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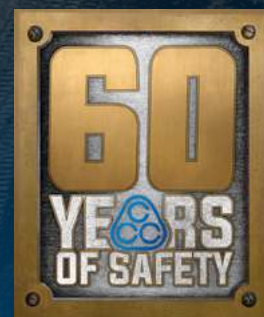
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EDITOR'S NOTE

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In an era of rapid industrial transformation and strategic realignment, the mining and construction sectors across Africa are navigating a period of unprecedented opportunity and complexity. As the global demand for minerals essential to energy transition, infrastructure growth, and digital technologies continues to rise, African mining and construction communities are being thrust into a pivotal role – not simply as resource suppliers, but as innovators, infrastructure builders, and partners in sustainable development.

This edition of Mining & Construction Africa captures the current momentum and the evolving narrative of two industries that are increasingly interdependent. Across the continent, mining projects are expanding beyond extraction to embrace value-added processing, advanced materials handling, and integrated logistics that require cutting-edge construction methodologies. At the same time, civil and industrial construction projects are being driven by both private investment and public infrastructure programs aimed at supporting long-term economic resilience. These intersections underscore the importance of collaboration between mining and construction sectors in building the Africa of tomorrow.

Recent regional developments highlight this dynamic. Major mining nations are moving beyond production to strengthen downstream linkages. Increased investment in processing plants and beneficiation facilities is positioning countries like Botswana, Ghana, and South Africa to capture a greater share of value within their borders. Meanwhile, large-scale transport, utilities, and industrial construction projects are reshaping economic corridors – from ports and railways to power stations and urban infrastructure – enabling more efficient resource flows and broader economic integration.

A key driver of this progress has been the deployment of advanced equipment and engineered solutions that enhance productivity and safety. The integration of automation, digital monitoring, and predictive maintenance technologies is improving equipment uptime and reducing lifecycle costs. These innovations are not only transforming mining operations, but are also redefining construction site productivity, supply-chain efficiency, and risk management across complex large-scale projects.

Workforce development remains essential. As both mining and construction adopt more sophisticated technologies, there is a growing imperative to equip local workforces with the skills needed to operate, maintain, and innovate on advanced platforms. Multi-stakeholder partnerships – including governments, academic institutions, industry bodies, and private enterprise – are increasingly focusing on skills training, leadership development, and safety compliance frameworks that elevate professional standards and expand employment pathways for local talent.

Sustainability and ESG integration are now foundational to how projects are planned and executed. Environmental stewardship initiatives, community engagement programmes, and transparent governance frameworks are becoming prerequisites for project success. Across sectors, operators are investing in renewable energy solutions, water management strategies, and responsible waste-handling systems that mitigate environmental impact and enhance social value.

As complexity grows, so too does the need for information that is authoritative, timely, and practical. Mining & Construction Africa remains committed to delivering content that informs industry leaders, supports operational excellence, and promotes strategic thinking. In this edition, we explore cutting-edge technologies, major infrastructure and mining projects, regulatory shifts, and sector partnerships that are shaping the present – and future – of mining and construction across the continent.

Africa's mining and construction sectors are no longer simply responding to global demand – they are defining new pathways for industrial growth, workforce empowerment, and sustainable development. We invite you to explore the insights, case studies, and expert perspectives within this issue as the industries continue their journey toward innovation, resilience, and shared prosperity.

The Editor

EDITOR'S NOTE



**AFRICA
MINING &
CONSTRUCTION**

magazine contents page

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AFRISAM BUDGET BREAKFAST HIGHLIGHTS ECONOMIC UPSIDE FROM COMMODITY PRICE SURGE

The strong rally in commodities such as gold, platinum, rhodium, and palladium is creating significant windfall opportunities for South Africa to support its economic turnaround.

Speaking at AfriSam's annual Budget Breakfast in Sandton, Econometrix Chief Economist Dr Azar Jammie said the surge in commodity prices could have an "absolutely enormous" impact on the South African economy. This year marks the eighth consecutive year AfriSam has hosted the event, bringing together key stakeholders from across the construction sector.

Dr Jammie pointed to an estimated R350 billion inflow from commodity sales, arriving as the economy began showing signs of recovery. He noted that the key opportunity lies in government directing this windfall toward higher fixed capital formation through targeted infrastructure investment. The third quarter of 2025 saw a modest 1.1% uptick in fixed investment, the first positive movement in two and a half years. Higher commodity inflows have also strengthened the rand, reducing inflation to around 3.5%, while S&P Global upgraded South Africa's credit rating for the first time in 16 years.

The construction sector remains under pressure, with output 30% below 2010 levels and employment down around 5% since 2019. Residential building approvals are 40–50% below peak, and non-residential approvals are down 85%. Challenges include underinvestment, deteriorating state-owned enterprises, corruption, and the legacy of state capture.

Despite these challenges, renewed infrastructure and mining investment could boost demand for construction materials such as cement, aggregates, and readymix concrete, creating opportunities for companies like AfriSam to support durable, high-performance projects.



AFRISAM BUDGET BREAKFAST HIGHLIGHTS ECONOMIC UPSIDE FROM COMMODITY PRICE SURGE



WACO MODULAR DOUBLES FACTORY CAPACITY TO MEET SURGING DEMAND FOR MODULAR BUILDINGS

Waco Modular, a leader in modular construction, has expanded its Jet Park factory in Boksburg with a new 660 m² undercover assembly area, effectively doubling output capacity. The investment comes amid unprecedented demand across South African sectors, particularly education and mining, ensuring faster and more resilient project delivery.

Factory Director Andries Stander says the expansion reduces standard lead times from 4–6 weeks to 1–3 weeks, giving clients certainty for critical deadlines and helping avoid costly delays. Daily on-floor leadership ensures alignment across engineering, procurement, and executive teams, boosting quality, staff morale, and production efficiency.

The facility now incorporates semi-automation and modern technology, including a streamlined stores management system and purpose-specific tooling.

Semi-automated assembly reduces manual tasks, while continuous staff training ensures international manufacturing standards and safety, with over one million man-hours without a lost-time injury.

Early benefits are already evident: mining projects gain timely infrastructure, schools are assured ready facilities for 2026, and commercial and public projects benefit from scalable, fast solutions. Waco Modular has also launched three new product lines in 2025, with another in development for 2026.

Collaboration with Waco Engineering Services (WES) and dedicated supplier agreements support a just-in-time supply chain, reinforcing Waco Modular's goal: smarter, faster, and more resilient solutions. Stander concludes: "By investing in people, processes, and technology, we are ensuring Waco Modular remains the partner of choice for industries that cannot afford delays."

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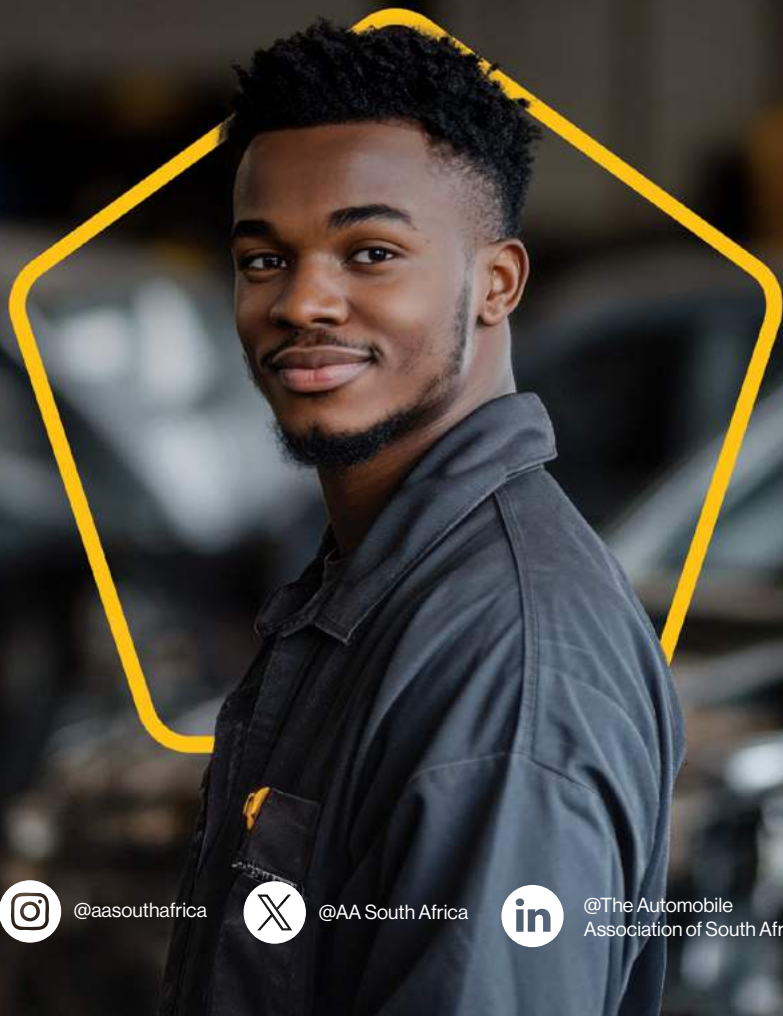
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QUALITY AGGREGATES ARE THE FOUNDATION OF STRONG, DURABLE CONSTRUCTION

In the world of construction, the quality of materials directly determines the strength, durability and long term performance of any structure. Among these materials, aggregates – whether used in concrete, asphalt or base layers – play an essential role. Ensuring that aggregates are correctly sized and properly graded is not just a technicality – it is a vital factor in achieving structural integrity, performance consistency and compliance with design specifications.

