

"ENERGY SAVINGS REPORTED IN THE RANGE OF 25% TO 60% ARE VERY ENCOURAGING AS THEY INDICATE THAT POTENTIALLY HALF OF THE ENERGY SPENT FOR VENTILATION COULD BE SAVED."

Vale Totten Mine



Vigilante AQS™ Air Quality Station

See you at:





FEBRUARY 27-MARCH 2 » SALT LAKE CITY, UT

The **Vigilante AQS**TM accurately measures airflow and direction, wet and dry bulb temperature, gas concentration and air particulates; reducing downtime and enabling miners to return to the face sooner and safer.



BOOTH 804



maestrodigitalmine.com



CONTENTS

03 Guest Comment

05 World News

10 Redefining The Mining Industry

Andrew Swart, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, outlines 10 trends that may shape the global mining industry over the next 12 months.

18 Can Silver Hit The Ball Out Of The Park?

Kunal Sawhney, Kalkine Group, Australia, considers the present state of silver and whether it has enough steam to continue performing well in the future.

22 Go With The Flow

Dario Ivan Velazquez, Joshua Dandurand-Parent, Shivan Singh, Joe Bacon III, and Steve Burton, Becker Mining Systems, provide insight into long-term evolution technology and its impact on ventilation control.

27 Making A Difference One Wear Part At A Time

Metso Outotec discusses various approaches that can be taken to make mill liner design, usage, and disposal more sustainable.

31 Crushing And Screening Challenges For The Mining Industry

Mohit Kumar, Terex, India, considers some solutions to the most significant crushing and screening challenges faced by the mining industry today – with a particular focus on iron ore mining in India.

35 Preventing Conveyor Fires

R. Todd Swinderman, Martin Engineering, USA, outlines best practices for preventing conveyor fires.

42 Future-Proofing Operations Using Automation

Marcos Hillal, ABB, Brazil, explains how increased automation equals more efficient and sustainable mine operations.

47 Pumping Sustainability

Erik Vlot and Job Kruyswijk, Weir Minerals, the Netherlands, identify how to make tailings management more sustainable.

51 Showing Blasting's Sustainability Value

Ralf Hennecke, BME, part of the Omnia Group, South Africa, details how blasting technology can help mines with their long-term contribution to sustainability.

55 Blasting A New Dimension

Timothy Ross, Orica, Australia, discusses how innovations in bulk explosives can offer mines greater flexibility, control, accuracy, and efficiency.

58 The Path To Collaboration, Communication, And Transparency

Pieter Neethling, Seequent, New Zealand, examines how digital tools can be used to help drive collaboration, communication, and transparency.

Transforming Underground Mining With Wireless Communication

Dr Eric Pohlmann, Nerospec SK GmbH, Germany, evaluates the value of wireless communication and its potential to transform underground mining operations.

67 Extracting Africa's Mining Potential

Boris Ivanov, Emiral Resources Ltd, UAE, provides insight into the potential for Africa's mining industry to drive economic growth and development on the continent, and in the global energy transition.



ON THE COVER

5th Sense technologies from Epiroc have helped mine operations around the world become smarter, safer, and more seamless. Epiroc's Mobius for Drills is the latest 6th Sense solution for those who seek a connected value chain through forward-thinking digitalisation techniques and progressive robotics.

















GUEST COMMENT

JEANNETTE MCGILL (VP AND GM, METALS AND MINING)

ASPENTECH

MANAGING EDITOR

James Little james.little@globalminingreview.com

SENIOR EDITOR Callum O'Reilly

callum.oreilly@globalminingreview.com

DEPUTY EDITOR

Will Owen will.owen@globalminingreview.com

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

Jessica Casey
iessica.casev@alobalmininareview.com

SALES DIRECTOR

Rod Hardy rod.hardy@globalminingreview.com

SALES MANAGER

Ryan Freeman ryan.freeman@globalminingreview.com

PRODUCTION

Kyla Waller

kyla.waller@globalminingreview.com

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

Laura White laura.white@alobalminingreview.com

DIGITAL ADMINISTRATOR

Lauren Fox

lauren.fox@globalminingreview.com

DIGITAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

Louise Cameron louise.cameron@globalminingreview.com

VIDEO CONTENT ASSISTANT

Molly Bryant

molly.bryant@globalminingreview.com

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} GLOBAL MINING REVIEW (ISSN No: 2515-2777) is published by Palladian Publications Ltd. \\ \end{tabular}$

Annual subscription (nine issues) \$50 UK including postage, \$60 overseas (airmail). Claims for non-receipt must be made within four months of publication of the issue or they will not honoured without charge.



n 2020, the World Bank noted that the production of minerals such as graphite, lithium, and cobalt was on track to grow nearly 500% by 2050 to meet rising demand for clean energy technologies. Despite a shaky and unpredictable economic climate these past two years, that demand has not abated.

In fact, despite ongoing global supply chain woes, new batteries, electric vehicles, infrastructure, and connectivity in electronics are poised to continue driving this massive consumption of metals. We're not talking years down the road either – it starts right now, in 2022.

