



Workshop on Validating the Code of Practice for the Use of Mercury in the Mining Industry of Guyana

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Marc Arpin, M.Sc., P. Geo.

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Agenda

- 1- Word of welcome and opening remarks
- 2- Presentation of the Code
- 3- Instructions on workshop's methodology
- 4- Work in small groups
- 5- Plenary session
- 6- Closing remarks

Purpose of the Workshop

Purpose:

To comment, enrich, improve, and adapt the draft Code of Practice to ensure its applicability to Guyana's mining sector.

This is YOUR task to provide the inputs for turning this document into a genuine Code of Practice.

Major challenges

- To make it as user-friendly as possible
- To keep it simple
- To keep it concise
- and...

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to enforce it !!!!

Introduction

GGMC is required by mining regulations to publish Environmental Codes of Practice. These Codes of Practice were prepared by SNC-Lavalin with GGMC's input.

This workshop is intended to validate with the stakeholders the draft Code of Practice for the use of mercury in gold mining.

A faint, large-scale version of the SNC Lavalin logo is visible in the background, centered behind the main text. It consists of a diamond shape with four curved lines radiating from its center.

A reminder of basic definitions

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What is a Code of Practice ?

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Code of Practice:

A collection of rules and ethical principles, related to a specific field of activity describing the procedures and setting forth standards considered to be Best Practice in the said field of activity.

In large-scale mining, Codes of Practice are usually designed by and for the industry



**What is a Best
Practice ?**

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Best Practice:

« The best way of doing things »

Best practice is about preventing or minimizing risks to human health as well as adverse environmental, social and economic impacts.

Sustainable Development:

Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Best Practice is one of the
principal ways of achieving
Sustainable Development...**

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**What is the difference
between an environmental
Code of Practice and
environmental Guidelines ?**

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Guidelines:

Non-binding document, generally designed to provide the user with information, explanations, guidance and help on a specific topic. They are a commonly used tool in enforcing a new regulation. The user can be the Regulator or the industry.

Regulation:

A type of "delegated legislation" promulgated by a state, federal or local administrative agency given authority to do so by the appropriate legislature.

Regulations generally are very specific in nature, they are also referred to as "rules" or simply "administrative law".

Regulations are official rules and must be followed.

To summarize:

Law (ex. Mining Act)

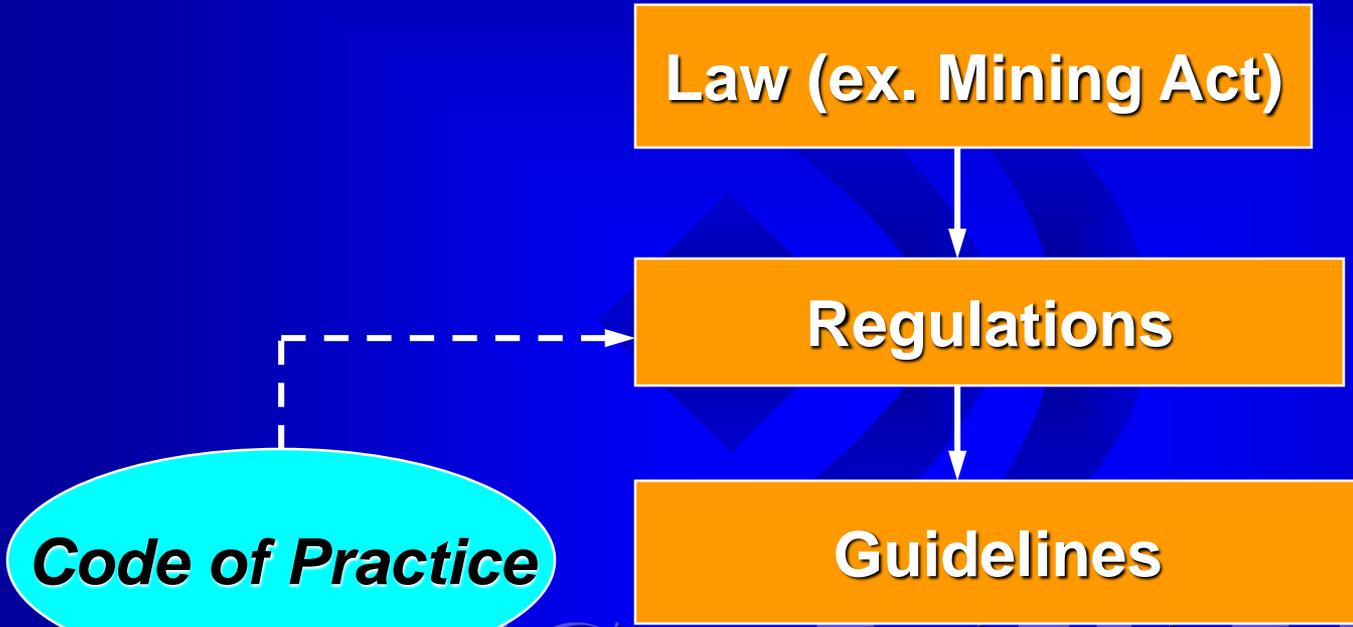
Regulations

Guidelines

Code of Practice

Industry

Gov't and industry



Framework of a Code of Practice

1. **Preamble or foreword** (why)
2. **Glossary of terms**
3. **Mission and objectives** (what)
4. **Scope**
5. **Commitments and standards of practice** (how)
6. **Code implementation** (how)
7. **References**

