

Ground Control Issues and Roof Support Practices in Illinois #6 Coal Seam

by Drs. John Stankus, Hanjie Chen, Xiaoting Li



Outline

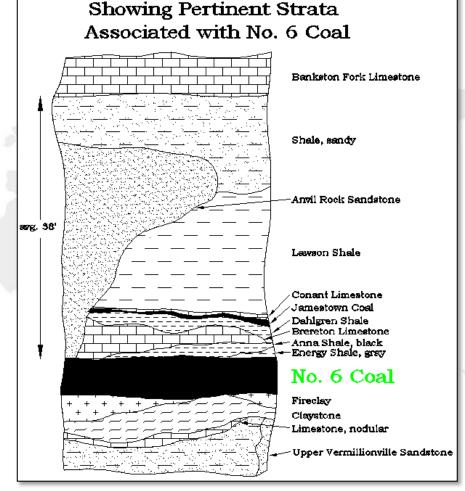
- Main causes of ground control issues in the #6 coal seam of the Illinois Basin
- Effective roof control practices
- Questions





Main Causes of Ground Control Issues

- **1.** Regional horizontal stress
- 2. Weak immediate roof of #6 Herrin seam (Energy gray and Anna black shale)
- 3. Anvil rock sandstone is close to the roof line, water may occur
- 4. Presence of Jamestown coal rider



Typical stratigraphic column

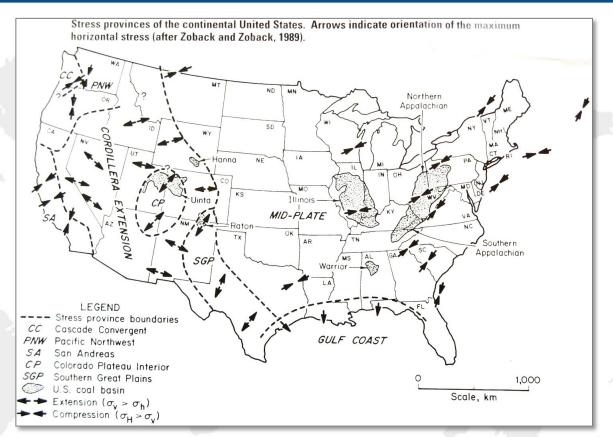




Regional Horizontal Stress Effect

The effect of the major horizontal stress on an entry/crosscut stability is categorized as follows when the angle (α) between the major horizontal stress and the entry/crosscut orientation is:

- α ≤ 30°, highly favorable
- 30° < α ≤ 60°, moderately favorable
- $60^{\circ} < \alpha \le 90^{\circ}$, unfavorable



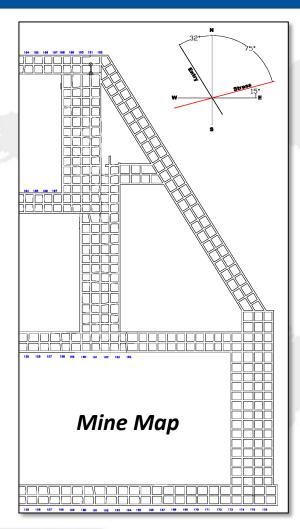
Regional horizontal stress distribution in USA

Generally, N75°E is accepted orientation of major horizontal stress in Illinois Basin

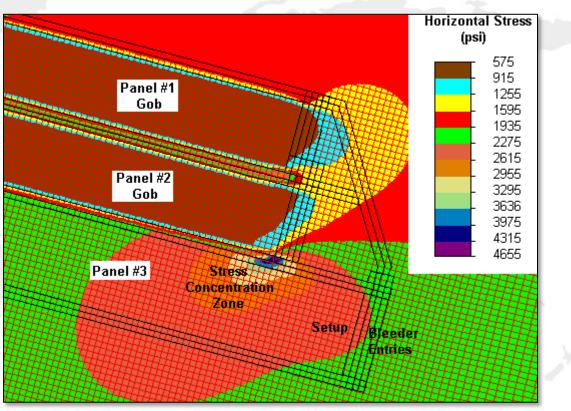




Simulation of Horizontal Stress Effect on Roof Stability of Set-Up Entries and Bleeder



Due to the regional horizontal stress effect and longwall mining activity, stress concentrations may affect the roof stability in set-up or bleeder entries.