“Aggregate grading is about more than just particle size,” Amit Dawneerangen, Construction Materials Executive: Sales & Product Technical at leading construction materials supplier, AfriSam explains. “It determines how the material compacts, how concrete mixes perform and how well load bearing structures can handle stress over time.”

When aggregates are incorrectly sized or poorly graded voids can occur within the mix, reducing density and compromising strength. This often leads to issues such as cracking, shrinkage and water ingress – all of which can shorten the lifespan of roads, buildings or infrastructure.

Amit Dawneerangen, Construction Materials Executive: Sales & Product Technical at AfriSam. Conversely, well-graded aggregates create dense cohesive mixtures that enhance workability, reduce cement or binder demand, and ensure more uniform compaction and stability.

Beyond physical performance, consistent aggregate quality ensures that engineers and contractors can meet design standards and regulatory specifications. Projects designed around specific grading envelopes depend on accurate and repeatable aggregate properties to perform as intended.

However, achieving this level of precision requires technical expertise, process control and rigorous testing which is why working with a reputable quarry or construction materials supplier is critical. Trusted suppliers operate under strict quality management systems, implement regular laboratory testing and maintain calibrated crushing, screening and blending processes to ensure product consistency.

AfriSam carries out multiple process control tests as an integral part of its daily production operations to maintain consistent product quality.

“Partnering with an established, credible supplier provides confidence that every load delivered meets specification,” Dawneerangen adds. “It also means access to reliable technical advice and traceability – from the source rock right through to the final product.”

Reputable suppliers invest heavily in quality assurance infrastructure, from advanced testing laboratories to on-site quality control technicians. Their focus extends beyond supply – they actively collaborate with engineers and contractors to ensure that the correct material is selected for each layer or mix design, reducing the risk of costly rework and ensuring long term performance.

Both coarse and fine aggregates used in concrete must comply with the requirements of SANS 1083. In a market where quality, compliance and sustainability are non-negotiable, correct aggregate sizing and grading are the cornerstones of successful construction. “Working with a trusted technically capable supplier is therefore not just a purchasing decision – it is a quality assurance choice that safeguards the integrity and longevity of every project,” Dawneerangen concludes.



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WHAT MORE THAN 40 YEARS IN MINING INDUSTRY FILTRATION HAS TAUGHT ME

- By Rutger Bornefalk

Filtration specialist – over four decades of experience in industrial filtration and mining applications

When people ask how to select the correct filter cloth for a filtration process, they often expect a clear technical guide or a table of parameters that gives the right answer. After more than forty years working in industrial filtration, particularly in mining applications, my honest answer is that such a universal guide does not exist. Filtration is influenced by many variables—mineral type, particle size distribution, slurry chemistry, pressure conditions, and operating practices. These factors interact in ways that are often impossible to predict with complete accuracy from laboratory data or fabric specifications alone.

Over the years I have learned that successful filtration solutions depend less on formulas and more on experience, understanding, and collaboration.

Technology Matters — But So Do People

The development of filter fabrics requires deep knowledge of textile engineering and process filtration. A well-designed filter fabric must balance many factors:

- permeability
- particle retention
- mechanical strength
- cake release
- resistance to abrasion and chemicals.

But even the best textile technology cannot succeed without understanding the process in which it will operate.

The most successful filtration projects I have been involved in were not simply the result of selecting the right fabric from a catalog. They were the result of close cooperation between the manufacturer and the plant operator.

When engineers, operators, and filtration specialists share information openly—about the process, the challenges, and the goals—solutions can be developed that truly improve plant performance.

The Importance of Trust and Long-Term Relationships
During my career I have been fortunate to work with many mining companies, filtration specialists, and equipment manufacturers around the world. One lesson has remained constant: the most successful collaborations are built on trust and mutual respect. A supplier must genuinely want to understand the customer's needs.

A customer must be willing to share operational knowledge and experience.

When both sides communicate openly and respect each other's expertise, it becomes possible to develop filtration solutions that provide:

- stable plant operation
- longer equipment lifetime
- improved filtration performance
- sustainable profitability.

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A Rewarding Journey

Looking back over more than four decades in this industry, what stands out most is not only the technology but also the people.

Working in industrial filtration has allowed me to meet talented engineers, operators, researchers, and business leaders from many parts of the world. Every project has been an opportunity to learn something new—about mineral processing, textile technology, or simply about how different people approach problem-solving.

These experiences have made my career not only professionally interesting but also personally rewarding. The relationships built over many years in the industry are something I value deeply.

The Future of Filtration

The mining industry continues to evolve, with increasing focus on efficiency, sustainability, and responsible resource management. Filtration technology will remain an important part of this development.

While new materials and technologies will certainly emerge, one thing will not change: successful filtration will still depend on knowledge, cooperation, and trust between people.



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We provide one to one compatible spare parts, expert maintenance, refurbishments, and automation upgrades and full modernizations for every Tower Press type filter. Our service offering keeps filtration processes running at peak capacity while extending equipment lifetime and improving operational stability. Services include routine maintenance, inspections and troubleshooting, process optimization, automation support, predictive monitoring, complete overhauls. With Roxia as a life cycle partner, customers secure predictable performance, reduced downtime, and efficient, long term operation.

Strong Local Presence in South Africa

Roxia's South Africa team provides local maintenance, inspections, troubleshooting, and process support. Local spare parts availability and rapid on site service ensure continuity of production. Roxia's global capability is backed by local facilities in Finland, Chile, Peru, China, Germany, and the United States.

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Compared to traditional chamber filter presses, Tower Press technology offers superior throughput and stronger process stability under varying conditions.

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Roxia supplies high quality OEM spare parts compatible with all Tower Press filter brands. Our offering includes for example filter cloths, plates, frames, diaphragms, grids, plate seals, hydraulic components, and automation parts—designed for long service life and reliable operation. Local stock and fast deliveries minimize downtime and simplify maintenance planning.



TRANSALLOYS FACES POSSIBLE CLOSURE AMID RISING ELECTRICITY COSTS



Transalloys, operator of South Africa's last working manganese smelter, may be forced to shut down and cut hundreds of jobs unless electricity costs are reduced, its CEO warned.

CEO Konstantin Sadovnik said the company has been unprofitable for about three years, with power expenses—nearly 40% of total costs—driving losses. The firm plans to cut around 600 direct jobs, potentially affecting up to 7,000 livelihoods in the eMalahleni municipality.

Sadovnik noted the plant could be temporarily mothballed or closed permanently depending on whether manganese smelters are included in a proposed electricity pricing framework under discussion

by the government and the ferrochrome industry.

South Africa, the world's largest manganese producer, exports most of its output as ore due to limited smelting capacity. The energy regulator Nersa is reviewing interim power tariff adjustments for struggling smelters, while longer-term support mechanisms are being considered to improve competitiveness.

"Energy is our biggest cost driver," Sadovnik said, highlighting that South African smelters face electricity prices roughly double those of international competitors. The company hopes for a resolution within the next two months, with restructuring planned around February if no solution is reached.

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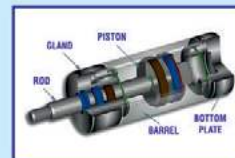
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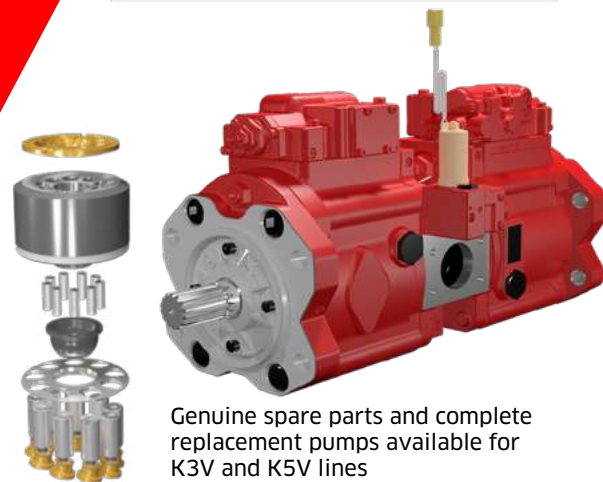
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DRIVING OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE IN AFRICA'S MINING AND CONSTRUCTION SECTORS THROUGH INDUSTRIAL AI AND ASSET LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

Across Africa, the mining and construction industries are entering a pivotal phase of transformation. As infrastructure development accelerates and demand for resources continues to rise, organisations are being challenged to operate with greater efficiency, agility, and intelligence in increasingly complex environments.

