

Anglo creates local jobs

Anglo American Platinum has announced the extension of a contract with Zizwe Batlase for the provision of strip-mining services at its Amandelbult Complex in the Limpopo province. Zizwe Batlase is 51% owned by the local community of Baphalane through the Baphalane Community Trust, named Batlase.

The contract enables Zizwe Batlase to provide opportunities such as employment, SMME development, infrastructure development, and business opportunities to local and small businesses in the community. This is the largest localised community project at Amandelbult and will increase the mine's host historically disadvantaged (HDSA) spend by 6%.

Drivers get bird's-eye view of Mogalakwena

Anglo American Platinum recently bought two Kom-Vision-equipped Komatsu 930E earthmoving vehicles into production at the Mogalakwena Complex. The Kom-Vision technology is a significant step towards improving safety at the mine, as it gives the truck operator a 360-degree bird's-eye view and significantly reduces the risks associated with a human-machine interface.

The new system has an additional eight radars — over and above the current standard of front and rear radars — and six cameras that provide zero-metre visibility of the truck's footprint. According to Richard Cox, Mogalakwena Mine's general manager, this technology sets a new benchmark. "It improves our ability to integrate into future collision-avoidance systems. In line with our strategy of FutureSmart Mining, it will generate close-to-real-time health and performance data that will support us in optimising our operations," says Cox.

Chris Griffith, CEO at Anglo American Platinum, says that investing in this technology is a major step towards increasing safety levels at the company's mines. "This technology will eliminate a number of risks and we look forward to benefitting from the improved safety and operational features of these trucks," says Griffith.

The new trucks will be the first earthmoving vehicles at Mogalakwena to fully integrate a range of business improvement initiatives, including collision-avoidance-ready technology; a tyre monitoring system; a safety standard fuel-saving card and extended fuel tank; an optimised payload system for payload monitoring; an Ansul foam fire protection system that combines dry powder with foam; and a lightweight bowl.

SA scientists share insights with Chinese



SRK Consulting (SA) engineers and scientists offered valuable insights to the MRREC delegation visiting South Africa recently.

A Chinese mining sector delegation visiting South Africa recently was able to gain valuable insights from specialist engineers and scientists from SRK Consulting (SA) about factors that affect mineral resource and mineral reserve reporting and valuation. The delegation comprised members of the Mineral Resources and Reserves Evaluation Centre (MRREC) of the Ministry of Natural Resources in Beijing, who were hosted by South Africa's Samcodes Standards Committee (SSC).

The 20-member delegation visited South Africa as China works towards becoming the 14th member of the Committee for Mineral Reserves International Reporting Standards (CRIRSCO), which provides common standards for reporting of exploration results, mineral resources, and mineral reserves — giving investors and other stakeholders greater confidence in the value of mineral assets and the viability of mining projects.

Multotec's plant to treat Oman's water



Carien Spagnuolo, senior process engineer at Multotec Process Equipment.

After extensive test work and design, minerals processing specialist Multotec Group is commissioning a full-scale Desalx plant to treat wastewater from a flue gas desulphurisation scrubber, at a minerals processing plant in Oman in the Middle East.

According to Carien Spagnuolo, senior process engineer at Multotec Process Equipment, the Desalx technology is being combined with more traditional technologies, to achieve water recoveries exceeding 90%.

"The pyro-metallurgical antimony plant in which we are installing at this facility, is located in a very water-constrained area, requiring a high level of water recovery and permitting no liquid effluent from the site," says Spagnuolo. "The antimony roaster produces wastewater with high levels of heavy metals, including antimony and arsenic, which need to be precipitated in a pre-treatment phase," says Spagnuolo.