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Austmine

What is Austmine?

Austmine is the Australian mining industry export association comprising companies dedicated to supplying the very best in innovative, cost efficient and practical technologies as well as services to mining operations worldwide.

Austmine membership

Organisations interested in finding out more about what the Austmine membership has to offer are invited to contact the Austmine Executive Officer, **Robert Trzebski** at:

140 Arthur Street
North Sydney
NSW 2060 Australia
Phone: +61 2 9458 7393
Fax: +61 2 9955 8914
**robert.trzebski@
austmine.com.au**

or visit the Austmine website
www.austmine.com.au

www.austmine.com.au

Kazakhstan Central Asia's mining powerhouse

The rising star of central Asian mining, Kazakhstan, is open for business with the international mining service and technology community, according to Austrade's man in Moscow. It was a view echoed by a number of Australian companies already active in the resource-rich nation.

Dan Tebbutt, senior Austrade trade commissioner, said a recent Australian mining trade mission to Kazakhstan reinforced to those in attendance the calibre of emerging opportunities in the country. Austmine plans to lead an even bigger contingent of Australian companies to Kazakhstan in mid-September for the Mining World Central Asia expo in Almaty.

The KazMet 2010 3rd Central Asian International Metallurgy, Metal-Working and Machinery Construction Exhibition and Mining World 2010 expo will be held from September 15-17.

Tebbutt said leading Australian-based companies with a presence in Kazakhstan included WorleyParsons, Imdex, Micromine, Mincom and Essa Group.

Leading underground mining contractor Byrnegut Mining is another Australian company looking to expand its presence in Kazakhstan, while Austrade trade mission participants such as GroundProbe and Bradken see significant opportunities in the country.

While it is recognised as one of the world's major mining centres with high levels of uranium, coal, iron ore, manganese, chromite, copper, lead, zinc and gold output, Kazakhstan appears set on modernising its mining industry as it increases the value of minerals produced from about \$US15.8 billion in 2008 to a forecast \$US18.9 billion in 2013.

Tebbutt said what was particularly emblematic of Kazakhstan's mining growth theme was the creation earlier this year of a Ministry of Industry and New Technologies, separate to the existing Ministry of Natural Resources. He said the move emphasised the technology and cultural shift being sought in the mining sector.

"Prior to January mining and oil and gas were all under the Ministry of Natural Resources," Tebbutt said.

"Oil and gas in Kazakhstan is highly developed, mining reasonably developed but probably not moving as fast as oil and gas. So it is the Ministry of Industry and New Technologies that has carriage

of the mining sector, and as the name suggests, and as Kazakhstan's new government policy of forced industrial innovation development suggests, they are not just content to get natural resources out of the ground, they want to encourage industrial development and downstream processing.

"We certainly had a very productive meeting with the first deputy minister of industry, who welcomed the Australian delegation, and welcomed the opportunities for cooperation. He reminded us of Kazakhstan's priority, which is to encourage innovation, and the application of innovative technologies. From our point of view that was a very welcome message."

The Austrade mission participants received vital insights into Kazakhstan's legal and business framework from international law and accounting firms with a strong local presence in Kazakhstan, Baker & McKenzie, Deloitte and PricewaterhouseCoopers, before embarking on a series of visits and meetings with Kazakh mining companies and locally-based international joint venture entities. They included Kazakhmys, ENRC Group and KazAtomProm.

International mining companies with a presence in Kazakhstan include Canada's Cameco and the French nuclear energy group Areva, while a growing band of smaller foreign companies working in the country include ASX-listed Central Asia Resources, Kentor Gold, Nimrodel Resources and AXG Mining.

"This country will be quite a force in years to come," said the managing director of Central Asia Resources, Jason Stirbinskis, who last year became the first honorary consul of Kazakhstan in Western Australia, where his company is based.

"The people are energetic, multilingual, educated, independent and they have tremendous opportunities at their door step poised as they are between the power houses of China, India and Russia."