This being said, the increased consumption of metals presents a dual challenge for digital mines, which will need to balance rising market demand

from a globalised economy with the need for sustainability. How do mines maintain a level of operational effectiveness that can support this demand, while facing growing pressures for decarbonisation and greater impacts from climate change?

The dual challenge of accommodating increased market demand and meeting sustainability targets is driving demand for digital mines in 2022. Tackling and supporting digital sustainability in mining operations will require a few key factors.

Firstly, asset-intensive digital mines will need to stay ahead of maintenance requirements to support business imperatives, such as lowering costs and increasing productivity. This will rely on predictive maintenance analytics for precisely determining when equipment is expected to fail and empowering the business to make more informed, real-time decisions accordingly. This insight isn't just about preventing equipment failures and downtime that disrupt operations, it's also about reducing the environmental impacts caused by those failures and achieving greater long-run sustainability in operations.

For example, consider the case of Evolution Mining, a leading Australian gold miner, which is using industrial artificial intelligence (AI) for predictive maintenance, mitigating unplanned downtime and generating new insights into how to support productivity improvements. Another mining company I spoke with recently used this same software to avert what would have been a major equipment failure at its mining site. Had the equipment failed, they would've been facing four days of downtime. By catching the failure ahead of time, they saved themselves from a (literal) million-dollar loss in productivity.

Asset optimisation technologies like these help companies to make significant improvements to their operations' workflows by deploying digitised elements necessary for supporting operational effectiveness.

Secondly, the knock-on effect that industrial AI, predictive maintenance, and other asset optimisation technologies have on mining sustainability must also be taken into account. Deploying these technologies and empowering mining sites to begin producing in more effective and optimised ways creates new opportunities for carbon footprint reductions.

If you're using a predictive maintenance schedule on your truck fleet, for instance, you have more insight into, and proactive control over, things such as tyre wear on the trucks, diesel usage, and emissions control – all of which can be fine-tuned as needed. These digital assets allow companies to report direct improvements in their carbon footprint, driving down energy consumption, water usage, and other wasteful areas.

Predictive maintenance and industrial AI tackle the dual challenge of sustainability and operational effectiveness by reducing environmental footprints and saving businesses money through more optimised production. This combination of analytics and machine learning is a powerful business weapon for creating a more sustainable future, without undercutting business operations at the same time. Ultimately, they allow digital mines to improve business operations, productivity, profitability, and sustainability all at once. GNR

1. 'Mineral Production to Soar as Demand for Clean Energy Increases', *The World Bank*, (11 May 2020), https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2020/05/11/mineral-production-to-soar-as-demand-for-clean-energy-increases

CHARGING AHEAD

RESPONSIBLY. RELIABLY. RELENTLESSLY.

By supplying responsibly produced copper, Freeport-McMoRan is proud to be a positive contributor to the world well beyond its operational boundaries.

- >>> GLOBAL INDUSTRY LEADER
- >>> TRUSTED OPERATOR
- >>> WORLD-CLASS DEVELOPER
- >>> BLOCK CAVE LEADER
- >>> RESPONSIBLE PRODUCER



FOREMOST IN COPPER



WORLD NEWS

SPAIN Sandfire completes acquisition of MATSA

andfire Resources Ltd has completed the US\$1.865 million acquisition of 100% of the MATSA Mining Complex in south-western Spain.

The formal completion of the transaction follows satisfaction of the outstanding conditions precedent, including Foreign Investment Authority approval in relation to Foreign Direct Investment in Spain and Competition Authority approval in late December 2021.

With the successful completion of the transaction, Sandfire will exercise operational control and economic ownership at MATSA, effective from 1 February 2022.

The transformational acquisition, which was announced on 23 September 2021, delivers Sandfire 100% ownership of MATSA, located in the world-class Iberian Pyrite Belt in the Huelva Province of Andalusia in south-western Spain.

MATSA is a substantial polymetallic mining complex comprising three underground mines and a 4.7 million tpy central processing facility, with cutting-edge technology and infrastructure, and an extensive resource base with significant growth potential.

The surrounding exploration package, comprising a 2450 km² portfolio of mineral rights in exploration in Spain and neighbouring Portugal, offers substantial long-term exploration upside and organic growth potential.

Sandfire will provide updated production and cost guidance for the remainder of FY22 in the coming weeks, following operational control and production plan reviews.

Key integration activities are well advanced with the objective of ensuring an orderly and efficient transition of the MATSA operations into Sandfire's global business at completion. During the period of integration, Sandfire will focus on minimising business disruption at the MATSA operations, working with its high-quality management and operational teams to ensure continuity of existing operations, while maintaining a shared commitment to the highest standards of safety, responsibility, and sustainability.

AUSTRALIA TPG Telecom and Nokia sign MoU for mobile private networks

PG Telecom has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Nokia as part of a new partnership to develop and deliver mobile private network innovations for the mining and energy sectors.

The agreement will see TPG Telecom and Nokia collaborate across their extensive portfolio of assets, including: mobile radio 4G and 5G technologies, spectrum, core network, transmission, managed services, Internet of Things (IoT) and industrial applications to provide flexible technology solutions and encourage digital and operational technology transformation in the mining and energy sectors.