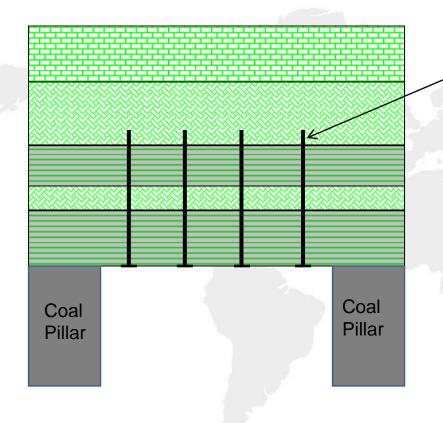
Stress Concentration Effect







Roof Support Practices - Primary Roof Support



A tensioned bolting system works much better than a non-tensioned system in terms of the beam building effect and roof stability

Tensioned bolt systems: InStaL, Super-Twist torque/tension





Roof Support Practices - InStaL Bolt and "TT" Anti-Frcition Washer

- "TT" anti-friction washer increases the installed load and tension/torque ratio by 20%
- Improves the beaming effect and roof stability in the highly stressed and laminated roof

InStaL Bolt



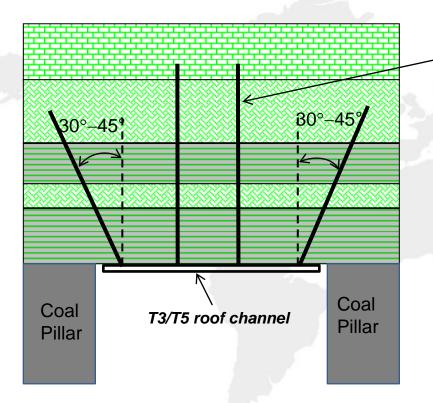
"TT" Anti-Friction Washer



Underground Roof Condition w/InStaL Bolts & "TT" Anti-Friction Washer____



Roof Support Practices - Supplemental Roof Support



In highly-laminated weak shale roof and horizontal stress condition, a tensioned cable (either Post-Tensioned or InStaL CC cable) works more efficiently than a non-tensioned cable





Roof Support Practices -Post Tensioned and InStaL CC Cable Bolts

Tensioned with Expansion Shell

InStaL CC Cable Bolt

Post-Tensioned (PT) Cable Bolt

Tensioned with Cable Tensioning Unit (CTU)





Roof Support Practices – FGCB Injectable Cable



Fully-Grouted Cable Bolt (FGCB) can be injected with polyurethane (PUR) to fully encapsulate the cable bolt and drill hole.

- Long term corrosion protection
- Water stoppage
- Strata stabilization
- Available as non-tensioned or tensioned InStal cable





How does the FGCB work?

- Modified drive head to allow injection of PUR.
- Stiffener tube serves as a grout tube.
- Addition of rubber packer to pressurize drill hole.



