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Press Release

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New Miners Complete Training in Juneau

JUNEAU, Alaska—Eleven trainees graduated today from the Entry Level Underground Miner training program in Juneau, an innovative program that is preparing Alaskans to compete locally and globally in the mining industry.

“Our goal is to continue to increase Alaska hire by providing job training based on industry need,” Labor Commissioner Click Bishop said. “These underground mining graduates are from Southeast Alaska – Klawock, Sitka, Gustavus, Ketchikan and Juneau.”

The new miner training program is a collaborative effort of the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development’s Employment Security Division, the University of Alaska’s Mining and Petroleum Training Service and the mining industry.

“By partnering with industry, we are developing a premier workforce development model that will meet employers’ needs,” Labor Deputy Commissioner David Stone said. “Our goal is to increase the ability of companies to hire locally and keep dollars in Alaska, helping raise the standard of living in our communities.”

Alaska mining companies helped develop the training curriculum, which was held at the University of Alaska Southeast and the AJ Mine in Juneau.

The training program included job interviews with mining companies. Miners earn an average salary of \$83,000 a year in Alaska.

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