

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

OMB APPROVAL	
OMB Number:	3235-0287
Estimated average burden hours per response:	0.5

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* <u>ZEITLER DENNIS L</u>  (Last) (First) (Middle) <u>121 GAMMA DRIVE</u>  (Street) <u>PITTSBURGH, PA 15238</u>  (City) (State) (Zip)	2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol <u>MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES CO [ MSA ]</u>	5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer (Check all applicable)  Director 10% Owner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) <u>Vice President, CFO, Treasurer</u>
	3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year) <u>12/03/2003</u>	
	4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)	6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person  Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Code	V	Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		M		1,678	A	\$19.5008	14,477	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		M		4,274	A	\$23.3871	18,751	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		200	D	\$72.09	18,551	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		3,752	D	\$72	14,799	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		500	D	\$72.67	14,299	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		500	D	\$72.66	13,799	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		500	D	\$72.75	13,299	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		100	D	\$72.89	13,199	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		100	D	\$71.76	13,099	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		200	D	\$73	12,899	D	
Common Stock, no par value	12/03/2003		S		100	D	\$73.09	12,799	D	

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)		5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)		6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)		7. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 3 and 4)	8. Price of Derivative Security (Instr. 5)	9. Number of derivative Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 4)	10. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)	
				Code	V	(A)	(D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date						Title
Stock Option (1)	\$19.5008	12/03/2003		M			1,678	08/28/2000	02/08/2010	Common Stock	1,678	\$19.5008	0	D	
Stock Option (2)	\$23.3871	12/03/2003		M			4,274	09/12/2001	03/12/2011	Common Stock	4,274	\$23.3871	0	D	

**Explanation of Responses:**

**Remarks:**

(1) This option was previously reported as an option for 4,755 shares less 3,198 shares exercised 11/11/2003 at an exercise price of \$21.02083, but was adjusted to reflect the Special Distribution paid on November 24, 2003. (2) This option was previously reported as an option for 3,965 shares at an exercise price of \$25.210, but was adjusted to reflect the Special Distribution paid on November 24, 2003.

Douglas K. McClaine,  
Attorney-in-Fact for Dennis L. Zeitler  
 12/05/2003

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

\* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.