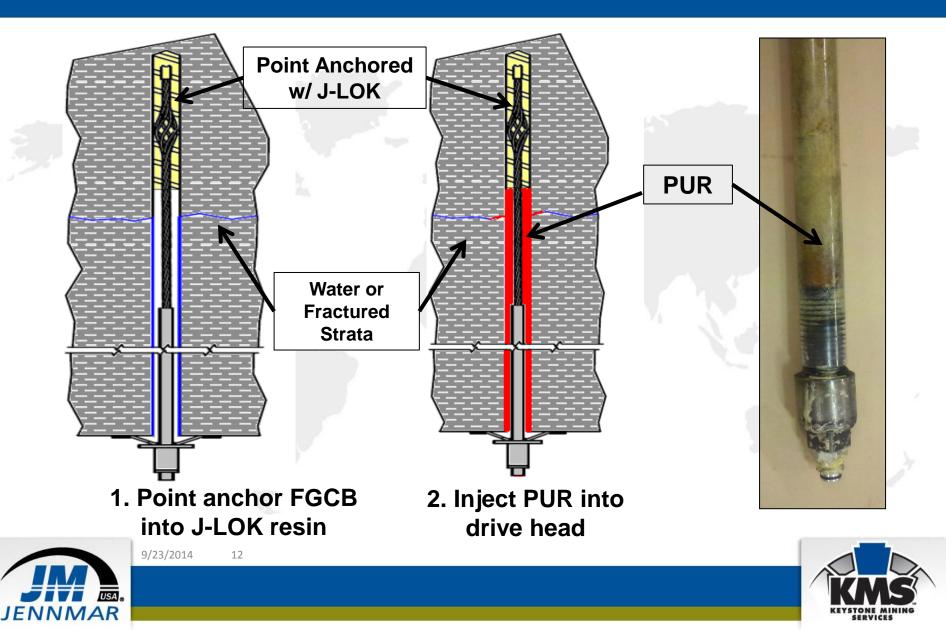




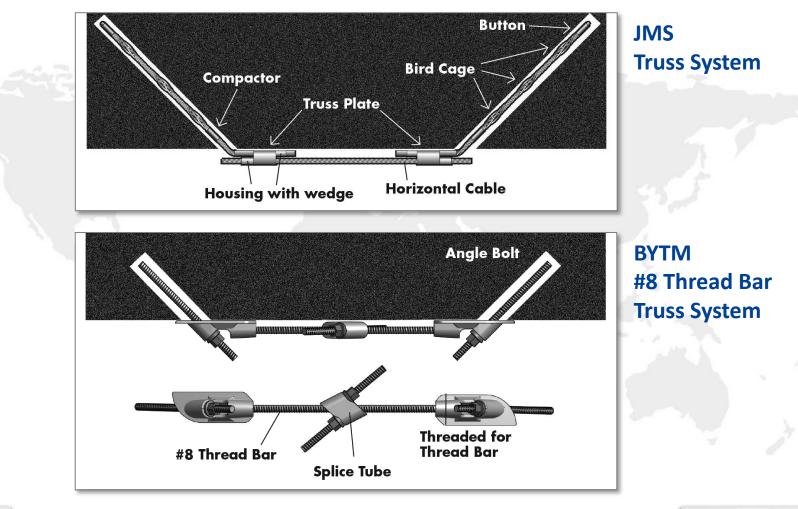




Installation Diagram

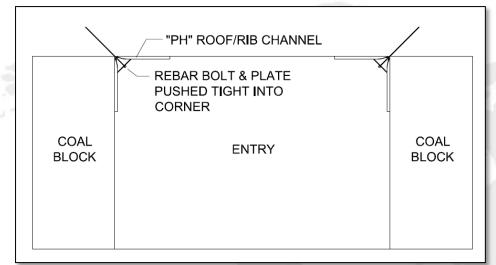


Roof Support Practices - Trusses





Roof Support Practices - Roof/Rib Corner Control



PH roof/rib channel installation



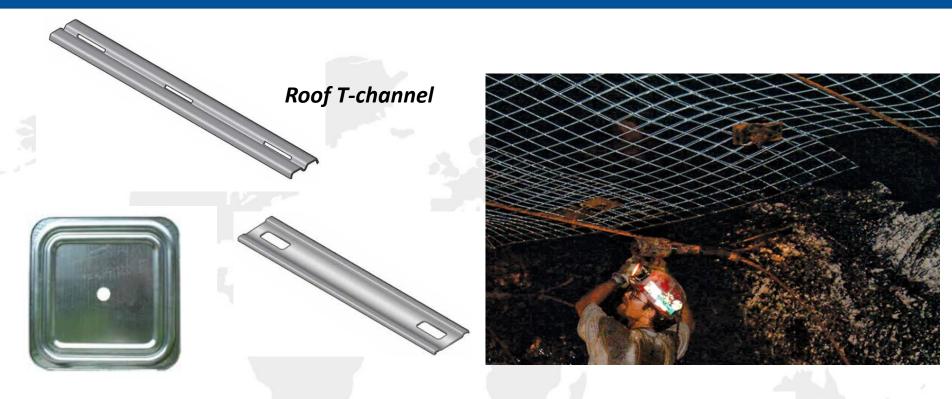
Installed underground

PH Roof/Rib Channel prevents roof cutter induced by horizontal stress, enhancing roof and rib stability