According to Rahul Misra, SVP & Managing Director for the Middle East and Africa at IFS, the shift is already underway. "Africa's mining and construction sectors are at a real inflection point," he explains. "We are seeing a move away from siloed, reactive operations toward connected, data-driven ways of working. The growing complexity of projects and assets means organisations can no longer manage operations in isolation."

At the heart of this transformation lies the adoption of Industrial AI and end-to-end Asset Lifecycle Management (ALM)—a combination that is redefining how projects are delivered and assets are managed across the continent.

Overcoming the Challenges of Remote and Complex Operations

Mining and infrastructure projects in Africa often take place in remote and logistically demanding environments. Limited connectivity, scarce technical expertise, and lack of real-time visibility have historically forced organisations into reactive decision-making.

"The biggest challenge is visibility," Misra notes. "Without real-time insight into asset performance, companies are responding to failures rather than preventing them. AI

is changing that by enabling predictive insights, even in environments where physical access is limited."

Alongside visibility, workforce constraints and connectivity limitations remain key barriers. Solutions must therefore be resilient, mobile-first, and capable of operating in low-bandwidth conditions—ensuring that critical decisions can be made accurately and efficiently, even in the most remote locations.

Connecting the Asset Lifecycle for Long-Term Value

One of the most persistent challenges in both mining and construction is the disconnect between project delivery and ongoing asset performance. Assets are often handed over with incomplete or fragmented data, delaying optimisation and increasing operational costs. Asset Lifecycle Management addresses this by connecting every phase of the asset journey—from planning and design through to operations and maintenance—within a single, unified platform.

"When you layer Industrial AI on top of this connected lifecycle, the impact becomes even more powerful," says Misra. "It's not just about having data, but about using it intelligently to predict performance, prioritise maintenance, and optimise outcomes from day one."

Industrial AI: From Insight to Action

Industrial AI is no longer a future concept—it is already delivering measurable value across mining and construction operations. By embedding AI directly into workflows, organisations can move from reactive processes to proactive and predictive operations. Predictive maintenance, for example, allows companies to anticipate equipment failures using real-time and historical data, significantly reducing downtime and maintenance costs. In remote environments, this capability is particularly critical, ensuring that resources are deployed at the right time and place.

Beyond predictive insights, the rise of AI-driven “Digital Workers” is further transforming operations. These intelligent agents can analyse data across systems, automate processes, and generate actionable recommendations—effectively acting as an extension of operational teams.

The Power of a Unified Platform

A major barrier to digital transformation remains the prevalence of fragmented systems. Disconnected tools and siloed data limit visibility and reduce the effectiveness of advanced technologies such as AI.

“A unified platform creates a single source of truth,” Misra explains. “It not only improves efficiency by reducing manual processes and errors, but also establishes the data foundation required for AI to deliver real value.”

IFS Cloud exemplifies this approach by integrating enterprise resource planning (ERP), asset management, project management, and workforce optimisation into one composable platform. With AI embedded throughout, organisations gain real-time visibility and the ability to make faster, more informed decisions across all levels of operation.

Enhancing Project Delivery and Workforce Efficiency

In large-scale infrastructure and EPC (engineering, procurement, and construction) projects, AI is playing a critical role in improving predictability and performance. From cost forecasting and risk identification to supply chain optimisation, AI enables earlier intervention and better outcomes.

At the same time, workforce management is being transformed through intelligent scheduling and mobile-enabled tools. By aligning skills, availability, and location dynamically, organisations can deploy resources more effectively, improving productivity, safety, and overall efficiency.



Driving Sustainability and Smarter Investment Decisions.

As sustainability and regulatory compliance become increasingly important, digital transformation is helping organisations move beyond reactive reporting toward proactive management.

AI-driven insights allow companies to monitor environmental performance, identify risks early, and align operations with sustainability goals. At the same time, advanced analytics support more effective capital allocation by providing clear visibility into asset performance, risk, and lifecycle costs.

A Strategic Path Forward

Looking ahead, the path to modernisation is clear. Organisations must prioritise three key areas: building a strong data foundation, adopting a lifecycle approach to asset management, and implementing AI in a practical, scalable way.

“Modernisation today is not just about digitisation,” Misra concludes. “It’s about building intelligent capabilities that enable long-term competitiveness, resilience, and growth.”

With its integrated platform and embedded Industrial AI capabilities, IFS is positioning itself as a long-term strategic partner for mining and construction organisations across Africa—helping them navigate complexity, unlock value, and drive sustainable success in a rapidly evolving landscape.

GHANA TO CHANNEL ARTISANAL GOLD INTO FORMAL TRADE TO BOOST REVENUE



Ghana plans to direct approximately 127 metric tons of artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) gold annually into official trade channels under revised sector reforms, aiming to increase foreign-exchange earnings and curb smuggling, Cassiel Ato Forson announced on Wednesday.

Across Africa, ASM gold leakage costs countries billions each year as undeclared production is smuggled through porous borders to global trading hubs such as Dubai.

Ghana, Africa's top gold producer, lost an estimated \$11.4 billion between 2019 and 2023, according to the non-profit foundation Swissaid.

Formalisation Targets \$20 Billion Annually

Forson told Parliament that the Ghana Gold Board will be required to purchase a minimum of 2.45 tons of ASM gold weekly, consolidating these acquisitions into a formal pipeline expected to generate over \$20 billion in annual inflows.

The initiative comes after a surge in ASM output, driven by rising gold prices and the establishment of GoldBod in 2025, which helped lift national gold production to roughly 186 tons that year.

Starting next month under the new policy, GoldBod will fully manage off-take agreements and the sale of all ASM gold procured.

The regulator will raise financing to maintain three to four weeks of gold purchases in inventory and will use derivative and hedging instruments to mitigate price risks. The Bank of Ghana currently funds ASM gold purchases.

"To disincentivise smuggling, GoldBod may offer price incentives, including spot-market price purchases and bonuses for licensed miners," Forson said.

All foreign-exchange proceeds from the programme will be sold exclusively to the Bank of Ghana at pre-agreed rates under a formal agreement between the central bank and GoldBod.

Broader Reforms and Sector Modernisation

The minister also highlighted that formalisation will extend to environmental compliance, enforcement, traceability systems, expansion of local refining capacity, and operational cost reforms.

At the same time, Ghana is advancing reforms to the mining sector's financial regime, which some large-scale producers argue could restrict investment and slow output.

The ASM formalisation programme represents a significant step toward increasing transparency, securing revenue, and strengthening Ghana's position as a leading gold producer while protecting the country from illicit trade losses.



