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# Carbon members honor Plateau as chamber's business of month

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Carbon County Chamber of Commerce members honored Cyprus Plateau Mining Corporation as September's business of the month.

Cyprus employs at its Star Point Mine approximately 306 full-time workers and has an annual payroll of \$15 million for producing approximately three million tons of coal.

The mining company leads out in rendering service to communities where employees live. Plateau contributes more than \$25,000 a year to more than fifty different local charities and events. In the last two years employees have donated more than \$13,000 to United Way's annual fund drive.

In addition, annual property taxes are approximately \$275,000

and a large portion of the \$14 million spent on supplies and services is spent with local vendors.

Plateau's history dates back to 1916 when William Wattis and partners purchased 160 acres to open a mine in Wattis Canyon. More than eight decades of production have taken place are truly an indication of the history of coal mining, from the use of the pick and shovel and beasts of burden to the more sophisticated techniques and high-tech equipment. Plateau was the first non-steel or non-utility owned company in the area to install longwall mining equipment.

The Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining presented Cyprus with the 1995 Earth Day Award for going beyond what is required by regulation in developing the state's natural resources in an environmentally responsible manner.

Plateau was recently honored with the Cyprus Amax President's Safety Award for having the lowest incident rate of all the company's underground coal mines in 1995. In August 1996, employees broke their previous safety record of working 542 days without a lost time accident.

The future of Plateau is also bright. The Star Point Mine presently has enough coal reserves to supply existing contracts into the next century.

Construction of the new underground Willow Creek facility near Castle Gate provides Plateau with the opportunity to develop a world-class mining operation with leading edge technology.

As production at Plateau's Star Point Mine is phased down in the coming years, the workforce will be transferred to the new facility near Castle Gate.

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