

# Queensland Coal Inspectorate Update to Industry Leaders

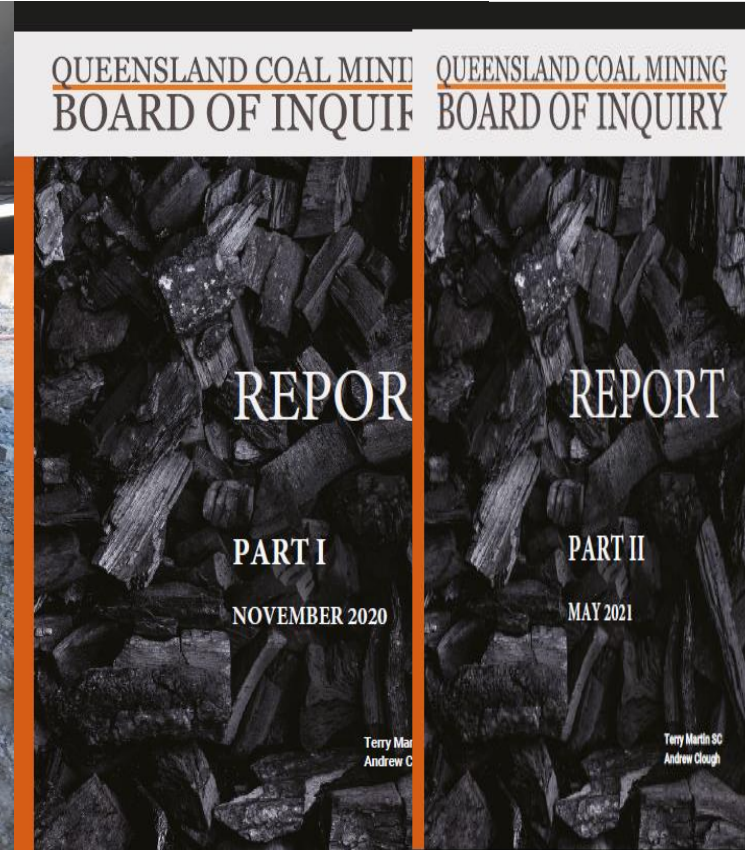
April 2022

Peter Newman  
Chief Inspector of Coal Mines

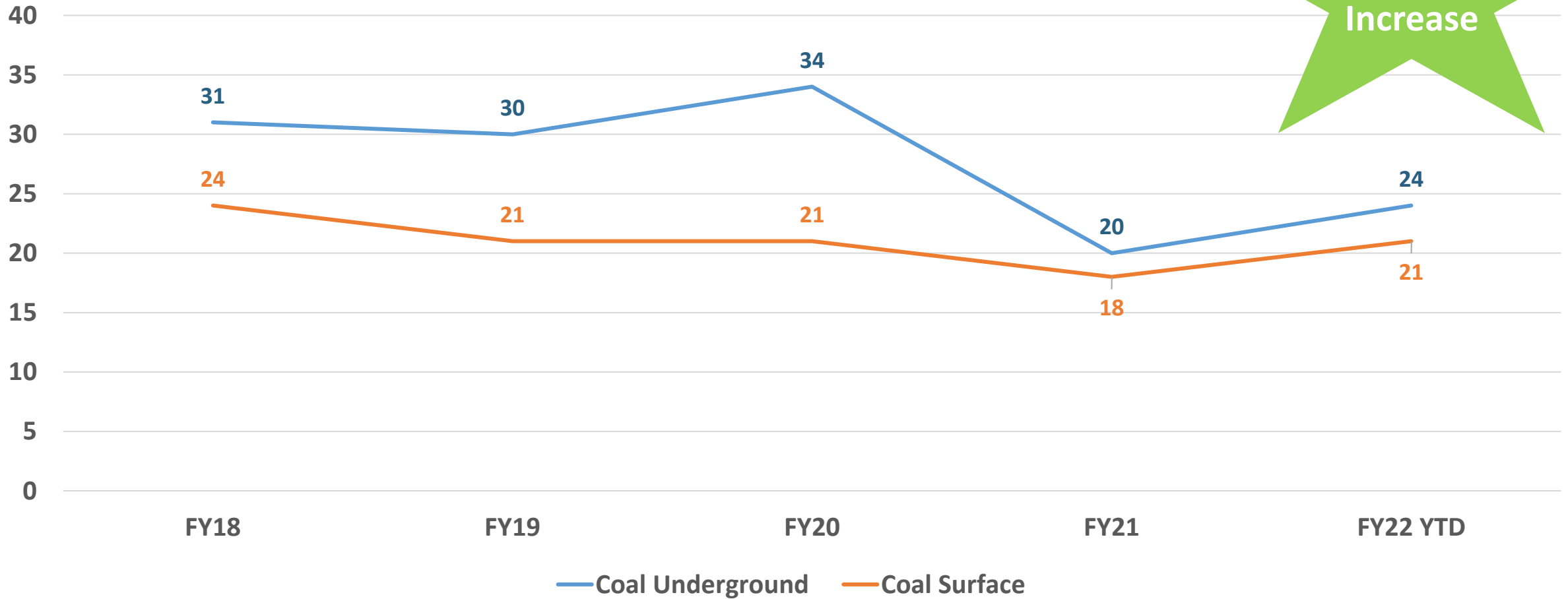




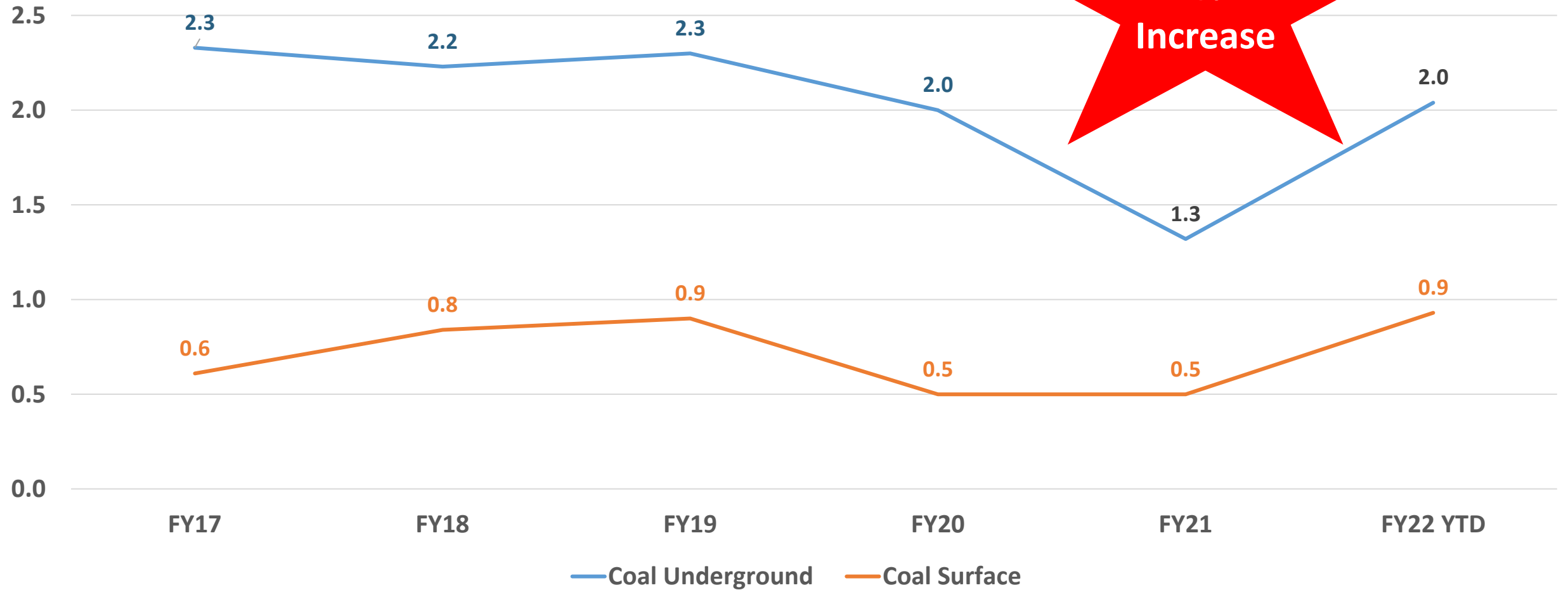
# What have I, as a leader in the industry, done to learn from these events?



# High Potential Incident Frequency Rate



# Serious Accident Frequency Rate



# HRO behaviour, a year on

*“A high-reliability organization (HRO) is an organization that has succeeded in avoiding catastrophes despite a high level of risk and complexity”*

Principle	Activity	Industry
Preoccupation with failure	Process failures are addressed immediately and completely	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suspending operations continues</li><li>• Increasing use of directives</li></ul>
Reluctance to simplify	Complex problems get complex solutions – challenging long term beliefs	
Sensitivity to operations	Listen to coal mine workers and “walk the talk”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pockets of improvements in site leadership engagement</li></ul>
Commitment to resilience	Anticipate trouble spots – train for the unexpected	
Deference to expertise	Expertise rather than authority takes precedence	Risk management NOT improving.

