

**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                                 |           |
|--|-----------|
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|   |         |          |   |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|---------|----------|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*<br><b>SHAW L EDWARD JR</b> |         |          | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br><b>MINE SAFETY APPLIANCES CO [ MSA ]</b> |  |  | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director 10% Owner<br>Officer (give title below) Other (specify below) |  |  |
| (Last)  | (First) | (Middle) | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br><b>05/15/2009</b>                   |  |  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable Line)<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person<br>Form filed by More than One Reporting Person    |  |  |
| 9 CARRIAGE HOUSE LANE   |         |          | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                                |  |  |  |  |  |
| (Street)<br><b>MAMARONECK NY 10543-1005</b>                         |         |          |   |  |  |  |  |  |
| (City)  | (State) | (Zip)    |   |  |  |  |  |  |

**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      | 05/15/2009                           |  | A                              |   | 2,383   | A          | \$0   | 28,831  | D  |   |
| Common Stock, no par value      |                                      |  |                                |   |   |            |       | 400,000   | I  | 2009 GRAT   |
| Common Stock, no par value      |                                      |  |                                |   |   |            |       | 310,577   | I  | By GRAT   |
| Common Stock, no par value      |                                      |  |                                |   |   |            |       | 154,418 <sup>(1)</sup>  | I  | By GRAT (Wife)  |
| Common Stock, no par value      |                                      |  |                                |   |   |            |       | 152,455 <sup>(2)</sup>  | I  | By Wife   |
| Common Stock, no par value      |                                      |  |                                |   |   |            |       | 135,440   | I  | By Wife as Trustee                                    |

**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 |   |  |  |   |  |
| Non-statutory Stock Option                 | \$21.71  | 05/15/2009                           |  | A                              |   | 4,854  |     | 05/15/2012   | 05/15/2019      | Common Stock, no par value  | \$0  | 4,854  | D   |  |

**Explanation of Responses:**

- 1. Reflects redistribution of 100,000 shares from Wife's Grantor Retained Annuity Trust to shares held indirectly by Wife.
- 2. Reflects increase in shares due to distribution from Wife's Grantor Retained Annuity Trust.

**Remarks:**

Douglas K. McClaine, 05/18/2009  
Attorney in Fact

\*\* 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.