Roof Support Practices – Surface Control



Roof/rib Pan

Roof Mat

Steel Wire Mesh

Surface control: roof channel, pan, mat, wire mesh are critical in preventing weathering effect and maintaining the roof stability

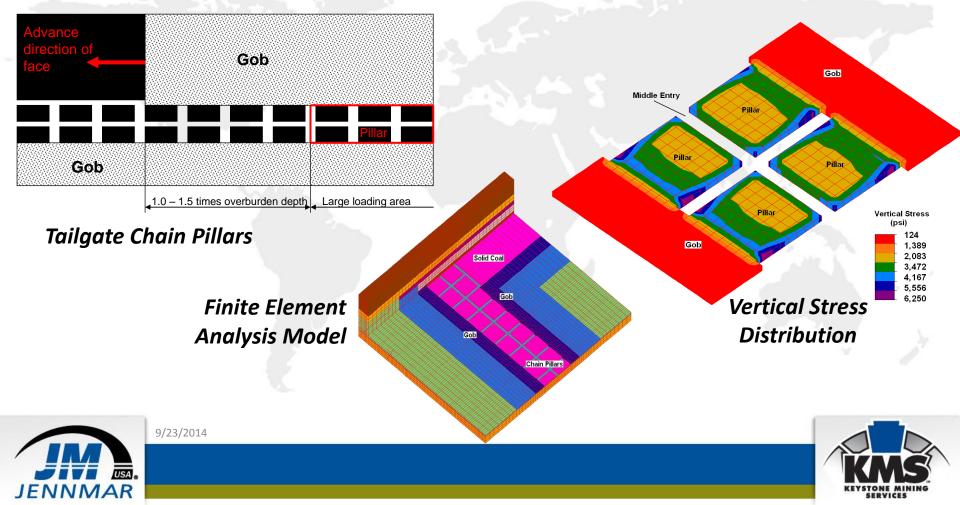


9/23/2014



Gateroad Pillar Design and Evaluation

Pillars on the tailgate side of a panel are subjected to larger loading than those on the headgate side. To satisfy the ventilation requirements in longwall gates, the middle entry needs be maintained during longwall mining.