The MoU was signed by Jonathan Rutherford, TPG Telecom Group Executive Wholesale, Enterprise and Government, and Anna Perrin, Head of Nokia Oceania at the UTS Nokia 5G Futures Lab in Botany, Sydney.

Mobile private network is an ultra-secure solution for businesses, allowing interconnectivity between people and things using 4G or 5G technology. Within the mining and energy sectors, mobile private network enables new applications and supports existing business services using a local network on their premises, providing protected and reliable performance.

Several specific use cases for the mining and energy sectors will be developed at the UTS Nokia 5G Innovation laboratory to demonstrate the potential and opportunities made possible by TPG Telecom's mobile private networks. Applications will centre around connected workers, connected assets, safe worker and site security, and industrial automation.

As part of the MoU, TPG Telecom and Nokia will also oversee the development of a joint go-to-market sales and marketing pipeline.

It is expected new innovations will come from the partnership, specifically in productivity and worker safety. In one example, 5G terminals will connect machinery and sensor assets to an IoT or operations platform to monitor productivity and safety of workers, while also enabling real-time control and maintenance of mining and energy assets.

5G devices will also enable greater worker communication through improved voice, video and data services, and, in the near future, augmented reality to access complex operational resources in the field.



WORLD NEWS

DIARY DATES

MINEXCHANGE 2022 SME Annual Conference & Expo

27 February – 02 March 2022 Salt Lake City, USA www.smeannualconference.com

Mines and Money Online Connect – April 2022

05 – 07 April 2022 Online https://minesandmoney.com/online/

MiningWorld Russia 2022

26 – Ž8 April 2022 Moscow, Russia https://miningworld.ru/Home

CIMBC22 - CIM Annual Convention

01 – 04 May 2022 Vancouver, Canada https://convention.cim.org/

Mines and Money Connect - May 2022

04 – 05 May 2022 London, UK https://minesandmoney.com/connect/

Investing in African Mining Indaba 2022

09 – 12 May 2022 Cape Town, South Africa https://miningindaba.com/Home

PDAC 2022 Convention

13 – 15 & 28 – 29 June 2022 Toronto, Canada & Online www.pdac.ca/convention

To stay informed about the status of industry events and any potential cancellations of events due to COVID-19, visit Global Mining Review's events page: www.globalminingreview.com/events

CANADA West Mining fully executes option agreement for Blue Cove Copper Property

est Mining Corp. has fully executed an option agreement with Dean Fraser. This transaction confirms West will have the right to earn a 100% undivided interest in the Blue Cove Copper Property.

The Blue Cove Copper Property is located at the head of Fortune Bay, in southeast Newfoundland, and is host to significant copper occurrences in outcrop. Several new targets have been identified by prospecting over the past two years, and copper mineralisation can be found locally throughout the claims. The best assay obtained to date from grab samples at the Blue Cove Property returned values as high as 5.1% copper, 33 g/t silver, and 0.27 g/t gold. Copper mineralisation generally occurs in altered volcanic rocks and sediments on the property with the primary copper minerals being chalcocite with more minor bornite and chalcopyrite. Widespread copper oxide is readily visible on many outcrops throughout the property.

The property consists of 232 claims covering a 5800 ha. area, striking 22 km adjacent to the Terrenceville fault structure. Excellent infrastructure also exists in the area, including the nearby town of Terrenceville – which hosts a deep sea port.

CHILE Pampa Metals partners with VerAl Discoveries to explore for copper and gold in Chile

ampa Metals Corp. has signed definitive documentation with VerAl Discoveries Inc., allowing Pampa Metals to evaluate and explore a series of copper and precious metals targets that have been generated by VerAl using proprietary artificial intelligence methodologies.

The targets are distributed within eight property blocks, wholly owned by VerAI, totalling approximately 18 700 ha., located in parts of central northern Chile. The eight property blocks all lie within similar geographic and geologic areas to Pampa Metals' wholly owned portfolio of projects that totals an additional 62 000 ha.

AUSTRALIA Thiess appointed mining services contractor for the Olive Downs Project

hiess has been appointed by Pembroke Resources as the contractor for the provision of mining services for the Olive Downs Project in Queensland, Australia.

Under the eight-year contract, Thiess will deliver full-service mining operations, including mine planning, overburden removal, drill and blast, load and haul, water

including mine planning, overburden removal, drill and blast, load and haul, water management and rehabilitation of final landforms. This includes the construction of the mine infrastructure, providing all mobile plant and equipment, as well as the statutory operator for the project.

Revenue to Thiess is expected to be AUS\$1.5 billion over the first five years, with revenue beyond this term to be finalised.

Thiess will commence operations in 1H23, subject to finalisation of contracts.



REAL-TIME TAILORING OF ENERGY TO MATCH GEOLOGY AND HOLE CONDITIONS

A revolutionary bulk system integrated with cutting-edge technologies.