Stirbinskis said Kazakhstan was recognised as the "economic powerhouse" of Central Asia, with an economy "larger than all

other Central Asian countries”.

“It is the only country in the region to hold an investment grade (BBB- Fitch rating),” he said.

“Kazakhstan links Europe to Asia and shares its eastern border with China. It is therefore ideally located to leverage the booming Asian economies.

“The country has a forward looking, stable government and strategic business leadership. Its increasing interaction with Western companies, markets and technologies has created substantial opportunity for service industries particularly in the areas of engineering, safety, technology and process design.”

The Kazakhstan Government also had an extensive portfolio of infrastructure projects currently involving about \$US40 billion of foreign investment.

“There are extensive opportunities available in almost every industry from road construction and similar major capital works to services, consulting and distribution partnerships, presenting Australian businesses with a number of exciting trade and investment opportunities,” Stirbinskis said.

Mincom chief executive Greg Clark said the company’s mining software business continued to expand in Kazakhstan and through Central Asia and the Former Soviet Union (FSU).

Another leading Australian-based mining and exploration software developer, Micromine, has a software development team and consulting group based in Kazakhstan. Managing director Graeme Tuder said Micromine saw Kazakhstan as a key growth market.

“We’ve been working in the country for nine years and have been tremendously impressed with the results,” he said.

Major engineering firm WorleyParsons set up an office in Atyrau in the Caspian region in 1997 and now has more than 450 personnel, more than 85% of whom are Kazakh nationals. The company said its office had achieved a number of notable in-country firsts, including the performance of complex process FEED studies, the delivery of engineering, procurement and construction management services and the application of 3D CAD.

Austrade trade mission participant GroundProbe, a specialist provider of surface mine ground monitoring technology, has entered the Kazakhstan market through its China office.

Alan Bradford, the Queensland-based company’s general manager, global production and support, said Kazakhstan was “an emerging market that has determined – although still forming – controls”.

“There is no quick entry strategy to Kazakhstan,” he stressed. “An organisation has to both invest and have significant in-country representation or form an alliance or partnership with a local firm.

Finding the right partner is always the issue, a partner that embraces your

product, philosophies and standards.

“I am currently based in Beijing and my thoughts [prior to the Austrade mission] were aligned to the Soviet products I witness in the numerous Chinese mines I visit – slightly dated in design and efficiency.

“As China is modernising so too is Kazakhstan.

“I found Almaty to be a pleasant environment, the organisations that Austrade coordinated visits to receptive and energised. There is a bureaucracy in Kazakhstan but that shouldn’t deter the determined.”

Austmine’s extended mining trade mission will include participation in Mining World Central Asia, and subsequent site visits.

Contact: Robert Trzebski Robert.trzebski@austmine.com.au

Allight’s Nighshifter Shines

Allight’s NIGHTSHIFTER mobile lighting tower has been named as a finalist in the Australian International Design Awards (AIDA), cementing its position as an industry-leading product.

Competing in the heavy machinery category, Allight’s NIGHTSHIFTER Hydraulic 6000 (NH6000) is a new concept in mobile lighting solutions.

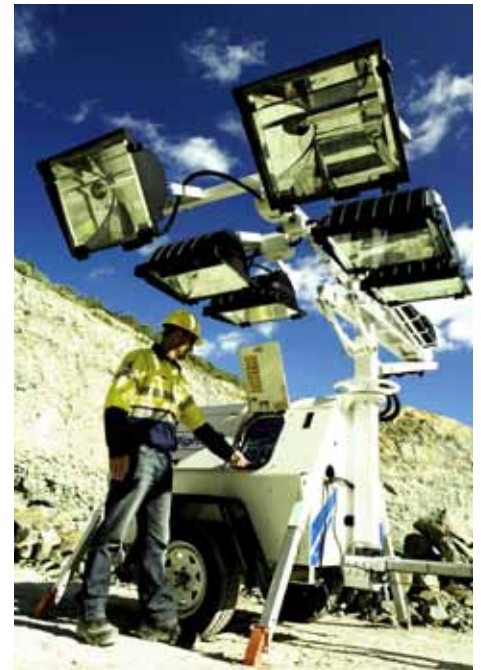
“We’re thrilled to have our newest lighting innovation shortlisted as a finalist alongside Australia’s best designs,” said Allight’s Director of Sales and Marketing, Paul Sowerby.