Roof Support Practices - Standing Support -Pumpable J-CRIB and J-PAK I & II

J-PAK I



Pumpable J-CRIB



Before Test

After Test

G

J-PAK II

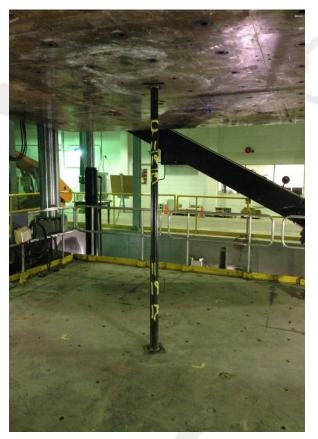
Before Test

After Test





Roof Support Practices - J-SANDY and RIP Steel Props





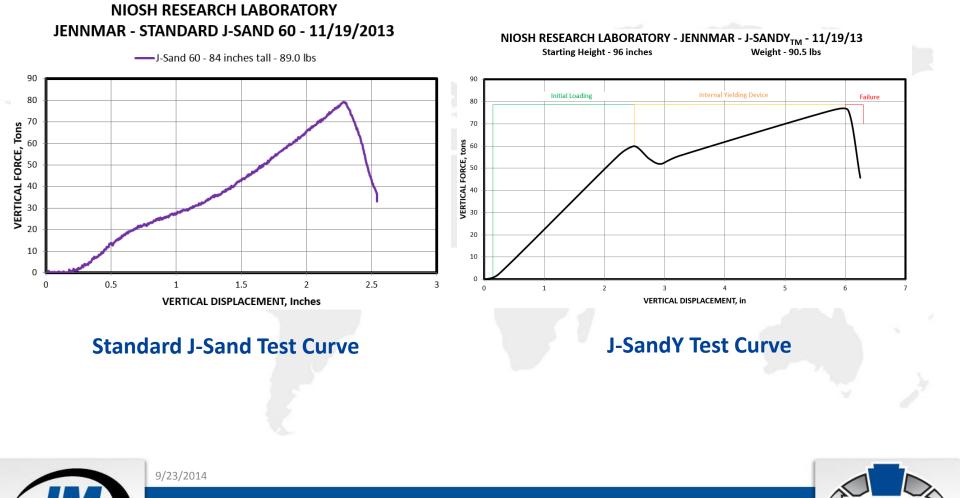
Yieldable J-SANDY Prop

Rapid Installation Prop (RIP)

