

Caledonia starts paperless mine planning with MineRP Planning Collaborator



With offices in Toronto, Canada and Sandton, South Africa, Caledonia is the major shareholder in Blanket Mine, situated in the south of Zimbabwe.

Blanket Gold Mine is a well-established Zimbabwean gold mine, and operates at a depth of approximately 750 meters below surface. The mine produced approximately 45,500 ounces of gold in 2013. In November 2014, Caledonia announced a revised investment plan for the Blanket Mine in terms of which production is expected to increase to approximately 80,000 ounces of gold by 2021 following the investment of approximately US\$70m.

The need was identified to improve the use of mining software in the mine's planning process, with the main objective of this project to enable remote planning and reporting to and from South Africa.

Having previously worked with MineRP, Caledonia COO, Dana Roets identified the need for an integrated mine planning solution.

After researching the market, the decision was made to implement MineRP's Planning Collaborator, and integrated suite of mine planning tools consisting of Mine2-4D and EPS, SpatialDB, SpatialDash and SpatialAnalyzer.

Caledonia required assistance with the following mine planning and operational control processes:

1. The optimization of Mine Planning in order to achieve reliable long term plans
2. Simplifying remote mine planning
3. Remotely reporting the current state of mining to senior management and shareholders

CHALLENGE

Improving the mine planning process through:

- Implementing cutting-edge mine planning software
- Enabling remote planning and control from any location
- Increasing the speed and accuracy of operational reporting to Caledonia management and board

SOLUTION

Achieving remote plan and reporting through implementation of MineRP's latest integrated mine planning solution, MineRP Planning Collaborator. This solution combines mine design and planning tools with centralised information management and web-based reporting technologies.

KEY BENEFITS

By implementing MineRP Planning Collaborator, Blanket Mine is able to plan from their office in South Africa, and share the plan with their mining team in Zimbabwe.



The Caledonia group is an exploration, development and mining company with a focus on Southern Africa. Blanket Gold Mine is Caledonia's primary asset, in which they hold 49% interest. Blanket Mine produced over 45,500 ounces of gold in 2013 at a cash cost of US\$613/oz.



The Project

For the successful implementation of MineRP in One, BGM had to address various issues regarding moving from a manual to a technology driven platform.

These issues included:

1. Training of personnel and support by MineRP.
2. On-site implementation of improved mine planning processes.

To address these issues, a MineRP mining engineer who with knowledge of both the system and mining method was involved for both the training and development of a revised Life of Mine Plan.

Life of Mine

Even though the initial project scope did not include doing a Life Of Mine (LOM) plan, MineRP assisted with this aspect once the need became apparent.

By potentially leveraging the updated LOM through to the process of operational planning, the latter will be simplified. An additional benefit is the availability of more accurate planning information off-site to senior management and shareholders.

More about the solution

MineRP Planning Collaborator is an integrated mine planning and design solution with modules for design, planning, scheduling and on-line planning assessment and collaboration.

Consisting of a collection of MineRP products such as Mine2-4D, EPS, MineCAD, SpatialDB, SpatialDash and SpatialAnalyzer, Planning Collaborator is a fully fledged software suite addressing all the requirements for long, medium and short term planning and review.

// The objectives of the project were to deliver a revised plan, which would see investment of \$50-million in the mine between 2015 and 2017, and another \$20-million between 2018 and 2020, thereby improving the underground infrastructure and logistics and ensuring an efficient and sustainable production build-up.

MineRP played an important role in the project by providing a mining consulting as well as software and related services. **//**

Dana Roets, COO Caledonia

Planning Collaborator Case Study

Caledonia starts paperless mine
planning with MineRP Planning
Collaborator



www.minerp.com

South Africa

Head Office: Johannesburg

First Floor, 267 West Ave, Centurion 0046
PO Box 9157, Centurion, 0046
Tel: +27 87 980 3100
Fax: +27 86 406 0117

Canada

Sudbury Office

432 Westmount Ave, Unit AB
Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, P3A 5Z8
Tel: +1 705 525 4774
Fax: +1 705 525 2629

Australia

Brisbane Office

Level 5, 182 Bay Terrace,
Wynnum, QLD, 4178
Tel: +61 (0)7 3828 2800
Fax: +61 (0)7 3828 2802

Perth Office

280 Newcastle St, Northbridge
WA 6003, Australia
Tel: +61 (0)8 6380 6800
Fax: +61 (0)8 6380 6801

Latin America

Santiago Office

Av Isidora Goyenechea 3000, piso 23
Las Condes, Santiago, Chile
Tel: +56 2 364 4258
Fax: +56 2 364 4443