Improved productivity



Auger & pump delivery



Reduced fume & nitrate leaching



Reduced drill & blast costs



Improved fragmentation



Reduced vibration

To learn more about 4D[™] and how it can support your operations today, please contact your local Orica representative, or visit orica.com/4D







WORLD NEWS

RUSSIA Norilsk Nickel purchases battery mining equipment

ornickel has implemented a programme to modernise and upgrade the fleet of mining equipment. The company has purchased unique samples of battery equipment for pilot testing in the conditions of the Zapolyarny mine, the first in Russia.

The Zapolyarny mine (Bear Ruchey LLC, part of the Norilsk Nickel Group) has received two new self-propelled battery-powered vehicles – Utimec MF 500 SD (for transporting concrete mix) and Utimec MF 205 PER SD (for transporting people). The machines, manufactured by Normet, arrived in Norilsk in full factory readiness.

The Utimec MF 500 SD Underground Concrete Mixer is environmentally friendly, productive, and the best in its size class. It has a high-power output and a top speed of up to 20 km/h. The all-electric architecture includes the latest lithium-ion battery technology for fast charging and two powerful direct-drive electric motors. The batteries are also recharged while driving downhill and braking, further improving overall performance.

The Utimec MF 205 PER SD bus is designed for the safe transportation of personnel through underground mine workings. Fully reversible all-wheel drive with high traction and instant torque ensures safe and confident driving in difficult road conditions. The new ergonomic FOPS and ROPS compliant cab offers visibility and comfortable driver and passenger compartments. The capacity of the battery bus is 20 people, with two people in the operator's cab.

When fully loaded and moving up the slope, the charge of the bus is enough for 10 km, the concrete mixer for 8 km. Batteries will be charged at stationary posts. It takes 40 min. to fully charge. In addition, the set includes mobile chargers with a capacity of 40 kW for recharging at temporary sludge points. There is also a charging option from a common power supply. The main advantage of such equipment is the absence of harmful emissions into the atmosphere, which is an important condition in the limited space of the mine.

Representatives of Normet from Finland conducted theoretical and practical training for the operators of the Zapolyarny mine on pre-trip inspection and operation of battery machines. Now the equipment is undergoing pilot tests in a mine. The tests will take place within six months, and the task is to evaluate how the equipment behaves in difficult Arctic conditions.

EGYPT Centamin Surkari Gold Mine to transition to owner-operator mining

entamin has announced that, following an independently managed contractor tender process, the underground operations at its Sukari Gold Mine will transition from contractor-mining to owner-operator mining with immediate effect. This change will deliver significant cost savings and improve operational control and mining flexibility, whilst also enabling the company to upskill the local workforce.

The decision to move to owner mining, following the expiry of the current five-year contract, is a result of a number of reasons.

The 200% increase in Sukari underground proven and probable reserves, as announced in December 2021, underpins an eight-year underground life of mine, with identified near-term growth targets to extend beyond a 10-year life of mine.

The operational leadership at Sukari has been significantly strengthened, with experienced underground expertise and increased investment in the development of the national workforce.

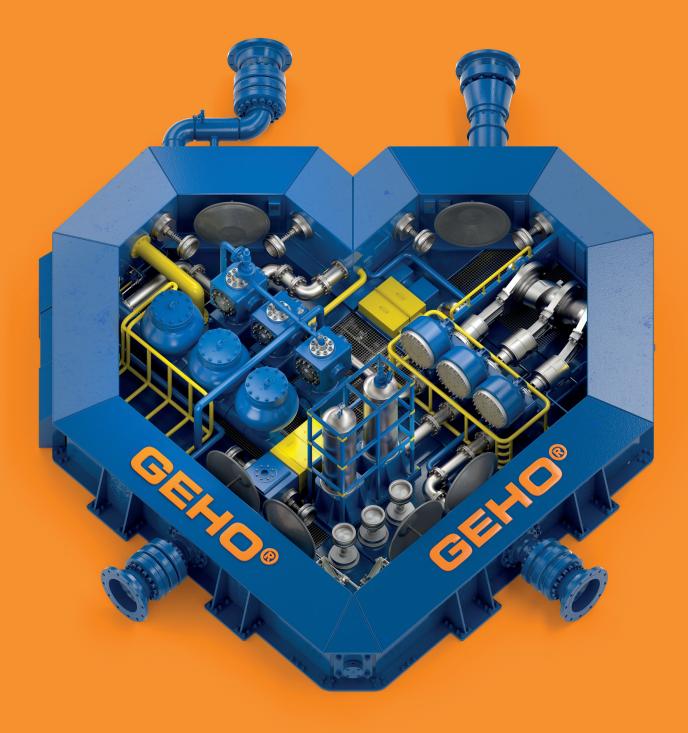
An owner-operator model, including risk-based analysis against the submitted contractor-mining tender proposals, identified significant operating synergies for the broader Sukari operations.

The transition to owner-operator mining is expected to generate long-term cost savings of an average US\$19 million/yr from 2023 onwards, compared to the 2021 cost base.

90 000 m of underground drilling is budgeted for 2022, including identified near-term growth targets, to extend the underground beyond a 10-year life of mine and to support the underground expansion study, which is due for completion in 2H22.

