commitment."

## Perpetua Resources Joins the Cyanide Code as Mining Signatory

[Perpetua Resources Idaho, Inc.](#) has become a mining Signatory to the Cyanide Code. The Idaho, US-based company developed the Stibnite Gold Project.

Also becoming Code signatories in the first quarter were three companies in the producer category, all operating cyanide warehouse facilities; one in Africa and two in South America.



These companies are Cesari Logistica in Brazil; Reactivos Nacionales in Peru; and Reddy Ship (Pty) in South Africa.

Five new transport Signatories signed on to the Code during the same period; three in Africa, and two in Asia. The companies are: Duma Speed Co. Ltd in Tanzania; Lianyungang Jiagang International Logistics Co. Ltd in China; Mining Industry Chemicals in Burkina Faso; Reddy Ship (Pty) in South Africa; and Yeongseung Logistics Co. Ltd in Korea.

## Review of ICMI Performance Indicators for 2025

A review of key performance indicators for ICMI in 2025 showed a higher workflow than any previous year for received audit reports, reports reviewed for completeness, and certifications announced.

2025 ended with more audit reports submitted than any previous year, with 118 reports submitted. ICMI reviewed and accepted 104 reports in 2025, the previous highest number of reviews conducted in a year was 99.

### Certifications Announced and Certified Operations

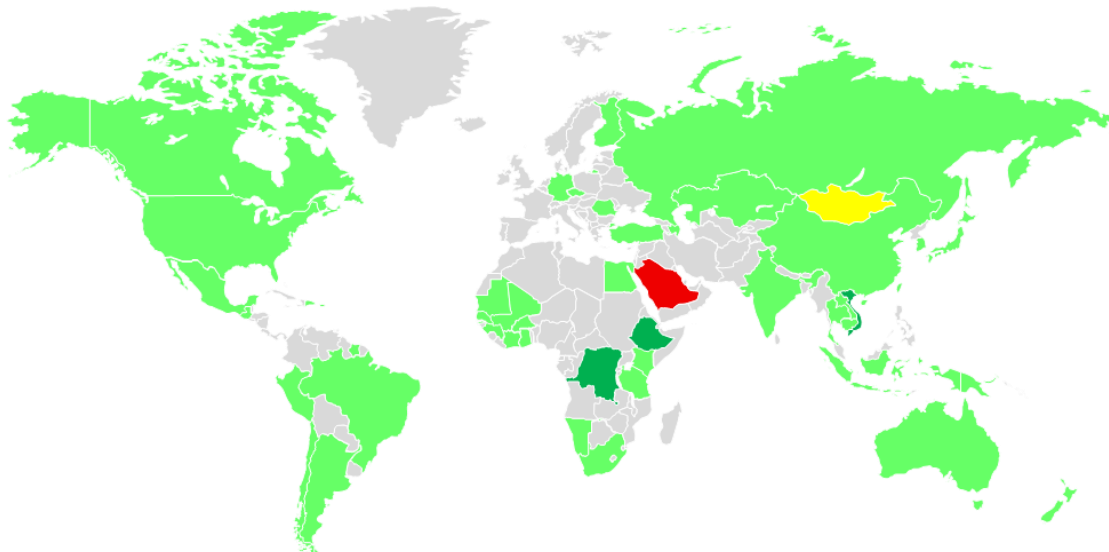
ICMI announced 99 certifications in 2025; 21 of these were initial certifications, and 78 were recertifications. The Cyanide Code ended 2025 with 323 certified operations, a new high, and an increase of 14 over 2024. The year also ended with the highest number of certified operations in each signatory category, with 115 mining operations, 47 production operations, and 161 transport operations, representing increases in 2025 of one mining operation, five production operations, and eight transport operations.

### Signatory Companies

The year also marked a high point in the number of total signatory companies, with 248, an increase of ten over 2024. The year also ended with the highest number of signatories in each category, with 61 mining signatories, an increase of three, 37 producer signatories (includes warehouse and manufacturers), an increase of four, and 150 transport signatories, an increase of three.

### Global Reach of the Code

The Cyanide Code's reach continues to expand geographically. The program currently has certified operations in 46 countries (shown in light or dark green). An additional country, Mongolia (shown in yellow), has operations designated for certification but not yet certified.



Expansion of the Code's footprint for certified operations in 2025 included Vietnam and Ethiopia, with additions of certified transport operations. In 2026 we have also added Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the list of countries with certified mining operations. The Republic of Georgia was also added to the list of countries with certified operations, with certification of the Rustavi Azot manufacturing plant. One country, Saudi Arabia (shown in red) fell off of the list of participating countries in 2025. Several transport, production, and mining operations in Saudi Arabia were previously designated for certification but withdrew from participation in 2025.

#### Operational Longevity in the Cyanide Code

An indicator of the value that signatory companies, their operations, and their workers place on Cyanide Code certification is the length of time that many operations remain in the program, and the high number of certification audits that many operations have undergone. More than 490 individual operations (mining, production, and transport) have been certified under the Cyanide Code since 2006, of which 323 (66%) remain certified.

#### Mining Operations

At close of 2025, 63 of 115 (55%) of currently certified mining operations had been certified four times or more, which represents a minimum of nine years of compliance. (First certification is year 0, second is at 3 years, third at 6 years, fourth at 9 years.) The average certification length of mining operations certified was 11.0 years. Five mining operations are now in their 18th year of continuous certification, as are six production facilities and three transporters. Since the first Code certification was announced in 2006, a total of 173 different mining operations have been certified and 115 (66%) of these mining operations remain certified.

Twenty-three of the 47 (49%) currently certified production operations have been certified four times or more, and average length of certification is more than nine years. Of the 51 production operations certified from 2006 to date, 47 (92%) remain certified. Truck transporters typically leave the Cyanide Code if contracts with suppliers or mining operations expire and are not renewed. Despite the frequent turnover in transport signatories, 58 of the 161 (36%) currently certified transport operations have been certified four times or more.