BURUNDI SIGNS STRATEGIC MINING AGREEMENTS WITH U.S. COMPANIES IN WASHINGTON

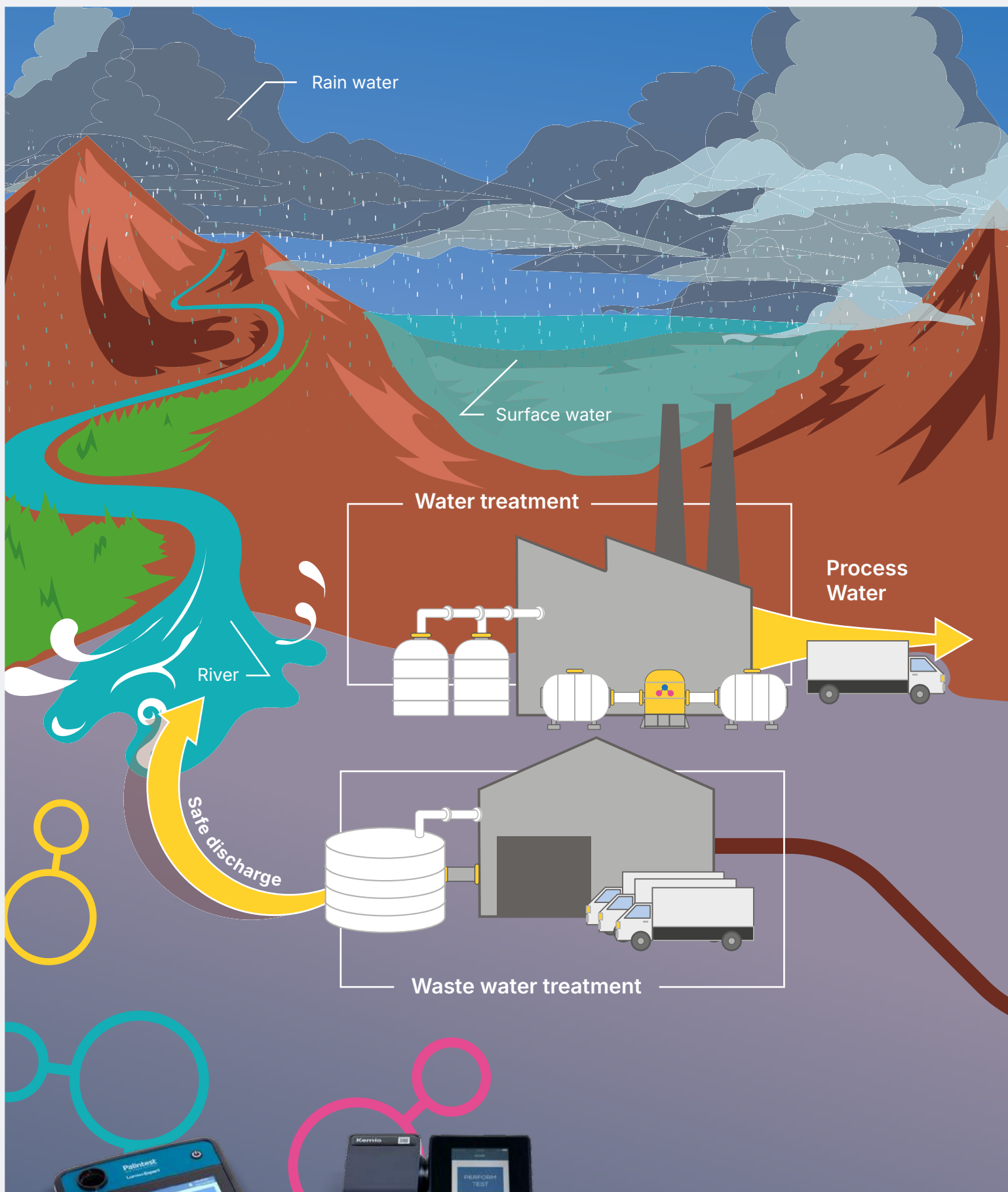
The United States Department of State hosted a signing ceremony in Washington, D.C. for two strategic agreements between the government of Burundi and U.S. mining companies to advance critical minerals development. The event was attended by Sarah Troutman, Assistant Secretary for African Affairs.

The first agreement links Burundi with KoBold Metals, a California-based company using artificial intelligence to identify mineral deposits. The partnership will digitize Burundi's geoscientific archives, with initial data expected before July 1, 2026, improving access for exploration and investment.

The second agreement grants Lifezone Metals a 14-month exclusivity period to develop the Musongati Nickel Project, which is estimated to contain over 140 million tonnes of mineral resources, including nickel, copper, cobalt, gold, and platinum-group metals.

The agreements form part of the FORGE Initiative, launched in February 2026 to strengthen global supply chains for critical minerals and enhance cooperation between the United States and partner countries.

Burundi's delegation was led by Minister Hassan Kibeya, while U.S. officials also engaged with a delegation from Gabon to expand cooperation in critical minerals, energy, digital development, and infrastructure.



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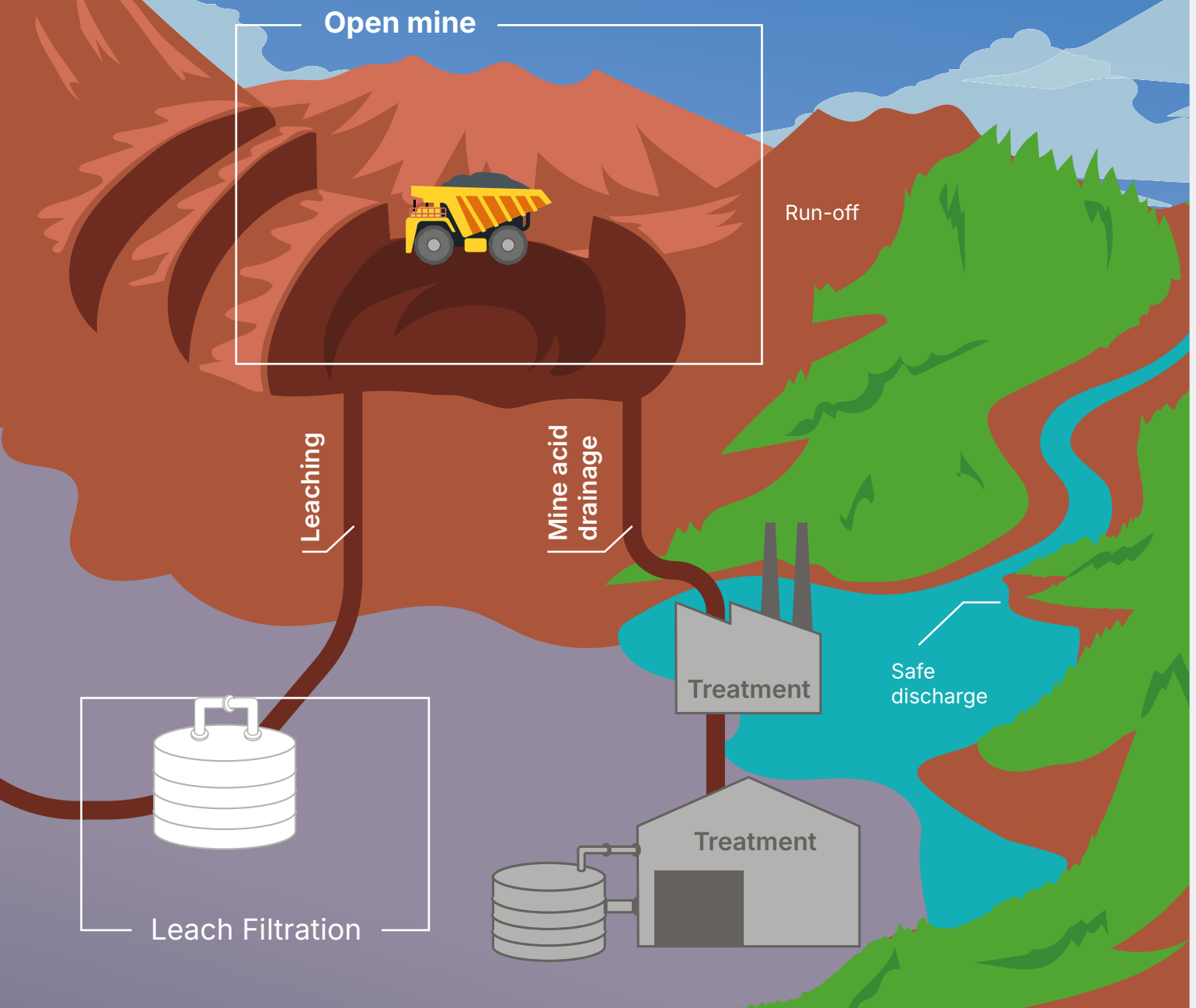
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HAYER & BOECKER EXPANDS ITS QUAT2RO AI SYSTEMS



HAVER & BOECKER expands its QUAT2RO® AI product suite – including QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck and QUAT2RO® VALVEcheck – with the addition of QUAT2RO® BAGcheck and QUAT2RO® SEALcheck for industrial packing and filling in the cement, building materials, food and chemical industries. The new AI-powered QUAT2RO® BAGcheck prevents the use of incorrect bags by monitoring the bag placed in the bag magazine on the packing machine. The QUAT2RO® SEALcheck system supports full-line automation by detecting product on the conveyor and removing unsealed bags before palletizing. Combined with QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck and QUAT2RO® VALVEcheck, these options make up the full array of the QUAT2RO® AI product suite.

“The success of our first AI product, QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck, prompted us to explore other unique AI solutions to address the unique needs of our customers and expand into other detection options,” said Dirk Bergmann, Head of AI at HAYER & BOECKER. “QUAT2RO® AI isn’t just the next digital product. It’s the last digital product our customers

will need to buy. The AI systems integrated into these machines continuously learn and update, meaning you’re preparing your packing line for the future.”