A detailed transition plan to owner-operator mining is in place with implementation underway, including utilising a third-party underground mining specialist to assist with workforce training. The company has also executed its contractual right to purchase the current underground mining fleet from the incumbent contractor for a total capital cost of US\$10.5 million to be paid in 1Q22.

Following the completion of an independent tender process, the company has awarded Geodrill Limited a five-year contract to provide underground drilling services, including a minimum of 90 000 m/yr of drilling and introducing reverse circulation drilling to the underground, which is faster and enables larger samples to be taken. The contract is to commence in 1Q22.



The heart of the mine.

The lifeblood of your mine relies on the healthiest of hearts. GEHO pumps all day every day. Supported by Synertrex® real time performance data and unrivalled aftermarket service from the Weir Minerals global network, GEHO® positive displacement pumps have been trusted across the globe for over 100 years. With up to 98% availability and outstanding efficiency that could cut your energy usage & carbon emissions by up to 50% and reduce water consumption by up to 30%, GEHO® pumps are simply unbeatable.





REDEFINIG THE MINIS INDUSTRY

Andrew Swart, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited, outlines 10 trends that may shape the global mining industry over the next 12 months.

f 2020 set the stage for change in the mining industry, then 2021 cemented its necessity. The ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world of work, along with a continued drive towards digitisation, the growing need to integrate environmental, social, and governance (ESG) commitments with central business functions, as well as the requirement to pivot in response to fast-moving business and operating conditions, have shifted the boundaries that traditionally define how mining companies should look.

Underpinning these drivers is the green energy transition. In November 2021, COP26, held in Glasgow, Scotland, reaffirmed the industry's importance in supplying the metals central to a low-carbon future.



The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal, passed by the US Congress in November 2021, is a practical example of how the transition to low-carbon energy and transport technologies is reliant upon critical minerals and metals. The US\$1 trillion plan aims to source these primarily from within the US. 1 While meeting demand for projects such as these will be a challenge, there is also significant opportunity going forward for businesses to expand their horizons and create new social, environmental, and economic value.

Today, leaders have the chance to reorganise and redefine their company's purpose and forge partnerships to create a more sustainable and attractive future for the industry. The sky is the limit, and that is why in its 14th year, Deloitte's 'Tracking the trends' report focuses on affecting holistic transformation.²

Deloitte's experts from across the globe have identified 10 trends that will shape the industry over the next 12 months. The following article provides an overview of each.

Trend 1: Aligning capital allocation to ESG ambitions

While many mining companies have announced ambitious ESG targets over the past five years decarbonisation being a prime example - most are still grappling with how to move from intent to reality. While much of the focus is currently on climate change, looking to the future, companies should think comprehensively and ensure capital allocation decisions reflect wider ESG commitments.

Investing in a set of businesses, initiatives, and projects that are strategically sound, value-creating, resilient, and sustainable will create portfolios that are advantaged in the minds of investors and shareholders seeking to position mining at the heart of the energy transition.

There are three broad potential portfolio themes to consider. Some companies may prioritise investments geared towards energy management and climate initiatives, specifically those delivering proven economic returns, thus creating an 'economic decarbonisation portfolio'. On the other hand, there are companies that may choose to invest in longer-term net zero commitments, even though some of these investments may not meet the traditional return thresholds. Similarly, some companies may choose to shift more investment into the wider community, using community impact as a way to de-risk the portfolio long term. This is called the 'value beyond compliance portfolio'. Finally, some companies may consider creating a more 'disruptive sustainable portfolio', with greater emphasis on new business models, new alliances within the value chain, greater levels of innovation, and more sustainable greenfield projects.

In reality, portfolios will contain a mix of elements depending on the long-term vision of the organisation and its appetite for risk. However, it is clear that companies need to factor ESG more explicitly into their capital allocation frameworks going forward.

Trend 2: Reshaping traditional value chains for a low-carbon future

As the green energy transition gets underway, the demands of consumers, suppliers and investors are evolving, and calls for greater transparency in metals supply are increasing. This, combined with a projected shortfall in certain commodities, is starting to reshape value chains, portfolios and business models, as well as ushering new players into the market.

To remain relevant, miners could use their climate change commitments, commodities, and services to tell the story of growing, profitable, and sustainable enterprises; ones that are contributing to societal and environmental needs in a positive manner.

Portfolios are changing with companies scrutinising their assets in relation to the impact that they have on their carbon footprint and ESG rankings. For some companies, a portfolio restructure might be on the cards, while others might divest certain assets and refocus the businesses they have to deliver better value, or balance them with new prospects that offer different types of value.

Demand for critical minerals, particularly rare earth elements, is driving some miners to add commodities to their portfolios. For example, Rio Tinto announced plans to build a tellurium recovery plant at its Kennecott operation near Salt Lake City, Utah, in March 2021.³

Scope three emissions reporting will also inform future supplier and customer choices for mining companies, thus creating new alliances and partnerships up and down the value chain. There will likely be more of these alliances where downstream automotive and industrial companies may either enter into offtake agreements, or take a stake in the resources.