Principle underlying the Codes

The « Peter the Sixth Principle »:

*Prior Planning and
Preparation Prevents Poor
Performance*

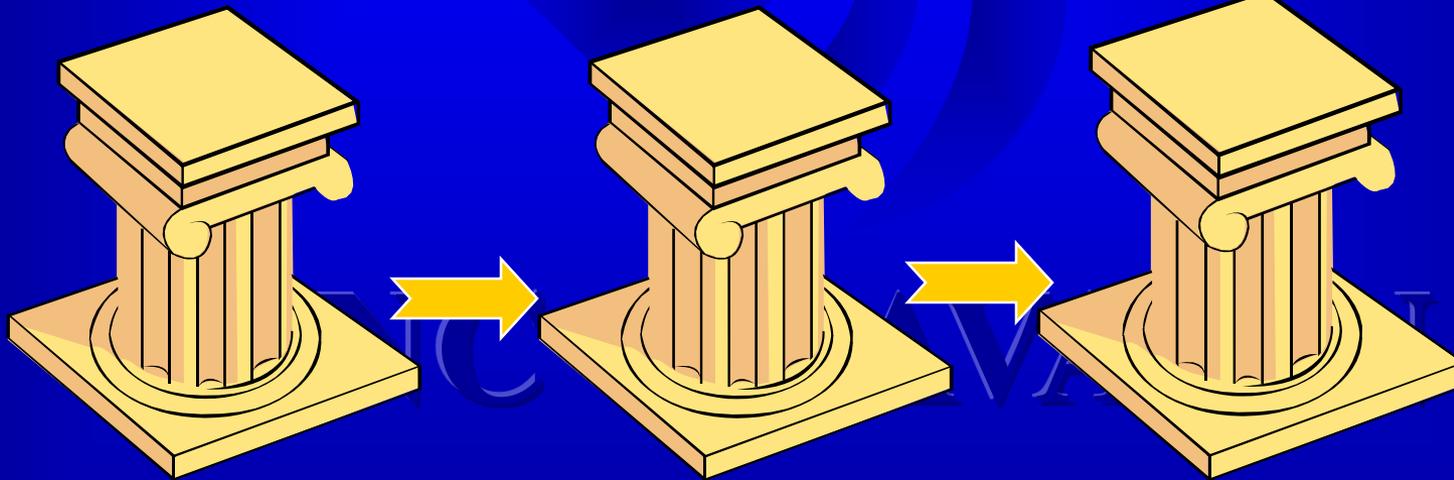
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The Codes' Pillars

1- Planning

2-Implementation

3- Monitoring





Planning



Implementation



Monitoring

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Code's mission statement

Promote sound mercury management practices in Guyana's small and medium-scale gold mining industry so as to minimize impacts on workers, communities and the environment.

Code's objectives

- 1. Protect workers, indigenous and non-indigenous communities and the environment from mercury***
- 2. Ensure and promote proper mercury management in the Guyana gold mining industry***
- 3. Promote the Code's use by artisanal, small-scale and medium-scale gold miners, goldsmiths and gold traders.***
- 4. Raise awareness of and educate all parties with respect to the effects of mercury***

Code's objectives (cont'd)

5. *Ensure that mercury management practices are flexible and dynamic over time*
6. *Ensure that mercury management practices are credible and verifiable*

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Scope

- *Occupational health and safety (OH&S)*
- *Health hazards for communities*
- *The environment*

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Structure of the CoP on Mercury

Six (6) topics:

- 1. Storage, handling and transport of mercury*
- 2. Amalgamation of gold particles*
- 3. Disposal of amalgamation tailings*
- 4. Burning of amalgam to recover gold*
- 5. Burning of residual mercury to purify gold*
- 6. Occupational health management and Environmental monitoring*

Principles and standards of practice (Section 5)

They explain in general terms how we intend to achieve the different objectives set out in the Code's mission for each of the 6 topics

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Implementation (Section 6)

This section is meant to provide more specific and technical information on how to achieve the objectives. In other words, it details the Standards of Practice

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Information on mercury and associated hazards (Appendix A)

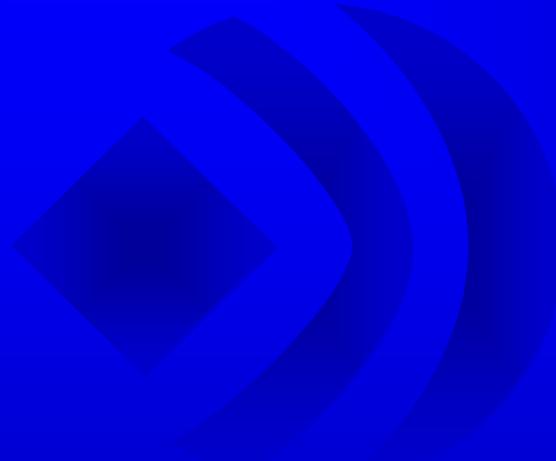
This appendix has been added to the Code for strictly informative purposes. It provides specific data on mercury's physico-chemical properties and its effect on human health.

Instructions on Methodology



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Plenary session



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