Busy traffic, noise, poor visibility, and operator distraction and fatigue make mines potentially dangerous places to work. Add the threat of slope failure and rock falls, and it’s easy to appreciate the very real obstacles mining companies face in achieving zero harm.

Safety, sustainability and efficiency can suffer at any mine where the data from planning, operations, safety and business analytics are siloed. Recent integration between Hexagon’s Mining division and Hexagon subsidiary, IDS GeoRadar now means that these important data sources can be shared in one platform.

Hexagon is a leader in sensor, software and autonomous solutions. Recognizing the risks miners face, the company now connects systems for safety and radar-based slope stability hazards. The single platform is part of HxGN MineProtect Collision Avoidance System (CAS) 4.6.

It means mines can now receive real-time equipment visualization with timely alerts about hazardous areas for people and machinery. Workers and equipment are protected from injury-threatening events by being forewarned of no-go-zones.

No-go zones are identified in IDS GeoRadar’s IBIS Guardian software, which creates geofenced zones and hazard maps, and is correlated with radar alarms. Guardian’s integration with CAS 4.6 and complementary HxGN MineProtect solutions, Personal Alert and Tracking Radar, ensures that alarms are automatically triggered when a no-go zone is approached.

“The additional layer of information created by this integration means better risk evaluation and is one more way to ensure everyone gets home safely,” said Nick Hare, President of Hexagon’s Mining division. “It’s also a great example of our autonomous connected ecosystems strategy – connecting previously siloed processes in one platform that will save lives.”

IDS GeoRadar President, Alberto Bicci, said: “Guardian can now improve risk management being integrated with the HxGN MineProtect portfolio. Vehicles and machinery are visualized in real time on the 3D radar displacement map and consequently traffic management, based on slope hazards, can be further optimized through real-time monitoring data from our complementary solutions, Hydra-X, IBIS-FM and IBIS-ArcSAR.”

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