

Central Asian Mine Strikes Gold with VelocityEHS



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Norm Bobocel

Training and Development Advisor
Kumtor Gold Mine

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- Largest non-governmental employer in Kyrgyzstan
- Produced over 10.4 million ounces of gold between 1997 and 2015
- VelocityEHS customer since 2014

Located in Kyrgyzstan, Centerra Gold Inc. operates the Kumtor Gold Mine, one of the largest mines in Central Asia. It's the largest non-governmental employer in the country, and has been involved in gold mining operations in Kyrgyzstan for over 19 years. In 2015, it produced over 520,000 ounces of gold.

For most of its history, Kumtor operated without using an electronic training management system. However, about three years ago, Kumtor began looking for a better way to manage and track training data. The search for a new system was spearheaded by Norm Bobocel, Kumtor's Training and Development Advisor, who has “worked on and off” for the gold producer for over 21 years.

“We knew we needed a software service, and began looking for the right system that would fit our needs,” explains Mr. Bobocel. “In conversation with a friend in the industry, I learned VelocityEHS had helped a company in Kazakhstan run their entire system in Russian, which was exactly what we needed here. I learned more about VelocityEHS — and also looked

at other systems in the market, including a competitor's software that I had used at another company — but none offered a total solution so readily as VelocityEHS.”

Mr. Bobocel says that in addition to meeting Kumtor's language requirements, the functionality of the VelocityEHS Training Management system also made it an easy choice.

“We quite like the way the system functions,” he explains. “The system graphics and pages are very professional looking, easy to use, and make it simple to navigate from one feature to another. VelocityEHS set up a test site for us to explore the system features and see if it would meet our requirements. It more than did. Then the cost proposal came through and it was good, so we decided to go for approval with our management team. They liked what they saw and heard, so we had a deal!”

According to Mr. Bobocel, implementing the Training Management System from VelocityEHS had a powerful positive impact on Kumtor's ability to track training data.

“Things got better right away,” says Mr. Bobocel. “Capturing all this data, we can now download it into reports, which assists us in planning the annual training requirements for all employees. The State Inspectorate for Environmental and Technical Safety [Kyrgyzstan's counterpart to OSHA] regularly inspects us and in many cases they want to see employee training records. Now we can provide that information very quickly, and show exactly when a worker was trained last, and what he or she was trained on. It's very simple once you go into the system.”

Mr. Bobocel also reveals that VelocityEHS has allowed Kumtor to realize new efficiencies and time-savings.

“Another great thing is it accurately tracks our refresher training data,” says Mr. Bobocel. “We are able, therefore, to ensure people don't come to refresher training too early or too late. You can imagine what that means when we generate over 60,000 training hours in a year. If we can keep workers precisely on a 12 month training schedule — instead of coming in every 10.5 months, say — well, you can imagine the



savings! We are also using the software to schedule classes, which creates further benefits. We can group individuals by training requirements to get larger class sizes that are more efficient for the trainer. It's almost like an airline looking at load factor. There's no wasted space. We know who was trained, and when. We now have the best record of training data the company has ever had, simply because of the *VelocityEHS* software."

Concluding, Mr. Bobocel says he feels *VelocityEHS* has demonstrated a willingness to go above and beyond to support his team. And he is already expanding the relationship with an eye to the future.

"I have really enjoyed working with the *VelocityEHS* project team, because they have proved themselves so helpful," says Mr. Bobocel. "Whenever we've had special issues, like when we wanted to run our ID numbers in a unique way, they were there to come up with a patch for us. They resolved things until we were happy. Because of this good relationship, we recently went out and purchased the On-Demand Training [from *VelocityEHS*]. We are excited to start using it for our in-house eLearning programs."



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When you oversee EHS in the mining industry, you have a lot of market forces to contend with: labor relations, energy usage, fluctuating supply and demand, regulatory oversight, and of course miner safety. Companies are looking for a competitive edge wherever they can find it. While the number and frequency of mining accidents has dramatically declined in recent decades, safety continues to be a top priority for mining leaders looking for lower DART rates and greater efficiencies. The *VelocityEHS* Platform can provide a complete picture of your safety, compliance, environmental, and operational risks. Find out today why so many mining companies already trust *VelocityEHS* to improve EHS and protect the bottom line!

VelocityEHS — Reach Your EHS Goals Faster.

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Benefits of *VelocityEHS*

Simplicity

What makes *VelocityEHS* different? We focus relentlessly on ensuring our software solutions are simple, easy-to-use, and able to solve complex business challenges quickly and capably.

Speed

Not only does our software provide valuable time savings across your organization, our implementations take less time, cost less money, and are more successful than traditional software systems.

Customer Service

Adoption of the *VelocityEHS* Platform is the beginning of a partnership, not the end of a transaction. Our customer advocates stand ready to serve our clients and help provide the simplest and most engaging user experience.

Scalability

Our dynamic solution remains scalable and nimble at every turn, helping you to reach your environmental, health, and safety goals faster and with less struggle. We grow with you!

Value

Our software pricing structure is straightforward, competitive, and encourages organization-wide adoption by eliminating per-user licensing entirely.

Help for You to Do What You Do Better!

The *VelocityEHS* solution eliminates the time-consuming challenge of tackling EHS data manually, and allows you to respond to challenges confidently and effectively. This frees you up to get back to handling the other critical issues that drive business performance and impact your core goals.



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