



Lake MacLeod Salt Mine Trial



Project Details

Rio Tinto Dampier Salt (DSL) had recently restarted Salt mining operations at the Lake MacLeod mine site, and as a result of its prolonged closure was dealing with a range of weathered Salt pans that had hardened beyond the capacity of their current mining fleet.

As part of a trial to remove the hardened pans, and free-up their harvester for Gypsum mining, DSL contacted Global Surface Mining (GSM) with a request for a Surface Miner with conveyor loading capabilities. GSM prepared a 2500SM specifically for the Salt exposure, and mobilised it to site with conveyor loading capabilities to suit the current trucking fleet.

Over a period of months onsite, GSM worked with DSL to finetune the milling process, and made several significant modifications to the Equipment and Process to ensure to produced product was suitable for processing and sale. Several pans that had proven too hard for the Harvester, Grid Rollers, Graders or even Dozers to mine were successfully milled by the 2500SM in a matter of days.

During the 40+ days campaigning on site, GSM produced over 225,000bcm of salt with an excellent instantaneous production rate of nearly 600bcm/hr. Mining with GPS guidance produced a level floor perfect for regrowth, and the job was completed successfully on-time and with a perfect safety record

Case Study

GSM17-003

Year

2017

Client

Rio Tinto / Dampier Salt

Site/Location

Lake MacLeod

Region

North West

Scope

Access road cuttings

Volume

225,000 bcm

Production

597 bcm per hr.

Material Type

Salt

Material Hardness

> 30 MPa

GET Consumption

0 GET worn

Mechanical Availability

71%

Safety

Zero LTIs

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