# Role of industry leaders and regulators

**\* Capacity \* Capability \* Consistency**

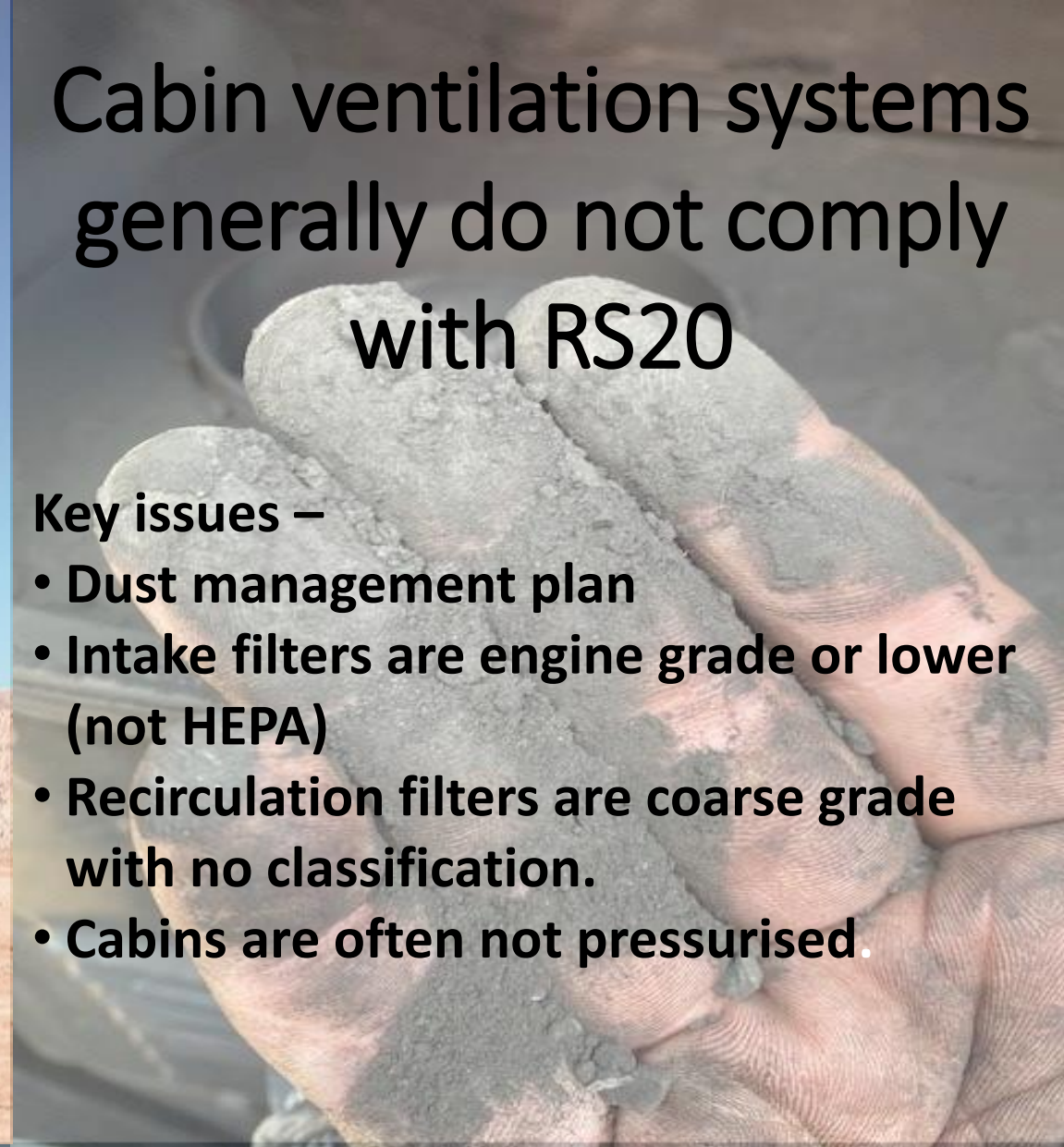


**Preoccupation with failure**

# Cabin ventilation systems generally do not comply with RS20

Key issues –

- Dust management plan
- Intake filters are engine grade or lower (not HEPA)
- Recirculation filters are coarse grade with no classification.
- Cabins are often not pressurised.



# “The regulator regulates, leave the operator to operate”



✓ Risk based legislation does not support this proposition

✓ The pendulum keeps swinging

# Investment – Discipline – Focus areas

- Risk assessment
  - Critical risk and control
- Gas management and explosion protection
- Geotechnical management
- Dust control
- Tyre management
- Misfires





# Thank you

If you have questions or comments contact us at:  
[Communications@rshq.qld.gov.au](mailto:Communications@rshq.qld.gov.au)

Coal Inspectorate



**Resources Safety & Health**  
Queensland