HOIST OPERATOR

Hoist Operators transport people, equipment and materials up and down mine shafts. They are practical and steady, engage in continuous learning and can adapt and think on their feet.

Job Description

- Transport people, equipment and materials up and down mine shafts
- Safety is the top priority. Hoist operators inspect equipment to ensure safe operation
- Troubleshoot in accordance with regulations and approved procedures
- May train new Hoist Operators
- May support the installation of new hoists in the mine
- Monitor hoist activity and conditions from a control room

Success Profile

- Communicates with people at all levels
- Visualizes hoist movements
- Adaptable, organized, alert and focused
- Detail-oriented
- Enjoy coaching and mentoring others
- Respect and understanding of safety procedures, regulations and legislation
- Mechanically-inclined
- Responsible and productive
- Strong communication, math computer and trouble-shooting skills
- Values safety, health and a positive working environment
- Willing to engage in continuous learning and skills development
- Works well with others

Compensation

$34.09/hour - $48.47/hour

(Source: Canadian Mine Salaries, Wages & Benefits: 2018 Survey Results InfoMine USA, 2018)

Job Prospects

Why are People Attracted to this Career?

Hoist Operators work independently and take initiative within a structured environment. They also train and mentor new Hoist Operators.

What is it Like to Work as a Hoist Operator in Mining?

Note: conditions vary according to employer and region.

Hoist Operators spend the majority of their shift working in a central room on the mine site.

Job Entry Requirements

Note: The requirements listed below illustrate what it takes to start the career and do not take into account on the job training given to new employees.

Fixed Requirements

- High school diploma or equivalent
- Knowledge of occupational health and safety rules, and provincial hoisting regulations
- Medical certificate attesting to the ability to operate the hoist (renewed annually)
- Must be able to pass a medical test
- Must be able to pass a drug test
- Willingness to work in a diverse environment
- Emergency preparedness training
- Proficiency in language of operation

Regional Requirement

- Valid provincial hoisting certification
- 10 or more years of experience working in or around mining shafts, including shaft inspections, cage tending, skip tending, chairing, slings and maintenance

May be Required

- Successful completion of a mine-specific Hoist Operator exam
- Two years of experience working underground

Assets

- Experience in other areas of the mine (e.g., blasting or drilling)
- Willingness to relocate
- Other languages