



*State of West Virginia*  
**Joe Manchin III, Governor**

**WV Office of Miners' Health, Safety & Training**  
**Ronald L. Wooten, Director**  
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November 15, 2007

Mr. Eric Pirttima  
Business Development Manager  
Venture Design Group  
23403 East Mission Street  
Suite B4  
Liberty Lake, WA 99019

Subject: Modification of verification of functionality of the Mine Tracer system under WV  
Legislative Rule Title 56, Series 4 Governing Protective Clothing and Equipment

Sir:

After the evaluation of the documentation submitted and with the recommendation of our technical reviewers the Office of Miner's Health Safety and Training hereby modifies your previous approval for the Mine Tracer system to include the 'Text Messaging Mobile Communicator'. The Text Messaging Mobile Communicator has demonstrated functionality such as would allow WV underground mining permit holders to meet all or part of their requirements for emergency communications and tracking outlined in the West Virginia Legislative Rule Governing Protective Clothing And Equipment, §56-4-8 and will be included in the listing of approved devices.

This transmittal does not negate the necessity of intrinsic safety approval from the U.S. Department of Labor, Mine Safety and Health Administration. Upon receipt of such, please submit a copy along with your request for modification the products listing.

Venture Design Group shall, upon request, provide this office with verification of valid orders, delivery dates, and status of delivery as required for this office to enforce §56-4-8. Additionally, Venture Design Group will notify this office as soon as it is determined that circumstances have arisen that will impact the delivery dates quoted as part of an approved mine communication/tracking plan.

Venture Design Group will provide additional information on the functionality of the Mine Tracker system in differing mine environments as it becomes available. Upon validation of the additional functionality the information will be appended to that made available by this office to mine operators.

Any changes required or enhancements to the approved design affecting the ability to meet any provision of §56-4-8 shall require approval of this Office prior to any affected Mine Tracker system being placed into operation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald Wooten", written over a white background.

Ronald Wooten  
Director