To be deemed worthy of a spot in the finals, each entry must demonstrate innovation, visual/emotional appeal, functionality, quality and manufacture, human factors (ergonomics, semantics and safety) and environmental sustainability.

“This mobile lighting tower is versatile and highly functional in its design, and environmentally sound thanks to its efficient diesel engine”

“Its unique set of operational features provides a crossover between mining and civil applications, making it ideal for temporary lighting needs and situations where the light position needs to change regularly – whether it’s illuminating a mine site, road works or a rock concert.”

Designed with easy transportation in mind, the lighting tower is compact, lightweight, shock-resistant, and features a retractable drawbar, forklift pockets and lifting points. “The unit’s modular design and space-saving properties ensure more efficient transportation – in fact, eight units fit perfectly in a 40-



The NH600’s integrated control panel provides effortless operation

foot cargo container” Sowerby added.

“One of its most notable features is the unique mast design, with an internalised hydraulic cylinder – this set-up protects the hydraulics, boosts the mast’s strength and durability, and extends its reach.”

The NH600’s Perkins diesel engine meets or exceeds the latest European and US emissions legislation. “These standards are far more stringent than what we’ve got in Australia,” explained Sowerby. “Ultimately the cleaner engine and streamlined shipping translate into a reduced carbon footprint.”

Since its Australian launch in October 2008, the NH6000 has been adopted by leading companies including BHP Billiton, Boulderstone, Omega Construction, rental companies such as Coates, and local councils. “Its largest market, however, is international – it’s another leading Australian design making its mark on a global scale,” concluded Sowerby.

Contact: Paul Sowerby. paul.sowerby@allight.com

Goodyear belt is still going strong

The Grasberg Mine is the largest gold mine and the third largest copper mine in the world, located in the province of Papua in Indonesia. In 1997 PT Freeport Indonesia finalised plans to expand Grasberg’s large open

pit mine. The project required a crushing and conveying Overburden Handling System, to ensure copper and gold ore mining would continue as the pit expanded. Today, the open pit mine forms a mile-wide crater at the surface, and produces more than 67 million tonnes of ore annually.

Remote location, high altitude and high rainfall: unique conditions require component reliability. For the major Overburden Handling System PT Freeport chooses Goodyear as its conveyor belt, splice kit and rip protection provider. This included the incline C201 Conveyor, belted with 1600m self extinguishing Goodyear Flexsteel® steel cord belts 84” ST5400 3/4” x 3/8” ARMA SBR.

Veyance, the worlds No 1 conveyor belt manufacturer has manufacturing facilities in Australia, Brazil, South Africa, Canada and USA and its new world class conveyor belt facility in Shandong China. In the Asia Pacific region, Veyance has 11 steel cord lines and soon will be commissioning the world’s largest Siempelkamp press, 1Q 2010.

In 2003, after carrying some 110 million tonne as the initial Overburden Handling System was completed, Conveyor C201 was dismantled. The mine saved considerable expense by reinstalling the Goodyear Flexsteel ST5400 ARMA SBR belt from C201 on the new Overburden Handling System, OHS-3. In September 2009, the belt is still running, having conveyed a further 135 million tonne on C231 Conveyor.

Bill Dillon, from PT Freeport comments, “We have been pleasantly surprised by the



PT Freeport C201 Conveyor Installed in 1998

long life of the Goodyear ST5400 belt over the past decade on the two overburden handling systems. We estimate that the total savings have exceeded our expectations by a fair margin, conservatively more than a million dollars in the belt alone and much more in terms of continuity for both overburden removal and access to the main ore body underneath.”