QUAT2RO® BAGcheck uses image recognition to verify that the correct bags are placed into closed, automated packing machines like the INTEGRA® IV. The system uses a camera to identify the bag before filling begins. If the system flags a bag as the incorrect type, the packing line stops to allow operators to replace it. QUAT2RO® BAGcheck provides a safeguard against product being filled into the wrong bag and potentially not being caught until palletizing or, at worst, when it reaches the customer. Like QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck, it identifies and prevents issues before they become critical.

QUAT2RO® SEALcheck ends the packing line. A camera monitors bags leaving the packing line checks the sealed valves for loose product on the conveyor. When an issue with the seal is detected, the bag is diverted off the line to a separate area.

As QUAT2RO® BAGcheck and QUAT2RO® SEALcheck serve as bookends to the packing line and AI products, QUAT2RO® VALVEcheck and QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck are all about what goes on during filling. QUAT2RO® VALVEcheck, one of the first QUAT2RO® AI products, decreases downtime and increases product usage by ensuring that each valve bag is fitted to the filling spout properly. The system identifies improperly opened bags and drops them to the machine floor for manual rework. Operators can then pick up the bags, open them by hand and place them back on the packing line – saving some operations as much as 50 euros per day. Packing lines that implement QUAT2RO® VALVEcheck have seen a rapid decrease in incorrect bag applications.

Introduced in 2024, QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck – short for material explosion check – monitors the filling process inside the machine using a high-quality camera system. When the camera detects abnormal material discharge during the filling process, the system alerts the operator and stops the process immediately, eliminating what used to be a costly error both in terms of product loss and downtime to clean up after. These systems can typically fill up to 30 kilograms per second. Earlier systems relied on bag weight to determine when filling was disrupted, which could lead to a two-second delay in shutting

down the machine – resulting in a loss of 60 kilograms of product before the machine would stop filling. QUAT2RO® MATEXcheck registers changes faster and eliminates or significantly reduces that product loss.

All four QUAT2RO® AI Systems can be linked through QUAT2RO® Connect for facilities seeking deep integration with their packing line. The HMI dashboard on these machines can showcase additional data to help streamline packing processes and anticipate future bottlenecks. HAVER & BOECKER's in-house AI experts monitor QUAT2RO® Connect to help identify where problems stem from and how to fix any current or potential issues with the operation's packing line. Both QUAT2RO® Connect and the QUAT2RO® AI Systems can be retrofitted into all enclosed automated packing machines or incorporated as an optional upgrade on new machines.



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MULTI MOVER

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Slag Pot Carriers „SLAG TAURUS“ for smelters operation

TECHNE KIROW – IS THE WORLD MARKET LEADER FOR RAILWAY CRANES, HAVING SUPPLIED MORE THAN 5,000 UNITS.



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Nearly 130 years of engineering design history, but also the awarding of the Innovation Prize of the State of Saxony are testament to this. Our engineers uncompromisingly apply the proven rules of German engineering to the ongoing further development and design of all products. The goal is always the same: to increase the efficiency, safety and environmental friendliness of the equipment.

The different Slag Taurus models are perfectly coordinated to each other. They have been developed in close cooperation with our customers and are based on our well-proven modular kit of components and groups of components. It goes without saying that we adapt our equipment to special requirements: whether to optimally integrate them into the infrastructure on location or to realise individual requests for optional equipment.

QUALITY – To us quality means: a sophisticated product concept, substantiated knowhow in the fields of design engineering and control as well as the highest degree of precision with regard to fabrication and execution.

It is understood that our engineers test and check all mechanical, hydraulic and electrical groups of components meticulously on the company-owned test field.

All this provides decisive advantages:

- maximum capability and reliability of the vehicles
- low cost of operation
- long service life (even under the toughest operating conditions).

SERVICE – Excellent service means for us, among other things: to be present and available. For example you can reach us via hotline around the clock. We know: the availability of spare parts ex stock is eminently important for your smooth operating processes. For your safety and satisfaction, we only employ highly qualified engineers and technical service personnel in our after-sales service.

PARTNER APPROACH – The Slag Taurus is an extremely longlasting product. Choosing it is simultaneously the beginning of a comprehensive customer/supplier relationship, which frequently leads to repeat and follow-up orders. We therefore place great emphasis on making this relationship fair and of long-term value to both parties. By the way, for us this starts long before the signing of the contract. We are glad to advise you, please do not hesitate to contact us.

KORYX COPPER BRINGS NAMIBIAN INVESTORS INTO HAIB PROJECT THROUGH TARGETED SIDECAR FINANCING



Koryx Copper has deliberately structured its latest capital raising to enable Namibian investors to take a direct ownership position in the Haib Copper Project, using a targeted sidecar placement alongside its recently completed C\$46 million bought-deal financing.

The company announced that it has closed a C\$5 million (approximately N\$68 million) non-brokered sidecar private placement, which was taken up predominantly by Namibian institutional and retail investors.

Shares under the sidecar placement were issued at C\$2.45 each, on the same terms as the larger bought deal announced on 6 January 2026 and closed on 20 January.

This structure ensured that Namibian investors entered Koryx's share register at the same price and on the same conditions as international institutional investors.

The bought-deal financing, which raised C\$46 million (around N\$630 million), provides the primary funding base for the next phase of technical and exploration work at the Haib Copper Project in southern Namibia.

The sidecar placement was structured as a parallel transaction, allowing local investors to participate alongside offshore funds without reopening pricing or changing the terms of the main financing. Sidecar placements are commonly used in mining finance to facilitate targeted participation alongside large capital raisings.

Through this structure, Namibian investors gained direct exposure to one of the country's most advanced undeveloped copper assets on equal commercial terms with global capital providers. Under the sidecar placement, Koryx issued a total of 2,040,816 new common shares.

In connection with the transaction, the company paid finder's fees of C\$150,000 (approximately N\$2.0 million) to Cirrus Capital (Pty) Ltd.

All shares issued under the placement are subject to a statutory hold period of four months and one day from the date of issuance, and the transaction remains subject to final approval by the TSX Venture Exchange.

Proceeds from both the bought-deal financing and the sidecar placement will be used to advance technical studies at the Haib Copper Project, continue exploration across the property, and provide working capital and general corporate funding.

Haib is a large copper-molybdenum porphyry deposit that has been explored intermittently for more than 60 years but has yet to be developed into a producing mine.

The project is 100% owned by Koryx and is currently at the advanced preliminary economic assessment stage, supported by extensive historical drilling, metallurgical testing, and technical studies.

The current mineral resource at Haib includes 511

million tonnes grading 0.33% copper and 51 parts per million molybdenum in the Indicated category, containing approximately 1.67 million tonnes of copper and 25,900 tonnes of molybdenum.

In addition, 308.9 million tonnes grading 0.31% copper and 40 parts per million molybdenum are classified as Inferred, containing about 949,000 tonnes of copper and 12,400 tonnes of molybdenum, based on a 0.15% copper cut-off grade.

Koryx is advancing work to demonstrate Haib's potential as a long-life, low-cost, open-pit sulphide flotation copper operation, with additional upside from potential heap leach copper production.

The deposit is one of only a small number of known Paleoproterozoic porphyry copper systems globally and one of just two identified in southern Africa, both located in Namibia.

In parallel with Haib, Koryx is also building a portfolio of copper exploration licences in Zambia, positioning the company as a focused southern African copper developer at a time when global copper demand is being driven by electrification, renewable energy expansion, and electric vehicle adoption.



**KORYX COPPER BRINGS
NAMIBIAN INVESTORS
INTO HAIB PROJECT
THROUGH TARGETED
SIDECAR FINANCING**



AMIBLU SELECTS INSTA GLOBE TO SUPPORT THE ELECTRIFICATION OF ITS MOROCCAN GRP PIPE FACTORY EXTENSION

Amiblu has successfully delivered the extension of its GRP pipe production facility in Morocco, with support from Insta Globe, a global leader in industrial electrification services. The factory has been commissioned, and the initial trials are now underway.

The Amiblu factory extension will produce glass-reinforced plastic (GRP) pipe systems for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, and irrigation infrastructure in the North African markets. GRP pipes are lightweight and corrosion resistant. They offer long service life, low hydraulic losses, and minimal maintenance, making them a strong alternative to steel, ductile iron, or concrete for many applications.

"This extension supports Amiblu mission to improve access to safe water and sanitation, and to build resilient, long-life water networks globally," said Omar Benyahia, Managing Director of Amitech Maroc, subsidiary of Amiblu. "Both Amiblu Technology and Insta Globe teams were instrumental in the successful delivery of the project's electrification activities. Their professionalism, technical competence, and disciplined execution enabled us to launch operations on schedule and with confidence in the reliability of our pipe production systems."

Insta Globe played a key role in electrification and instrumentation cabling and connections under the

leadership of Amiblu Technology team.

