The CODE

The Newsletter of the International Cyanide Management Institute
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3rd Quarter 2026 Edition

What's Inside

Upcoming Workshop in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Gold Miners Association of Türkiye and ICMI to Host Cyanide Code Workshop in Ankara

Heliostar Metals and Liberty Gold are the Latest Mining Signatories to the Cyanide Code

ICMI Updates Signatory Fee Structure for 2027

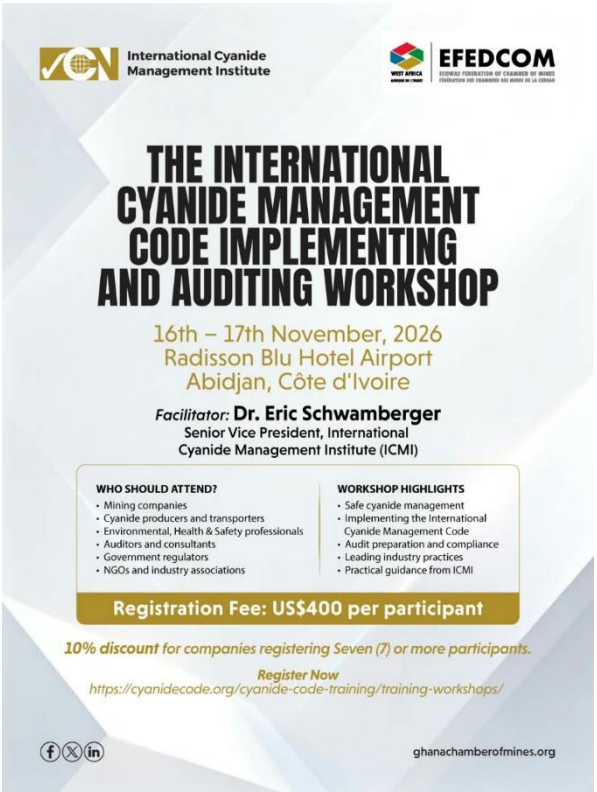
Auditor's Corner

Welcome to the 3rd Quarter 2026 edition of *The Code*.

Upcoming Workshop in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

The International Cyanide Management Institute (ICMI), in partnership with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Federation of Chambers of Mines, will hold a training workshop on implementing and auditing the International Cyanide Management Code on November 16-17, 2026, in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. This one and a half-day workshop is intended for a wide range of stakeholders interested in safe cyanide management through the implementation and verification of the Cyanide Code. Personnel from gold mines, transporters of cyanide, companies manufacturing and warehousing cyanide, auditors, environmental and safety professionals, government regulatory personnel, and NGOs with an interest in gold mining should find the workshop beneficial in enhancing their understanding of leading practices in cyanide management and the Cyanide Code's role in improving industry performance. The workshop will be conducted by ICMI Senior Vice President Dr. Eric Schwamberger. While instruction will be delivered in English, arrangements will be made for simultaneous translation from English to French by accredited, professional translators.

The workshop will be held at the Radisson Blu Hotel Airport, Abidjan. Workshop participants are responsible for their own lodging.



Early registration is encouraged as seating for the workshop is limited.

Please contact ICMI at info@cyanidecode.org if you are interested in training workshops for your company or operations.

Gold Miners Association of Türkiye and ICMI to Host Cyanide Code Workshop in Ankara

In partnership with ICMI, the Gold Miners Association of Türkiye will host a Cyanide Code Workshop on December 2, 2026, at the Sheraton Hotel in Ankara, Türkiye.

This workshop will gather leading industry executives, environmental specialists, regulatory authorities, and technical experts from across Türkiye's mining sector to discuss international best practice frameworks and implementation strategies under the International Cyanide Management Code. Among the speakers will be Prof. Jeff Parshley, noted mine closure expert and Director of the Mackay School of Earth Sciences and Engineering at the University of Nevada, Reno.

Other topics to be addressed are Key Aspects of Safe Cyanide Management in the Mining Sector; Minimizing Human Exposure During Delivery & Handling of Cyanide; and Financial Assurance for the Decommissioning of Cyanide Facilities

The workshop will provide an opportunity for companies that have not yet become signatories to learn about the Cyanide Code firsthand, and for workshop participants to discuss issues of greatest importance to them in person with ICMI officials. It also will give insight into the procedural and interpretive aspects of the Cyanide Code that will prepare operations for successful audits and make cyanide management practices more effective.

An announcement about registration for the event will be forthcoming.

A workshop held in Ankara in January 2023.

Heliostar Metals and Liberty Gold are the Latest Mining Signatories to the Cyanide Code

Two mining companies became Cyanide Code signatories in the third quarter of 2026, bringing the total for new mining signatories to seven for the year, a 10% increase over last year. The new entrants are Heliostar Metals and Liberty Gold, both Canada-based companies. Heliostar Metals operates two producing mines, and is developing a project, all of which are located in Mexico. Liberty Gold is developing the Black Pine Project in the US state of Nevada.