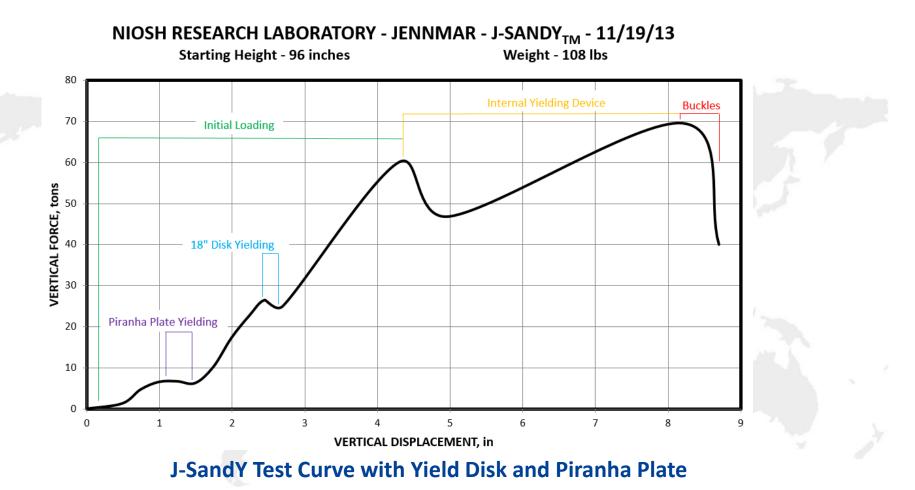




Roof Support Practices - J-SANDY NIOSH Test Curves

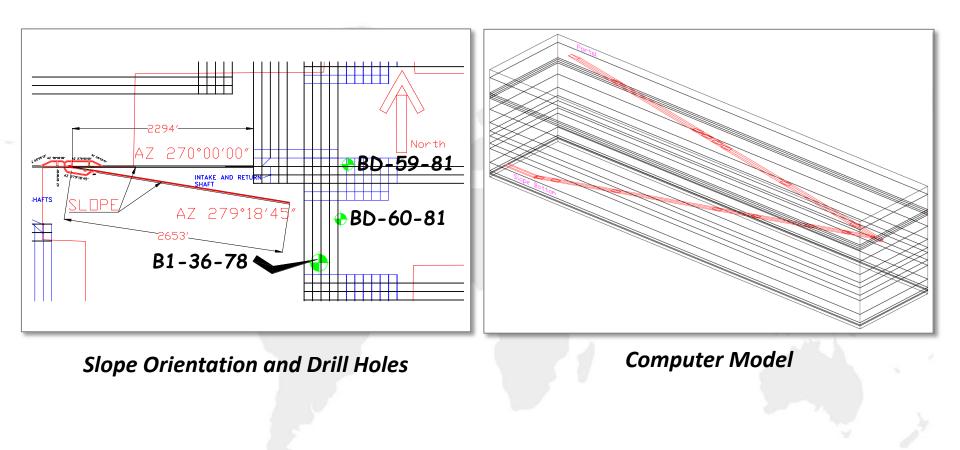


Roof Support Practices - J-Sandy NIOSH Test Curves





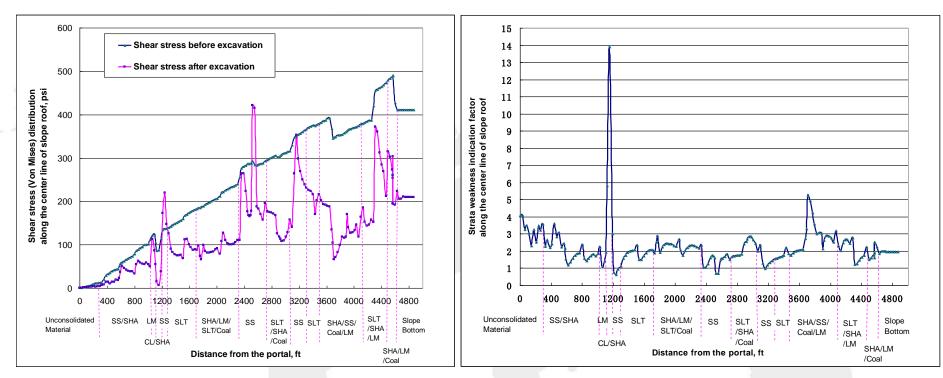
Ground Support for a Slope - Geological Analysis







Ground Support for a Slope – Geological Analysis



Shear Stress Distribution Along Roof Center

Strata Weakness Indication Factor (SWIF) Distribution Along Roof Center (weak strata with a SWIF > 2)





Ground Support for a Slope - Square Set Design

Square set design follows the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) national standard, and is based on actual geological and mining conditions

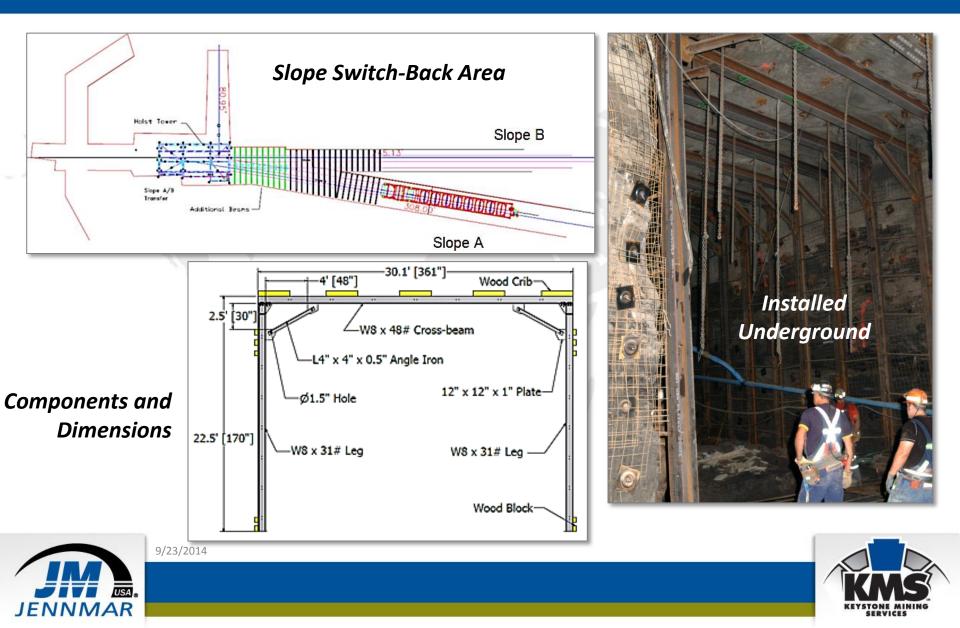


Safety Factor (SF) Distribution (SF > 1)





Square Set Design for a Slope Switch-Back Area



Questions & Comments

Contact Info: www.keystonemining.com www.jennmar.com/affiliates/kms (412) 963-9071

Thank You!