"This project demonstrates Insta Globe's ability to deliver complex industrial electrification in manufacturing environments and bring production facilities online reliably and safely anywhere in the world," commented Ivo Pukk, CEO of Insta Globe Engineering. "We're very pleased to have worked with Amiblu Technology team to bring this facility in Morocco online and help support critical water infrastructure."

Amiblu's pipes are used to transport water reliably for municipal, industrial, and regional infrastructure systems worldwide. In Africa, Amiblu has already delivered multiple significant infrastructure projects. Its GRP pipe solutions have been implemented in major applications such as the extensive GRP drainage pipelines for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) infrastructure in Dakar, Senegal.

"Delivering a production facility of a high technical and operational caliber requires precise coordination across electrification and instrumentation activities," concluded Konstantin Mikhailov, CTO of Insta Globe. "Our teams worked in close coordination with Amiblu's project organization and executed all cabling, connections, and containment works in line with international quality and safety standards."

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RELIABLE POWER FOR MINING COMMUNICATION NETWORKS

SUPPORTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AT THE EDGE OF MINING OPERATIONS

Across African mining operations, communication networks form an essential part of daily operations. From underground radio systems to remote repeater towers and telemetry stations, these systems ensure teams remain connected and information flows safely across the site.

At the same time, mining companies are increasingly operating within Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) frameworks that require improved operational transparency, strong safety systems, and reduced environmental impact across mining infrastructure.

While attention is often focused on large electrical infrastructure, many critical services depend on smaller power systems located far from the main network — communication infrastructure is a clear example.

Powering communication systems across distributed mining environments

Radio repeater towers, monitoring stations, and communication hubs are often deployed in remote locations across mining operations, where signal coverage is required across wide and changing areas.

Small diesel generators running continuously remain common across many mines. While functional, this approach often leads to inefficient operation, high fuel consumption, and increased maintenance requirements. Reducing unnecessary generator runtime is increasingly aligned with environmental ESG objectives as mining companies work to lower diesel consumption and associated emissions across distributed infrastructure.

As mines expand, the number of these small but essential power nodes continues to grow.

A practical role for hybrid power systems

Hybrid power systems built with Victron Energy components provide a practical alternative. Rather than relying entirely on generator power, these systems integrate inverter/chargers, battery storage, and generator management into a coordinated solution. In many surface applications, solar generation can also be incorporated to further reduce reliance on diesel generation.

These configurations lower fuel consumption while maintaining reliable power supply for critical infrastructure. The battery system supplies power during normal operation, while generators run only when required to recharge batteries or support higher loads, improving efficiency and reducing runtime.

For smaller repeater sites or remote communication nodes, a single inverter/charger paired with lithium battery storage can provide seamless power continuity and extended backup capability. For larger communication hubs, inverter systems can be configured in parallel or three-phase arrangements to support higher loads.

“Reliable communication depends on reliable power, especially where operations are most exposed.”

Mobile communication systems in practice

In recent mining deployments, mobile VHF repeater units have been introduced to address the limitations of fixed communication infrastructure. These trailer-based systems enable rapid deployment in remote or temporary environments, allowing communication coverage to be established as operations expand or shift.

Each unit operates as a self-contained communication hub, supporting multiple talk groups and maintaining continuous connectivity across teams. With integrated Victron hybrid power systems providing

stable energy supply and backup capability, these mobile units remain operational in off-grid conditions or during grid interruptions.

This solution was delivered in collaboration with Namibia-based systems integrator Radio Electronic, demonstrating how mobile communication infrastructure can be supported by reliable, flexible power systems in demanding mining environments.

This demonstrates how flexible communication infrastructure can be supported by equally flexible and reliable power systems, particularly at the edge of mining operations where traditional infrastructure is limited.

Battery technology and reliability in demanding environments

Lithium iron phosphate batteries are widely used in modern off-grid and backup systems due to their long cycle life, higher usable capacity, and strong performance in demanding temperature environments.

System monitoring and remote visibility — a critical operational layer

Monitoring and system visibility are a critical part of maintaining communication infrastructure across multiple locations. In many mining operations, the ability to remotely monitor and manage power systems is where significant operational value is realised.

Victron Energy systems incorporate integrated communication centres, such as the Cerbo GX and Venus GX, which act as the central hub within the system. These communication centres collect data from all connected components, including inverter/chargers, solar charge controllers, battery systems, and monitoring devices.

They enable full remote monitoring and control through the Victron Remote Management (VRM) platform, providing a single interface for managing distributed power systems across the site. Operators can monitor battery state of charge, system load, generator runtime, and performance alarms across multiple sites.

This level of visibility reduces the need for routine site visits, improves response times to system events, and allows electrical teams to manage infrastructure proactively. It also supports governance objectives by improving operational transparency and enabling performance reporting across distributed mining operations.

For mines operating across large geographical areas, this remote visibility allows teams to maintain oversight without frequent site visits. In many installations, this data integrates with existing SCADA or energy management platforms, allowing communication power systems to be monitored alongside other infrastructure.

Reliable power for essential mining communications

Hybrid power systems support a wide range of mining communication applications, including repeater towers, underground communication rooms, and remote monitoring infrastructure.

In these environments, reliable communication is not only an operational requirement but also an important component of site safety.

Supporting reliable communications while reducing fuel use and improving system visibility aligns closely with the environmental, social, and governance priorities shaping modern mining operations.

By providing stable power supply, reducing generator runtime, and enabling remote monitoring, Victron Energy solutions support the reliable operation of communication systems across mining environments.

For infrastructure operating at the edge of mining operations, dependable power remains a practical foundation for safe and efficient operations.



Scan the QR code to learn more about Victron Energy solutions for mining and remote operations.

[victronenergy.com](https://www.victronenergy.com)



Reliable power for mining communications

Across mining operations, communication systems must remain operational at all times. Radio repeater towers, remote telemetry stations, and underground communication rooms often operate far from the main electrical infrastructure, making reliable power supply essential.

Many of these installations still rely on generators running continuously at low load. Victron Energy hybrid systems offer a more efficient alternative by combining inverter power, battery storage, generator integration, and optional solar generation.

With integrated communication centres, such as the Victron Cerbo GX, and access to the Victron Remote Management (VRM) platform, operators can monitor and manage these systems remotely across multiple sites.

The result is reduced generator runtime, lower fuel consumption, and dependable power continuity for communication infrastructure operating across remote mining environments while supporting environmental performance goals within modern mining operations.

When reliable communication matters, it is good to know the power of know-how is by your side.



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SKF SOUTH AFRICA'S ENGINEERED STUB SHAFT SOLUTIONS DRIVE SUSTAINABLE ASH PLANT SUBMERGED SCRAPER CONVEYOR OPERATIONS AT TWO POWER PLANTS



SKF South Africa's innovatively engineered, remanufactured Stub Shaft and sealing solutions, installed on ash plant Submerged Scraper Conveyor (SSC) systems at two of the country's power stations, have delivered five years of uninterrupted performance, operating without leaks or failures. This proven reliability underscores the robustness of SKF's design and directly supports the plants' three critical priorities: Enhanced operational efficiency, environmental compliance and reduced OPEX.

Coal-fired power stations rely on SSC systems to handle hot, abrasive, dust-producing bottom ash – a by-product of coal combustion – from boilers. By submerging the conveyor in a water trough, the system quenches and cools the ash while maintaining a critical airtight seal between the boiler and ash-handling system. This prevents air ingress, ensures continuous ash transportation, reduces dust and supports improved environmental compliance. "The Stub Shaft plays several critical roles," explain SKF Key Account Manager, Duncan Mngomezulu and SKF Application Engineer, Cody Petersen, who teamed up on the project. "It enables rotation of the idler wheel that guides and supports the submerged conveyor chain, while housing the bearing and sealing system

– the critical interface where seals and bearings are installed to ensure smooth, reliable operation. It also provides the structural mounting point that transfers loads from the rotating idler into the fixed housing and maintains water sealing integrity, preventing water leakage or seizure through the idler assembly."

Coal-fired power plants depend on uninterrupted operation to ensure a reliable power supply to the national grid and the focus on ash plant SSC systems has revealed the critical importance of component reliability in maintaining continuous power generation. At the same time, the power utility faces mounting pressure to meet environmental compliance standards under increasingly stringent regulations governing ash handling and disposal.

Historically, the national power utility has struggled with the durability and efficiency of SSC components at some of its power generation plants due to recurring Stub Shaft failures that typically manifest in leakages, seal breakdowns, operational stoppages and high maintenance costs. Leakage disrupts water overflow management and carries environmental consequences. Seal or bearing failures can seize the SSC, forcing unit shutdowns for repair, with expensive operational delays.