The drive for green and critical minerals is also attracting companies, such as chemical or technology players, into the traditional mining environment. For example, American Battery Technology Co. is creating an extraction and recycling business in the US based around lithium.⁴ Technology provider, Jetti Resources, is another. The company's copper extraction technology has attracted investment from the likes of BHP and Freeport-McMoRan.⁵

Evaluating the impact of operations and products across the value chain is becoming increasingly important, with many companies already looking to enter the circular economy through investments in recycling businesses.

Trend 3: Operating in the new super cycle

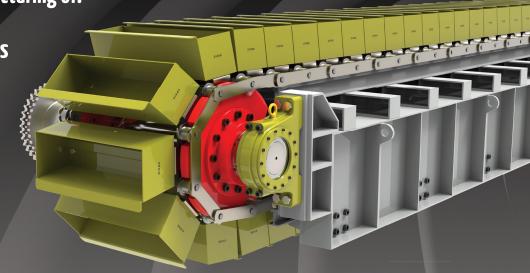
2021 saw elevated commodity prices, which heralded the arrival of a new super cycle in mining and metals. 6 While this was good news for most miners, with higher metals prices come government demands for a greater share of mineral wealth. As countries began to recover from the COVID-19 induced recession, the mining industry saw various regulatory measures proposed, as well as a rise in resource nationalism.6

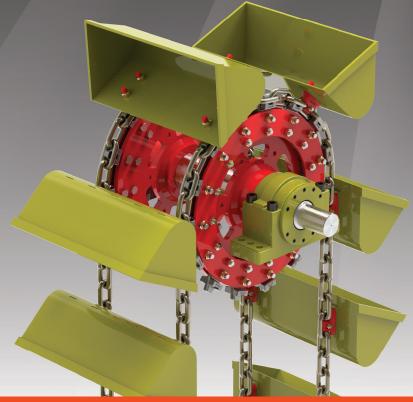


80 years handling bulk materials, globally

Engineering and manufacturing of:

- Round Steel Link Chains
- Conveyor Chains
- Central Chains
- Mechanical Chains
- Sprockets, Wheels and Components









CHAINS AND COMPONENTS FOR BULK MATERIAL HANDLING

Telephone: (+39) 039.5320739 Email: cicsa@cicsa.com www.cicsa.com

Resource nationalism can take many forms. The expropriation of the Kumtor gold mine in Kyrgyzstan from Canadian miner, Centerra Gold, is an overt example of how these measures can create considerable operational as well as financial risk.⁷

At the regulatory level, Deloitte has observed changes proposed in the tax regimes of key metal producing countries. For example, Chile accounts for 28% of global copper production and is a growing player in lithium. Under a proposed bill, investors could face additional tax on the production of key resources. Similar trends are seen elsewhere in the world.

Additionally, the international tax system is under reform. In October 2021, using the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, 136 countries and jurisdictions agreed to implement a plan to tackle tax avoidance. Implementation is expected in 2023 and mining companies must be prepared for change.⁷

Trend 4: Creating operating models to support ESG commitments

Pressure on mining and metals companies to make high-profile commitments that go above and beyond compliance on ESG issues, such as climate change and tailings management, is mounting. ESG cuts across the whole organisation and the operating model needs to reflect this.

Without proper internal structures in place, companies will find it difficult to make progress towards their ESG commitments or prove to investors and ratings agencies that they are honouring them across the organisation.

At a practical level, this requires an operating model that facilitates visibility, accountability and collaboration between departments, along with a clear governance structure. Operational teams need to be properly connected to corporate strategic initiatives, and there should be clarity on how commitments translate into operational processes and even specific roles within functions.

Information should flow unimpeded up and down the organisational structure, incentives need to be aligned, and leaders must be able to check that the promises they have made publicly are being reflected in practices throughout the organisation.

The risk is that if companies do not test their structures or, if a failure in governance occurs, they could lose an important source of capital or be accused of greenwashing. The latter is not just damaging to an individual company's reputation, but to the industry as a whole.

Given the opportunities available to the industry, there has never been a more important time to get on top of this.

Trend 5: Positioning companies for an increasingly competitive labour market

Like many industries, the mining sector has felt the lasting effects of COVID-19 on the labour market.

The Great Resignation placed additional pressure on a sector which was already challenged by low recruitment numbers. 10,11 As a result, many miners have decided to re-evaluate their employee value propositions and transform their ways of working.

Digitisation, remote work practices, establishing greater corporate social purpose and the rearchitecture of work, all provide chances for miners to secure a strategic advantage through human capital going forward.

Aligning with a low-carbon future and promoting the role of mining in the energy transition will help miners to attract and retain employees with the valuable and transferrable skill sets needed to create the digitally enabled, agile businesses of tomorrow. It could also open the doors to new recruits who may not have previously considered a career in mining, boosting diversity, equity, and inclusivity across the board.

Trend 6: Establishing a new paradigm for Indigenous relations

Indigenous communities around the globe no longer want to be positioned as stakeholders in transactional style relationships. They are keen to establish a new type of connection with all entities that participate in their environment, including mining companies.

