



FIRST MAJESTIC
SILVER CORP



Putting Critical Safety Skills to the Test

Note: We thank First Majestic employees Evelyn Gonzalez Lopez and Diana Cecilia González Muñoz for their contributions to this story.

Training and Testing Emergency Responses

The practice of mining applies many safety processes and procedures, safeguards, equipment, and diligence to ensure that every team member goes home safe and healthy every day. At First Majestic, we are proud to have extensive programs to apply these safeguards, with significant results. In 2022, we more than quadrupled our health and safety training hours as compared to the prior year. As a result of such training and corresponding good practices, **we've reduced our near-miss frequency rate by 51% between 2019 and 2022.**

Even with such strong safeguards in place, it's important to ensure that mine sites are prepared to respond on the chance that an emergency or disaster does occur. "We need to be working to avoid accidents happening in the first place, and to be ready in case they do happen." Explains Evelyn Gonzalez Lopez, Safety Supervisor at San Dimas mine and a safety coach for mine rescue brigades.

The rescue brigades are responsible for emergency response in case of a disaster or medical emergency. They train regularly with specialized roles such as that of a first responder, person responsible for detecting hazardous gasses (called a gasman), and a person who tests the team's self-contained breathing apparatus (called a benchman). They run through drills regularly and maintain peak skills and knowledge to ensure that if an emergency were to happen, they would be ready to respond.

In November 2022, seven prominent mining companies operating in Mexico congregated in Durango City, Durango, Mexico, to participate in the 16th National Competition of Underground Mining Rescue and First Aid Squads, organized by La Cámara Minera de México (CAMIMEX), the Mining Chamber of Mexico. This was the first competition for gasman Diana Cecilia González Muñoz from First Majestic's Santa Elena mine. Events like this give each rescue brigade an opportunity to test their skills against other highly trained teams, be judged by industry veterans, and share best practices with each other to raise the standard of their profession.



51% Reduction

in near-miss frequency
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“Our entire team was excited,” Diana recalls. “We had no idea what to expect from a national competition, but were enthusiastic to find out.”

Diana was among the teams that First Majestic sent from the Santa Elena and San Dimas mines. In attendance were 32 rescue squads and 300 rescuers, along with their world-class safety equipment. Over the course of three days, the rescuers faced a series of challenges to test their safety and emergency training. In the mining industry this is an uncommon opportunity to put one’s skills to the test. As Evelyn notes, “Emergency responders train on an ongoing basis, with the hope that we would never need to put that training to use. Competitions like this are a welcome opportunity to test our skills outside of a disaster situation.”

The 2022 Competition Experience

The rescuers began the competition in a relatively low-stress way, facing a written test of their safety and rescue knowledge. In the subsequent days, the crews face practical applications of this knowledge. Each crew is then presented with scenarios that they must resolve. For example:

- First Aid crews are faced with medical emergencies in a variety of environments such as open pit or underground mines. These scenarios are acted out with volunteers and props, such as CPR dummies, and the rescue crews are judged on every action they take to secure the patient and resolve the emergency.
- Rescue crews are faced with scenarios such as an employee trapped by mining equipment or fire, also in a variety of mine environments and as acted out by volunteers. They are expected to navigate the complexities of the situation and successfully rescue the volunteer from the simulated scenario.

In cases of toxic substances or fire scenarios, these crews must complete the scenario in appropriate safety gear – up to and including a fully self-contained breathing apparatus and hazmat equipment. In her interview for this story, Diana smiled when discussing this aspect of the event and stood up to show that she was wearing her air tank. “There’s never a spare moment!” she exclaimed. “I’m back to a training session after this call.”

At the end of the scenarios, the teams are given feedback by the expert, veteran judges. They’re notified of where they followed their training to an exemplary level, and what aspects are an opportunity for improvement. After all teams have completed their scenarios, the judges tally up results and issue awards based on their performance.



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*- Evelyn Gonzalez Lopez
San Dimas Safety Supervisor*





"At First Majestic, safety is our number one priority"

*- Keith Neumeyer
CEO*

Competition Results

In the 2022 competition, **First Majestic's teams secured awards for 5 of the 6 categories in which we participated.** Despite it being only her first competition, **Diana achieved first place** in the "Detection and handling of gasses in an underground mine" category, an achievement that she, her Santa Elena coworkers, and the entirety of First Majestic are very proud of.

Diana's thoughts on her award are humble. "I didn't believe it at first," she explained. "It took some time for it to sink in that they had said I'd won. I'm of course very proud, but ultimately the award is a result of my whole team's daily training and commitment to excellence."

The San Dimas team placed 2nd in the Underground First Aid Test and **3rd** in the Underground Mining Rescue test category, considered the two most difficult tests in the competition. First Majestic is also proud to note that **Sergio Vázquez Alvarado from San Dimas achieved 3rd** in the Benchman Individual Test, and our **Santa Elena team placed 4th** in the Open Pit and Plant First Aid Test.

"At First Majestic, safety is our number one priority," said Keith Neumeyer, CEO of First Majestic. "This national competition allows our highly trained first aid and rescue professionals to put their skills to the test alongside their peers. Their achievements are the result of years of training and dedication. I'm
Post-Competition Activities

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Upon the completion of the competition, the San Dimas and Santa Elena teams returned to their home mines. Diana explains that the competition led to increased interest at the Santa Elena mine from other functions about the rescue brigades' work. It's served to raise their profiles and led to many opportunities to share the great work that rescue brigades do to keep the sites and colleagues safe, adding to already good culture of safety discourse.

Meanwhile, at San Dimas there was a barbecue for teams and colleagues to celebrate the competition results. Though the site sent one team to the competition, there were two in attendance at the barbecue. Evelyn explained that sites have multiple rescue brigades to support succession planning. For example, San Dimas has a brigade of seasoned professionals with many years of experience, looking to ensure that their knowledge passes on to a team of next-generation rescue professionals. The two teams have trained together, ensuring that key knowledge and skills are passed to the secondary team and First Majestic's high standards of safety performance will be maintained for years to come.

About First Majestic

First Majestic is a publicly traded mining company focused on silver and gold production in Mexico and the United States. The Company presently owns and operates the San Dimas Silver/Gold Mine, the Santa Elena Silver/Gold Mine, and the La Encantada Silver Mine as well as a portfolio of development and exploration assets, including the Jerritt Canyon Gold project located in northeastern Nevada.

First Majestic is proud to offer a portion of its silver production for sale to the public. Bars, ingots, coins and medallions are available for purchase online at its Bullion Store at some of the lowest premiums available.

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