

ANNEX

MINIMUM SAFETY AND HEALTH REQUIREMENTS AS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 10 OF THE DIRECTIVE

PART C

SPECIAL MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO UNDERGROUND MINERAL-EXTRACTING INDUSTRIES

8. Gassy mines
- 8.1. An underground working is regarded as gassy if firedamp is likely to be released in such a quantity that the risk of formation of an explosive atmosphere cannot be excluded.
- 8.2. The main ventilation must be provided by one or more mechanical fans.
- 8.3. Working must proceed taking account of firedamp emission.

Steps must be taken to eliminate as far as possible the risks arising from firedamp.

- 8.4. Auxiliary ventilation must be limited to development and salvage work and to places with a direct connection to the main ventilation current.

Production workings may be ventilated by auxiliary systems only if appropriate additional measures are taken to ensure the safety and health of workers.

- 8.5. The ventilation measurement referred to under 7.3 must be supplemented by firedamp determinations.

Where required by the safety and health document, firedamp levels must also be continuously monitored in return airways from production units using mechanized extraction or underpinning and at the head ends of mechanized blind end workings.

- 8.6. Only explosives and initiating devices specifically for gassy mines may be used.
- 8.7. The provisions of 4.1.2 of Part A are replaced as follows:
- Smoking, carrying tobacco for smoking and any objects which may be used to produce a flame are prohibited.
 - Flame cutting, welding and other similar operations are permitted only in exceptional circumstances and subject to specific measures ensuring the safety and health of the workers.