Partnering with suppliers that deliver innovative solutions is key to advancing efficiency and reliability at power plants. In line with this approach, the utility engaged SKF to provide long-term, dependable systems that enhance operational performance while supporting environmental commitments.

"Within this market, demand for specialised components such as Stub Shafts for SSC systems is niche yet critical," note Mngomezulu and Petersen, "with suppliers evaluated on their innovation, proven track record and ability to provide comprehensive support. SKF's performance at the two power plants has positioned us as a leader in this specialised segment, offering solutions that go beyond standard offerings to address the utility's specific operational challenges."

Following site visits and engagement with the power utility, SKF Engineering, Application Engineering, Manufacturing and Sales for Refurbishment based on sealing solutions, combined their expertise to deliver an optimum resolution to the two power plants' longstanding operational challenges. The collaboration produced an improved engineered Stub Shaft design featuring an integrated redesigned, advanced bearing and sealing arrangement that resolved historical leakage failures by ensuring zero leakage during submerged operation. The sealing system also eliminates SSC idler seizures, delivering multi-year reliability.

SKF rolled out the solution at the first power station, where the refurbished Stub Shafts have since outperformed expectations, exceeding the 18-month service life set by the SSC Maintenance Execution Reliability-Based Optimisation (RBO) goals. The gains for the power plants are substantial. Proven Stub

Shaft reliability minimises unscheduled downtime and disruptions, ensures smooth outage-to-outage operation, extends lifecycles, curtails maintenance costs, improves compliance and enhances overall efficiency and performance, ultimately lowering total cost of ownership. This success paved the way for adoption at a second facility, where SKF's engineered Stub Shaft and advanced sealing solution have proven equally robust, with units at both plants operating since 2021 without a single leak or failure.

SKF's sustainability impact is clear. By refurbishing and remanufacturing SSC Stub Shafts, the power utility replaces fewer full assemblies, reducing material consumption and extending component lifecycles. The advanced zero-leakage sealing system prevents water contamination and stabilises SSC performance, cutting emissions linked to ash-handling inefficiencies. "Together, these measures lower environmental impact, improve compliance, and support long-term operational efficiency while reducing total cost of ownership," assert Mngomezulu and Petersen.

With a long history of supplying bearings, seals, lubrication, and power transmission products, SKF has built a proven track record of reliability at the utility's power stations, meeting the energy hubs' technical and operational requirements. As a result, SKF is recognised as the preferred single-source supplier for SSC components, with the Stub Shaft and sealing solution delivering exceptional reliability and enabling sustainable, continuous power generation.

Mngomezulu and Petersen conclude: "Having strengthened our long-term strategic partnership with the power utility and secured multi-year sole-source supply, SKF is actively working to expand this proven solution to additional power plants, leveraging the reliability demonstrated at these two sites."



ENSURING CLEAN OPERATIONS: ADVANCING WATER QUALITY TESTING IN MINING



Mining in Africa underpins the continent's economy, supplying more than 50% of the world's cobalt and over 80% of its platinum group metals – materials critical to batteries, AI chips, and advanced technologies. As global demand for minerals continues to rise, it places even greater importance on sustainable, well-managed operations across the sector.

Water is integral to every stage of mining – from mineral processing and extraction to dust suppression and equipment cooling. It is also a significant environmental risk. Contamination from heavy metals and acid mine drainage can cause lasting damage to ecosystems and communities. Developing robust water quality testing protocols is therefore essential for environmental compliance, operational efficiency, and maintaining community trust.

Key Water Quality Challenges

Acid mine drainage (AMD) is among the most serious challenges facing mining operations. When sulphide minerals exposed during excavation react with oxygen and water, they produce sulphuric acid that mobilises heavy metals such as iron, copper, arsenic, and manganese – contaminating nearby waterways and posing long-term environmental risks.

Tailings storage facilities present a related risk. Seepage from poorly managed tailings dams can affect groundwater quality, making continuous monitoring critical for early detection of potential issues. Meanwhile, the increasing use of water recycling within operations introduces further complexity: while recycling reduces freshwater

Palintest

demand, it can lead to the accumulation of dissolved solids and reagents that affect mineral processing performance. Accurately understanding these water chemistry dynamics requires reliable and consistent testing.

How the Palintest Portfolio Supports Mining Operations

Traditional monitoring relied on periodic sampling followed by laboratory analysis – an approach ill-suited to remote mine sites where transport delays and sample degradation can compromise results and slow decision-making. Portable field analysers now allow operators to measure parameters such as pH, turbidity, heavy metals, hardness, and alkalinity directly at the sampling point, enabling faster and better-informed responses.



The Palintest portfolio addresses a wide range of mining parameters:

- Photometers – The Lumiso Expert tests for sulphates, hardness, alkalinity, chloride, phosphate, chlorine, and more via an intuitive touchscreen interface. Its IP67 waterproof and IK08 impact-resistant build ensures reliability in demanding field environments, while integrated data management simplifies audit compliance.
- Electrochemical sensors – Kemio™ uses single-use sensors to detect heavy metals – including lead, arsenic, copper, and cadmium – in under five minutes on-site, eliminating lab dependency and enabling real-time intervention.
- Turbidity measurement – Turbidity Expert delivers precise cloudiness readings, helping engineers assess sediment loads and confirm that process water is suitable for mining equipment and chemical use.
- Data management – Palintest Connect shares results, GPS coordinates, and test data across teams, supporting oversight, trend analysis, and regulatory reporting.

Mines in Ghana, Tanzania, and South Africa have adopted these field-based solutions to minimise environmental impact and reduce operational disruption. Early detection of rising metal concentrations in seepage water, for example, allows operators to intervene before contamination spreads beyond containment systems.

Best Practices and the Road Ahead

To maximise the value of water quality analysis, mines should standardise sampling protocols, integrate monitoring into broader environmental management and tailings systems, and invest in tools with intuitive interfaces that reduce training time while maintaining measurement consistency.



Looking ahead, portable testing combined with cloud-based data analytics is enabling a shift from reactive monitoring to predictive environmental management. As ESG reporting requirements continue to tighten, reliable water data will play a growing role in demonstrating responsible mining practices to regulators, investors, and local communities. The operations that invest in robust monitoring systems today will be better positioned to manage risk, improve performance, and secure the long-term stakeholder trust that ultimately underpins their social licence to operate.



AFRICA'S INFRASTRUCTURE BOOM: INFRASTRUCTURE AFRICA 2026 SET TO DRIVE INVESTMENT, PARTNERSHIPS AND DELIVERY

Africa stands on the brink of an infrastructure transformation. With projected economic growth, rapid urbanisation and ambitious continental development agendas underway, infrastructure demand across energy, transport, digital and industrial sectors is escalating – bringing unprecedented opportunity for investors, developers and governments alike.

Infrastructure Africa 2026 – slated to take place at the CTICC in Cape Town, South Africa on the 2 – 3 March 2026 – will bring together the key stakeholders powering this transformation: project sponsors, government principals, financiers, development institutions and leading infrastructure developers. The convening platform is designed to accelerate investment, mobilise capital, and turn pipeline commitments into tangible economic outcomes.

Africa's Infrastructure Demand: Opportunity at Scale

Recent projections estimate that Africa will need an estimated US\$130–170 billion annually in infrastructure investment just to sustain current growth trajectories – particularly in energy, transport, water and digital connectivity. Despite this demand, the continent currently captures far less than half of its required infrastructure financing, leaving a significant gap for public and private capital to address.

In the energy sector alone, regional grid expansion, power generation, and interconnectivity projects represent billions in development opportunity. At the same time, transport corridors linking economic hubs

and gateways continue to expand, unlocking trade and productivity growth. Across digital infrastructure, Africa is investing in broadband, data centres and digital ecosystems that serve not only cities but rural economies connecting the continent.

Infrastructure Africa 2026 responds directly to this moment of urgency and potential.

A Platform for Action – Not Just Dialogue

Unlike traditional expos or discussion forums, Infrastructure Africa 2026 is future-focused and implementation-oriented. Delegates will gain:

- Direct engagement with project sponsors and government decision-makers
- Access to financiers and development institutions actively deploying capital
- Insights into procurement pipelines and public-private partnership frameworks
- Strategic networking with C-suite executives shaping continental infrastructure strategy

This event is purpose-built for those who are not merely observing Africa's infrastructure growth – but those who are investing, building and leading it.

Join the Decision-Makers

With infrastructure central to economic resilience and Africa's long-term competitiveness, Infrastructure Africa 2026 positions your organisation at the heart of the continent's growth story.

PALFINGER PARTNERS WITH ICON ON ROBOTIC 3D CONSTRUCTION

PALFINGER has entered into a technology collaboration with ICON aimed at advancing robotic 3D printing for large-scale construction projects.

