

Rock Drill Operator in Underground Hard Rock Operations

Introduction: There is a need in the industry for persons to drill holes accurately into the rock face in terms of their position, direction, dip and depth in support of the mining process. If shot holes are not drilled accurately these will cause blast damage to the rock surrounding the excavation which could result in falls of ground causing injury to persons or damage to property. Similarly if support holes are not drilled accurately these would render rock anchors and other supports useless which could also result in falls of ground causing injury to persons or damage to property. It is also important to for shot holes to be drilled accurately to ensure optimal advance when the rock face is blasted.

Description: This Skills Programme is in Step 4 of the National Certificate: Mining Operations Underground Hard Rock (58739) NQF Level 2 (See Process Chart) and is also an exit level outcome in its own right. It contains all the learning content that is required for assessment to become competent as a "Rock Drill Operator" in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 14 of the Mine Health & Safety Act of 1996. Persons credited with this skills programme are able to drill a variety of holes inclusive of shot holes and support holes required in stopping and developing mining operations in underground hard rock mines.

SAQA Qualification ID: MQA/SP/0069/08

<p>Target group:</p> <p>New employees and or existing employees.</p>	<p>Certification:</p> <p>Core: 244453; 244445; 244416; 244380; 244383; 244415</p> <p>Elective: 244408 (Could be RPL'd ±2 days per unit standard) If competent a competence certificate will be issued by MQA</p>	<p>Duration:</p> <p>35 Days</p> <p>Days can be reduced depending on RPL</p>
<p>Entry Level Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minimum Literacy and Numeracy ABET 4 or NQF 1 or RPL, Grade 9 		

Core:
244453 - [Demonstrate an understanding of the identification of and dealing with rock strata conditions](#)

Core:
244445 - [Follow basic health and safety practices underground](#)

Core:
244416 - [Make safe a workplace by means of barring](#)

Core:
244380 - [Support an underground working place by means of temporary support units](#)

Core:
244383 - [Conduct continuous hazard identification and risk assessment within a workplace](#)

Core:
244415 - [Drill holes by means of a hand-held rock drill](#)

Elective:
244408 - [Install and remove pipes and accessories](#)

SAQA Qualification ID: MQA/SP/0069/08