Also, in Q3, Corporacion Marcos Cueva E Hijos S.A.C., and Transportes Hagemsa S.A.C., both based in Peru, Agmark Logistics, LLC, in the United States, and STL: Sylla Transport et Logistique, based in Mali, all became transport signatories. During the same period, Comercial Lider S.A., which operates a cyanide warehouse in Peru, became a production signatory. With these additions, ICMI has admitted 11 transport signatories in 2026, and six companies in the producer category, all functioning as warehouse operations.

Overall, the Code now has 253 signatories, of which 64 are mining companies, 150 are transporters, and 39 are in the producer category (20 cyanide manufacturers and 19 warehousers).

ICMI Updates Signatory Fee Structure for 2027

The International Cyanide Management Institute is implementing an updated annual fee schedule for 2027 for companies that are signatories to the International Cyanide Management Code, which was approved by the organization's Board of Directors at its September meeting. ICMI is sustained by the signatory fees paid annually by the Cyanide Code's participating companies, and the adjusted revenue will fund the administration of the Code's assurance framework, rigorous technical reviews, and updated training workshops designed to reduce operational risks.

Gold mining companies participating in the Cyanide Code will see an increase in the signatory fee rate for 2027 from US$0.052/ounce to $0.055/ounce with a minimum of $3,000, up from $2,700. Flat fees of $7,500 and $1,700 for signatory cyanide producers and transporters will increase by $400 and $100, respectively. Producers and transporters with more than one certified operation are assessed an additional $500 for each certified operation beyond the first, reflecting a $100 increase over the rate applied in 2025. These adjustments will help cover the added administrative oversight required for multiple-certified operations.

Auditor's Corner

Notification of Significant Cyanide Incidents

Welcome to the Auditor's Corner, a continuing feature of *The Code*. As regular readers know, this column is intended not only for auditors but also for operations preparing for audits or gap analyses. We welcome your suggestions for future topics at info@cyanidecode.org.

This edition discusses the Cyanide Code's expectations for notifying ICMI of significant cyanide incidents.

Significant cyanide incidents are defined by ICMI to include any of the following confirmed events:

- Human exposure that requires an action, such as decontamination or treatment, by an emergency response team.
- An unpermitted release that enters natural surface waters on or off-site.
- An unpermitted release that occurs off-site or migrates off-site.
- An on-site release requiring action by an emergency response team.
- A transport incident requiring emergency response for cyanide release.
- Multiple wildlife fatalities where cyanide is known or credibly believed to be the cause of death.
- Theft of cyanide.

Cyanide Code Signatories are required to notify ICMI of any significant cyanide incidents that occurred at their operations within 24 hours of the incident. ICMI encourages operations to report incidents if it is unclear within

the 24-hour initial reporting period whether the criteria are met. The initial notification should include the date and nature of the incident, where it occurred, and the name and contact information for a company representative who can respond to requests for additional information. Within seven days of an incident, the company should provide to ICMI additional details, such as causal factors, impacts to workers or the environment, mitigation and remediation actions taken, and corrective actions that will be taken to prevent reoccurrence of such an incident.

There is no penalty for reporting incidents to ICMI**.** The primary reason for requiring the reporting of significant incidents to ICMI is for continuous improvement; to evaluate the Code's requirements in the context of the incident and to ensure that the Code remains an effective tool in protecting workers and the environment and in preventing similar incidents in the future.

Although responsibility for reporting an incident to ICMI is usually clear, there are instances when two signatories may be involved with the same incident, such as during delivery of cyanide. When an incident involving a transporter occurs at a delivery point, such as mining operations or warehouses, it may not always be clear which party should notify ICMI of the incident. ICMI's guidance is that the entity conducting the activity during which the incident occurred should notify ICMI, though there may be instances when both parties should notify ICMI.

The following examples illustrate the concept:

a. While delivering cyanide solution at a mining operation, a hose burst and the delivery driver was sprayed with cyanide solution. Although the incident occurred at a mining operation, the exposure occurred during delivery activities by the transporter. In this case, initial reporting of the incident to ICMI is the responsibility of the transporter.

b. During delivery of cyanide solution by a transporter at a mining operation, a pipe joint failed and a nearby mine employee observing the transfer was exposed, requiring decontamination and later medical attention. While the activity was being conducted by the transporter, it impacted a mine-site employee, and in this case ICMI would expect both the transporter and the mining operation to notify ICMI.

c. While unloading Intermediate Bulk Containers (IBCs) containing cyanide from a sea container into a warehouse, the warehouse employee operating the forklift punctured an IBC, releasing briquettes, and the emergency response team responded to clean the spillage. In this case the warehouse was conducting the activity, so the warehouse should notify ICMI.

ICMI notes that if, during an audit, a significant cyanide incident is identified as having occurred but was not reported to ICMI, then the operation should report the incident to ICMI prior to submission of the draft audit report to ICMI for its review. For example, a hypothetical significant incident that occurred in September 2024, but was identified during a September 2026 recertification audit as not having been reported to ICMI, must still be reported to ICMI, even though two years have elapsed since the incident.

If there is doubt about which party should report the incident, ICMI advises that both companies report the incident to ICMI. Again, there is no penalty for reporting.

ICMI thanks operations and auditors in advance for being rigorous and timely in reporting significant incidents to ICMI.