

Gudrun Heinemann: Scaffolding, Germany

Carrying out complex repairs and maintenance often requires extensive preparatory works. Several thousand scaffolding tubes, looking like a giant Meccano set, have to be installed as a secure base before any work can begin. Once the work has been completed, they all have to be dismantled.



Miran Beškovnik: Mine rescue team, Slovenia

The highly-trained mine rescue team is the most powerful response tool to any misfortunes at Velenje coal mine. The men are characterised by commitment, trust, selflessness, fearlessness, readiness for sacrifice, loyalty and comradeship. The elite mine rescue team reflects the knowledge, skills and fitness of its members.

Faces of modernisation in the European coal industry

In the race for a better and cleaner world, the European coal and lignite industry is making great efforts to develop the world's best available mining technologies and to actively contribute to climate protection. The coal industry strives to be a safe industry, protecting its people and the environment.

In the last decades, the coal industry has undergone many changes which for some people led to adaptation difficulties but change was a necessary part of modernisation.

The purpose of this contest which was co-organised by the Consultative Commission on Industrial Change – CCMI – and EURACOAL – the European Association for Coal and Lignite – is to show that behind the high-tech equipment there are hard-working men and women.



Predko Gleb: Coal mine Blagodatnaya, Ukraine

The photos in this exhibition aim to share this experience with key decision makers in the European institutions and with European citizens by showing the faces behind the European coal and lignite industry.







Klaus Görgen: Inspection power, Germany

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A joint photo competition organised by the CCMI and EURACOAL

12 November – 16 November 2012



Detlev Degner: Perspectives, Germany

The "little man" in relation to this awesome coal excavator gives a perspective on what men can conceive and achieve together.



Klaus Görgen: Control room, Germany

Modem process control is the key to the flexible operation of power stations and to a win-win partnership between renewable and fossil sources of energy. Seen here is the control centre of RWE's recently commissioned BoA 2 & 3 power station near Grevenbroich-Neurath.



Francesco Faes: Coal handling, The Netherlands

Coal is shipped to the coal terminal of Ovet BV at Vlissingen port by ocean-going bulk carriers and transported from the terminal to an EPZ power plant by means of this modern conveyor. Such conveyors have many advantages compared to the use of trucks: less energy is used and less CO_2 is emitted.



Martin Grüneberg: Music and mine, Germany

A unique artistic event at Gut Geisendorf on the edge of the Welzow-South opencast mine saw surface mining equipment provide the backdrop to a performance by BAYON music band. The audience of some 2,000 enjoyed the interplay between saxophone player Christoph Theusner on the bucket wheel of a SRs 6300 excavator and the rest of the band on an adjacent stage.



Martin Grüneberg: Workplace humour, Germany

Here at the Welzow-South lignite mine in Lusatia, with temperatures reaching down to -20°C, a ten-metre high ice wall rises in the background. The demands on men and machine are severe, but humour is never missing, whatever the conditions.



Miran Beškovnik: Apprenticeship, Slovenia

Young apprentices are trained to work safely in Velenje coal mine which is recognised as one of the most modern and safe coal mines in the world. Here, an instructor prepares apprentices for their future duties.