Contact: Con Michaels. con_michaels@veyance.com

New Haulmax technology for New Zealand

After a ten month mine site trial of a Haulmax 3770D OHT dump truck (70 tonne payload), the Stockton Alliance has purchased four Haulmax trucks, the later 3990D model.



Haulmax 3770D OHT dump truck.

Key advantages emerged – improved cycle times and safe operation in inclement weather conditions due to the braking capability of the product together with the narrow profile design of the unit meaning significant site cost savings.

Work at the site, conducted by Solid Energy, involved transporting coal along a 7.3 km haul road with an average down gradient of 5.5%, in an area regarded as wet, or extreme wet.

Cycle times showed the Haulmax was around 31 minutes, compared with the traditional OHT trucks at 50-55 minutes. This represented an advantage of around 50%.

The extra speed was achieved largely as result of surefootedness and braking capability, whereas the OHT’s were restricted to 25 kph for safety reasons – due to weather and the width of the haul road.

Some figures regarding the footprint area and ground pressure of the drive / braking axles help explain. A vehicle in the nominal 100 tonne class OHT has a foot print (rubber

Solid foundation, new horizons

Russell Mineral Equipment (RME) continues to expand its international presence, establishing its second subsidiary operation to provide sales and service support to North American customers.

Modelled on the successful South American subsidiary (RME SA) operating from Chile since 2005, RME is confident this new entity operating from Utah, USA, will be welcomed by existing and new customers alike.

John Russell, Managing Director of RME, said “with travel time from RME’s headquarters in Australia to North American mine sites exceeding 24 hours, we have found it increasingly challenging to meet our customers’ expectations of acceptable service lead times. From our new hub in Salt Lake City, RME’s services to our North American customers will now be faster and more cost effective.”

Russell Mineral Equipment Inc is being headed up by Danny Smith, who has more than ten years of experience with Mill Relining Systems. Having personally designed over 20 Mill Relining Machines at RME, in his new role managing RME Inc, Danny will be supported by experienced Australian and North American technicians to provide an elevated level of service and support from the outset.

“We have found this in-country service support and sales business model to be successful in meeting the needs of our customers. We are also planning to establish an operation in South Africa in the near future” said Mr Russell.

With major equipment installations in over 40 countries and 180 mine sites around the world, RME knows that their intimate knowledge of the Machines and the relining process enables them to deliver the premier Mill Relining Systems servicing solution.

“RME’s suite of mill relining technologies makes mill maintenance faster and safer. It stands to reason that we provide our customers with the best in timely and professional service support too.”

“When the mill starts turning, the entire mine project starts earning.”

on the ground) of around 3.6 sq m, versus the Haulmax with 4.5 sq m. The higher figure is as a result of the Haulmax having two rear (driving) axles. The 25% extra foot print area means more ground contact ... a big help when there are soft and slippery underfoot conditions.

A lower centre of gravity combined with and narrow profile, add to the stability and thus safety of the unit in this application.

Additionally, the narrow profile meant the mine was able to maintain the same haul road width, which meant a significant cost saving should a traditional OHT have been selected.

Contact: Bob Calvert. bcalvert@haulmax.com

Micromine 2010

As a global provider of innovative software solutions and services, Micromine has been developing mining and exploration technology for over 20 years.

Last month the company released a significant upgrade to their premier mine design solution, named MICROMINE 2010.

Popular for its user friendly functionalities, MICROMINE enables geologists and engineers to locate prospective regions, search for mineral indicators, model and visualise the ore distribution, and design mining operations.

The benefits associated with this upgrade are extensive and relate to its simplicity and ease of use. In particular, these include significant changes to features such as plotting, which have now been totally redesigned using a Vizex interface and fly-throughs, which now feature incredibly visual animations based on a selection of very minimal viewpoints.

