

2004 SME Pittsburgh Section Distinguished Member Award

James J. Szalankiewicz
T.J.S. Mining, Inc.

Mr. James J. Szalankiewicz is one of the recipients of the Distinguished Member Award from the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, & Exploration, Inc. (SME) Pittsburgh Section.



Jim received an Associate Degree Engineering, Surveying Technology in 1971 and an Associate Degree Engineering in Mining Technology in 1981, both from The Pennsylvania State University.

Upon graduation from The Pennsylvania State University in 1971, Jim was employed by the National Ocean Survey (formerly the Coast and Geodetic Survey) as a Survey Technician and was responsible for providing survey control for the mapping of Delaware Bay. Later, Jim was assigned to an airport survey party and was responsible for surveying and mapping of airport obstructions throughout the northeastern United States. In October of 1971, R. B. Shannon and Associates of Kittanning, Pennsylvania employed Jim as a surveyor. Jim's duties involved topographic, engineering and property surveys as well as underground surveying in both bituminous and limestone mines.

Jim began his mining career in February of 1972 at the Rochester and Pittsburgh (R&P) Coal Company, Indiana, Pennsylvania. Jim's positions at R&P included Mine Surveyor, Mine Draftsman, Resident Engineer and Mine Planning Engineer. In January of 1982, Jim left R&P to become Chief Engineer for Darmac Coal, Inc. and Darmac Associates Corporation. Jim's responsibilities at Darmac included permitting, exploration, surveying and mapping, mine development and planning, operations and reclamation. In October of 1988, Adobe Mining of Grove City, Pennsylvania purchased Darmac where Jim served as Chief Engineer. While employed at R&P and later Darmac, Jim was a part-time instructor for several years at the New Kensington Campus of The Pennsylvania State University where he instructed a course in Mineral, Land and Mine Surveying.

In March of 1991, Jim left with Adobe to fulfill his obligations as part owner of T.J.S. Mining, Inc. and Penn View Mining, Inc. of Shelocta, Pennsylvania. T.J.S. and Penn View presently operate four underground mines and a coal preparation plant.

Jim most recently served as a member on the Governor's Commission on "**Abandoned Mine Voids and Mine Safety**", Past-Chairman of the Pennsylvania Coal Association and Past-President of the PCMIA.

Jim is a Registered Professional Land Surveyor and a Registered Professional Engineer. He is a member of SME, PCMIA, Pennsylvania Society Professional Engineers, National Society of Professional Engineers and the Pennsylvania Coal Association.