Issues such as decarbonisation and natural resource management, securing diverse talent, and even leadership are all subsets of how Indigenous peoples can help mining companies better relate to and fulfil their responsibilities as actors within a landscape. If they are willing to listen, there is much that miners could learn from traditional landowners who have lived harmoniously with nature for thousands of years.

By working collaboratively with Indigenous peoples in different countries, in order to align on priorities and advance mutual business strategies and goals, particularly around critical mineral deposits, there is a huge opportunity for mining businesses to alleviate trust issues and secure their social and environmental license to operate.

However, before this can happen, a new paradigm for Indigenous involvement in mining must be established. One that is built upon communication, mutual trust, and respect. This will take time and investment, as well as a shift in governance.

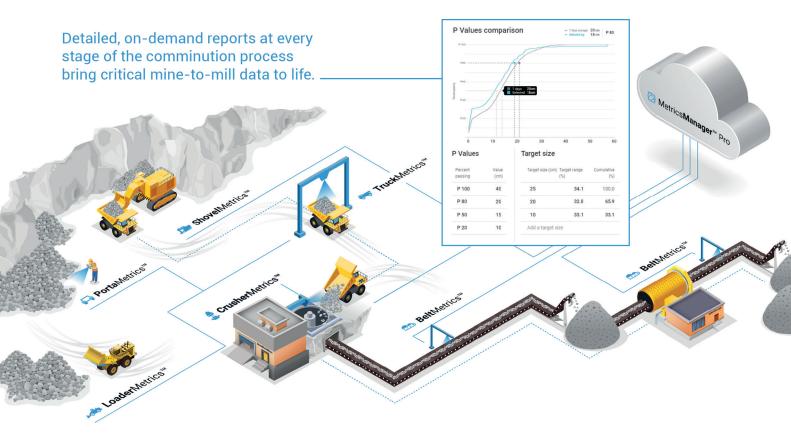
Trend 7: Continuing the journey towards innovation-led organisations

Innovation has been on mining companies' agendas for some time but, for most, it has proven tricky to integrate the process with the core business functions and operations. Nonetheless, a number of factors have recently converged, causing executives to reconsider their approach.

There is much that the mining industry could learn from other sectors in this regard. For instance, transport and logistics operations often have lower margins than those seen in mining, but are still profitable thanks to greater efficiencies. The agile ways of working employed

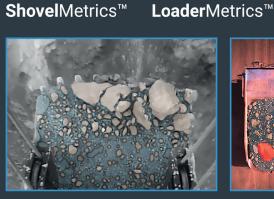


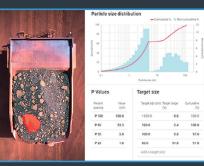
Technology that enables safe, sustainable, and smart mining.



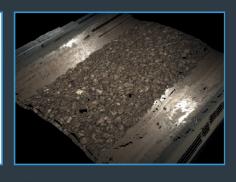
Weir Motion Metrics **Ecosystem for Mines**

Integrating several key data solutions at every stage of comminution, our systems work together to create a detailed view of productivity while improving safety without interrupting operations.





TruckMetrics[™]



PortaMetrics[™]

6.0%*

Optimize comminution with particle size analysis.

6.0%*

Optimize haul truck payload with volume monitoring.

1.0%*

BeltMetrics™

Optimize processing and minimize downtime with BeltMetrics

Tel: +1 (604) 822-5842 Email: info@motionmetrics.com MotionMetrics.com

^{*}Productivity impact and cost saving estimates based on a medium-sized gold mine in Latin America.

in the technology and financial services industries could also offer inspiration.

Leadership is key. Companies that are good at innovating will have a wide risk tolerance, and will allow for production fluctuations when testing an idea that could prove valuable. Successful change starts from the top.

There is also a need to shift away from a culture that focuses only on solving immediate problems and moving towards longer horizon issues. Today, there is the technology, data and visibility to do this, and to become truly agile.

Trend 8: Unlocking value through integrated operations

Mining and metals companies are on a journey to drive efficiencies holistically throughout their organisations. Digital transformation has already contributed to this by enabling real-time visibility from mine to market, but many mining companies have failed to realise the benefits.

The reason is that often too much focus is placed on the technology and not enough on how the organisation will interface with that technology and use it to drive effective integrated decision-making that optimises the system versus an individual function.

The next steps in unlocking value are to use data-based insights to change how decisions are made at every level. Clarifying roles and responsibilities and reviewing incentives can also help. Actions that benefit the organisation as a whole, rather than specific departments or functions, will help companies become nimbler in response to changes in operational and business environments, and create greater value.

Trend 9: Closing the IT-OT cybersecurity gap

The acceleration of information technology (IT) and operational technology (OT) convergence and value chain integration in mining has produced new levels of efficiency in recent years. However, for many companies, rather than security efforts keeping pace with their digital growth, the gap between risks and controls has widened. The result is that, today, some of the industry's biggest cyber vulnerabilities are around OT, industrial control systems (ICS), and Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT). The ubiquity of digital technologies and work practices mean that businesses now need to factor security threats and solutions into every decision they make.