The accurate exploration data available through MICROMINE provides an extremely detailed and comprehensive understanding of a mine site, allowing more informed decision making.

Micromine has a long and successful history of conceiving, implementing and commercialising innovative R&D projects.

“Our research and development team is very good at creating breakthrough technology that is cutting edge, whilst also being reliable and commercially viable on the world stage,” says Micromine’s Software Development Manager, Ivan Zelina.

The company has grown around its software products which require constant innovation in order to take advantage of new research and technological advancements in the resources sector, as well as computer hardware technologies and improvements in communication technologies. In addition, all of these have to accommodate the occasional paradigm shifts in software engineering practices.

“Micromine services clients in more than 60 countries around the World... something we can be very proud of,” said Mr Zelina.

Servicing almost 12,000 clients in more than 90 countries, Micromine has offices located in the world’s major mining and exploration countries. Their suite of exploration and mining software is both advanced and robust, encompassing the entire mining process from greenfields exploration, resource modeling and mine design to mine production control and high-level management reporting.

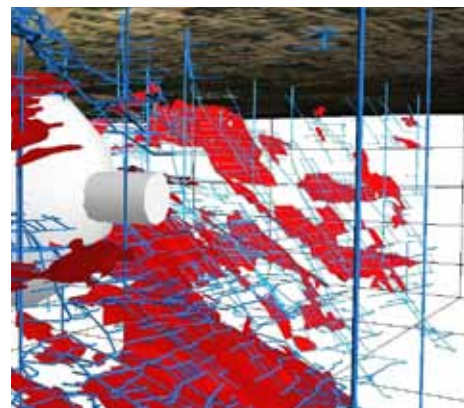
Contact : Honor Dowling. hdowling@micromine.com

Ludowici’s Global Innovation

The Reflex Classifier (RC) fits into the next generation of mineral processing equipment for the mining industry.

It’s an Australian invention by the University of Newcastle and Ludowici has the worldwide licence. This ensures global exposure through Ludowici’s wholly owned subsidiaries in USA, Chile, China, South Africa & India. In April Ludowici USA exhibited the technology at the Coal Prep Show 2010 in Lexington, Kentucky, USA to wide acceptance. Product Manager for the RC, Taavi Orupold said: “During the show, the inventor Professor Kevin Galvin of the University of Newcastle presented a technical paper on the RC to a large appreciative audience. So far, sales of the RC have been in Australia, India, China and New Zealand with interest from most resource processing countries.”

The RC is gaining global acceptance as



Micromine

the high efficiency, high capacity upstream coal separator. The RC has achieved very significant efficiency gains allowing for large yield increases and enhanced product quality. The key to its success is that it utilises lamella plates in the up-flowing slurry to enhance the settling rate. The RC’s higher settling rate above the feed zone enables higher feed rates and a wider range of feed conditions than a conventional classifier. The RC2020 can be fed up to a nominal rating of 120 tph in coal applications. Other conventional classifiers would require up to six times the floor space to achieve a similar capacity.

On-going development work is in progress by Ludowici to optimise the RC for use in other applications such as mineral sands, iron ore fines, and industrial minerals.

The benefits are many:

- High efficiency and flexible cutpoint giving overall increased yield.
- Potential to increase overall plant feed rates.
- Smaller equipment footprint verses capacity enables compact plants and/or retrofitting.
- Fine coal reject is at a density suitable for high frequency screening and “dry” disposal.
- Constructed of quality wear resistant materials to give long lasting value for money.

Ludowici expects this home grown Australian mineral processing technology to enhance its reputation as a leader in bringing next generation innovation from Down Under to the global mining community.

Contact: Jim Cronin. j.cronin@ludowici.com.au

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For more information or to advertise, please contact Austmine

140 Arthur Street, North Sydney
NSW 2060 Australia
Locked Bag 938, North Sydney
NSW 2059 Australia

Phone: +61 2 9458 7393

Fax: +61 2 9955 8914

www.austmine.com.au