The adoption of remote and hybrid operating models as 'the new normal' also means that now is a good time to review cybersecurity measures around interconnected or segmented networks, and ensure they are robust enough to sustain current practices and support future business growth.

Trend 10: Preparing mining operations for changing climate

While decarbonisation has been the primary focus of miner's climate change-related efforts thus far,

organisations also need to be thinking ahead and building climate resilience across their operations.

Physical risks resulting from climate change can carry significant financial implications for organisations, including direct damage to assets and indirect impacts from supply chain disruption.

By using United Nations climate models and digital risk management tools, it is now possible to quantify physical risks at new and existing mine sites, as well as map supply chains to identify and address pockets of enhanced risk.

The level of transparency and integration seen in mining supply chains today mean that organisations have the chance to not only prepare their own operations, but also help their suppliers and customers ready themselves for whatever operational impacts a changing climate might bring.

The time for change is now

In conclusion, these 10 trends are all closely interwoven. Mining companies should consider them holistically to create competitive and truly sustainable organisations fit to enable a cleaner, greener future. **GMR**

References

- TURNER, P. and LEAHY, W., 'US infrastructure bill is an opportunity mining cannot waste', FLSmidth Discover Mining, (December 2021), https://www.flsmidth.com/en-gb/discover/mining-2021/ us-infrastructure-bill-is-an-opportunity-mining-cannot-waste, [accessed 12 January 2022].
- SWART, A., 'Tracking the trends 2021', Deloitte, (2021), https://www2.deloitte.com/global/en/pages/energy-and-resources/ articles/tracking-the-trends.html, [accessed 18 January 2022].
- 'Rio Tinto to build new tellurium plant at Kennecott mine', Rio Tinto, (8 March 2021), https://www.riotinto.com/en/news/releases/2021/ Rio-Tinto-to-build-new-tellurium-plant-at-Kennecott-mine, [accessed 30 November 2021].
- 'About us', American Battery Technology Company, (2021) https://americanbatterytechnology.com/about-us/, [accessed 1 December 2021].
- STUTT, A., 'BHP, Freeport invest in Jetti Resources' 'holy grail' copper extraction technology', *Mining.com*, (4 June 2021), https://www.mining.com/bhp-freeport-invest-in-jetti-resources-holy-grail-copper-extraction-technology/, [accessed 30 September 2021].
- 'Industrial Metals Charge to Fresh Highs as Inflation Runs Hot', Bloomberg News, (9 September 2021), https://www.bloomberg.com/ news/articles/2021-09-09/nickel-storms-to-seven-year-high-asdemand-booms-supply-ebbs, [accessed 21 October 2021].
- NYER, D., and MARCHILI, S., 'Mining & metals 2021: Forces of transition and influencers of change', White & Case, (15 September 2021), https://www.whitecase.com/publications/ insight/mining-metals-2021/new-wave-resource-nationalism, [accessed 21 October 2021].
- Centerra Gold Seeks Urgent Relief in International Arbitration to Prevent the Kyrgyz Republic from Destroying the Integrity, Value and Long-Term Viability of the Kumtor Mine', Centerra Gold, (27 September 2021), https://s3.amazonaws.com/centerragold/ news/September2021/pY6nBuidRu2J5KN1S6XC.pdf, [accessed 30 November 2021].
- 'Leading copper producers in Chile in 2020, by production volume', Statista, (2021) https://www.statista.com/statistics/768692/chilecopper-producers/, [accessed 6 January 2022].
- 'International community strikes a ground-breaking tax deal for the digital age', OECD, (8 October 2021), https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/ international-community-strikes-a-ground-breaking-tax-deal-for-thedigital-age.html, [accessed 21 October 2021].
- 11. CHUGH, A., 'What is 'The Great Resignation'? An expert explains', World Economic Forum, (29 November 2021), https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/11/what-is-the-great-resignation-and-what-canwe-learn-from-it/, [accessed 1 December 2021].



Our proven mobile sizing and ore diverting solutions, alongside new ore sensor technologies, can make this happen – separating ore from waste in the pit whilst uplifting ore grades through fines recovery. Introducing an automated ore sorting solution into your existing system ensures only the pay material is hauled to the process plant – meaning your mine can improve production whilst reducing energy usage and water consumption.

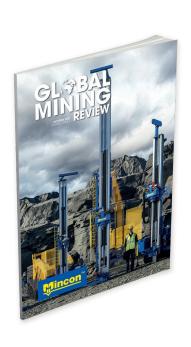
Whether you have an underground or open pit operation, our network of technical experts can help develop a tailor-made in-pit sorting solution to boost productivity and deliver a leaner, greener mine.



THAT WAS A SAMPLE OF



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2022







DON'T WANT TO MISS OUT?

You will need to register to read the full edition. Please log in to www.globalminingreview.com or alternatively **click here** to register for free!

For more information about Global Mining Review, please contact us:

www.globalminingreview.com
E: subscriptions@globalminingreview.com
T: +44 (0)1252 718999