The partnership brings together PALFINGER's expertise in lifting systems, engineering platforms and large-size robotics with ICON's experience in automated construction technology. The companies will jointly explore how robotic 3D printing can support faster, safer and more sustainable building processes.

With more than 90 years of engineering experience, PALFINGER plans to apply its knowledge in modular lifting systems and automation to the development of large-scale robotic printing platforms. The collaboration also reflects the company's broader strategy to expand into digital manufacturing and automation beyond its traditional crane and lifting equipment markets.

A central focus of the partnership is ICON's "Titan" system, a large-scale robotic platform designed for automated construction. PALFINGER is supplying specialised lifting technology that enables accurate positioning, stability and scalability for the robotic printing system.

The Titan platform integrates crawler systems, stabilisers and modular components to support continuous operation, allowing construction processes to run around the clock. According to the companies, the system is capable of printing structures up to approximately 27 feet in height and can support multi-level building designs.

By combining ICON's 3D printing technology with PALFINGER's engineering capabilities, the partners aim to develop scalable solutions that could address several global construction challenges. These include labour shortages, the demand for affordable housing and the need for more sustainable building methods.

Alexander Susanek, chief operating officer at PALFINGER, said the collaboration demonstrates how the company is extending its engineering expertise into new industrial applications.

He noted that integrating PALFINGER's lifting and handling systems with robotic construction technologies could unlock new opportunities in automation and large-scale robotics.

Initial prototypes of the Titan system have already undergone

testing and demonstrated their potential for industrial use. The companies say the technology could help accelerate project timelines while lowering construction costs compared with conventional building methods.

Robotic construction systems may also reduce the number of workers required on site while improving safety conditions, as automated equipment can perform tasks that are typically labour-intensive or hazardous.

The partnership also supports PALFINGER's long-term objective of diversifying its technology portfolio and expanding into emerging sectors linked to automation and digital manufacturing.

For ICON, the collaboration offers access to PALFINGER's global manufacturing capabilities, engineering expertise and international service network, which could support the scaling of robotic construction systems worldwide.

As automation continues to reshape the construction sector, the two companies believe that combining robotics, advanced manufacturing and engineering innovation could help accelerate the adoption of new building technologies across global markets.



IRAN AMPLIFIES LNG SHORTAGE BY BLOCKING PASSAGES THROUGH HORMUZ

Iran has yet to allow a single carrier loaded with liquefied natural gas to pass through the Strait of Hormuz in weeks of war, according to traders involved in the transit, a ban that risks exacerbating global shortages.

Two tankers loaded with Qatari LNG appeared to be making an exit from the Persian Gulf on Monday, only to U-turn within hours. They were denied clearance by Iranian officials, said the traders, who requested anonymity as they aren't authorized to speak with media.

That abrupt reversal underlines an apparent interdiction in place since the US and Israel began strikes on Iran at the end of February. Traffic through the strait has dropped sharply since then, but oil tankers and others have trickled through the narrow waterway, usually with Iranian permission – while a fifth of the world's LNG supply remains cut off.

Instead, loaded carriers are currently scattered around the gulf, either because they aren't currently part of talks with Iran for passage, or haven't been granted approval, the people said. Ship-tracking data show over a dozen loaded LNG tankers idling in the area.

It is possible that vessels escaped detection by turning off their transponders or that signal jamming impeded

accurate tracking. Traders and ship-tracking data, however, point to only one LNG tanker which traveled through Hormuz earlier this month – without a cargo.

Qatar has been forced to shut its giant Ras Laffan export plant following Iranian attacks last month. Even so, resuming traffic through Hormuz would be a boost, as free passage would allow the country to send shipments that are already loaded. It could also offload fuel from storage, and even begin planning to restart parts of its export plant.

Without that gas, the conflict in the Middle East has turned a market with looming oversupply into one contemplating a shortfall. That has sent consumers seeking alternative fuels – Japan and Bangladesh are among nations that are already turning back to rely more on dirtier coal, while Taiwan has spent hundreds of millions of dollars to secure spot LNG cargoes.

Countries including Pakistan, Thailand and India have made agreements with Iran to secure access to trapped oil tankers. In recent days, even vessels with links to Japan and France have secured passage, though the details behind those transits are unclear. President Donald Trump has insisted that freedom of navigation through Hormuz be part of any deal to end the war with Iran. He said Monday that reopening the strait was “a very big priority”.



INTRODUCTION TO THE CONVEYOR SAFETY SYSTEM™

Conveyor Components Company is known for its robust and durable equipment to monitor your Conveyor System. Bulk material handling customers and processing industries have come to depend on Conveyor Components Company as a manufacturer of high-quality Safety Pull-Cord switches, Belt Misalignment controls, Damaged belt controls, Motion controls, Level controls, and aerators.

To properly protect your equipment and working personnel, CCC recommends the Conveyor Safety System™. The Conveyor Safety System™ includes an Emergency Pull Cord Safety Stop, a Belt Misalignment control, a Damaged Belt Detector, and a Motion Control Speed Switch. The CSS™ is an easy, cost-efficient way to get peace of mind and protection for conveyor equipment. It provides protection for working personnel and can help eliminate unplanned downtime.

The Emergency Pull Cord Safety Stop is the lifeline for working personnel around the conveyor. Operated by a cable pulled by endangered personnel, the Emergency pull cord safety stop can control up to two separate circuits, one for machinery shutdown and one for alarm. One safety stop switch can monitor up to 200 feet of conveyor. This should be present on any side of a conveyor where working personnel are present. The safety stop switch models CCC manufacturers are the model RS, RSB, and PC. These units are available for general purpose, explosion proof, and dual rated. An epoxy coating is available for corrosive environments.

The model TA is Conveyor Components Company's belt misalignment control. Used in pairs, a TA is mounted on each side of the conveyor belt. The model TA will indicate when a conveyor belt has drifted off to a dangerous condition. The TA can control up to two separate circuits, one for machinery shutdown and one for an alarm. Each control consists of an aluminum housing with a red powder-coated roller. The roller is adjustable up to 90° in both directions and is positioned approximately 1" from the conveyor belt. The control actuation points are adjustable from 0° to 45° by a simple change of the actuating cam(s).

The model TA can be furnished with general purpose or explosion proof construction. Epoxy coated cast aluminum housing is available upon request. The model DB is Conveyor Components Company's damaged belt detector. The model DB is a cable operated damaged belt detector that looks for punctures, tears, or protrusions through the conveyor belt. A belt problem is detected when an object or a piece of damaged belt hangs below the belt's surface and sweeps away one or both cables. The model DB can control up to two separate circuits, one for machinery shutdown and one for an alarm. The model DB is used in pairs, one mounted across from the other on either side of the conveyor belt. The unit is available for general purpose, explosion proof, and dual rated. An epoxy coating is available for corrosive environments.

The last key contributor for the CSS is the option of one of two main speed controls. The model CMS or the model MCM. The model CMS is a direct drive motion control that attaches to the rotating equipment. It will produce an output signal at a predetermined speed which may be either under speed, overspeed or zero speed. Made from cast aluminum, the CMS is available for general purpose and explosion proof. Epoxy coated cast aluminum housing is available upon request.

The model MCM or Mag-Neat-O is a magnetically coupled motion sensor that when paired with Conveyor Components Company controller Model's RMS or MSD can be programmed as an over speed, under speed or zero speed device. The Model MCM features a simple robust Magnetic Coupler for easy rapid field installation. The coupler of the Mag-Neat-O™ is magnetically attached to the shaft of a conveyor roller or other rotating piece of equipment that you want to monitor for motion.

The CSS is an easy, cost-efficient way to get peace of mind and protection for your conveyor equipment. Avoid unplanned downtime and repairs and feel confident knowing that your system and workers are protected, with the Conveyor Safety System™.



LIEBHERR CELEBRATES TEN YEARS OF XPOWER WHEEL LOADERS

Liebherr's XPower wheel loaders have been continuously refined over the 10 years since its first introduction, and after a decade of fine-tuning its performance, operator comfort, and fuel efficiency, these machines excel across demanding industries. With versatile equipment options, these machines are suited to an even wider range of applications – from quarrying and material handling to waste management, scrap handling, and timber operations. The power-split XPower travel drive ensures maximum performance with reduced fuel consumption, regardless of the application.

A decade of XPower

Shortly after its market launch in 2016, the XPower series received several design awards for its design, including the Red Dot Design Award, the iF Design Award, and the German Design Award. The next milestone followed in 2017 with the launch of the L 580 LogHandler XPower – a machine developed specifically for timber handling based on the XPower machine concept. In the following years, Liebherr continued to enhance the series. Key developments included improved joystick steering for precise, low-fatigue operation;

intelligent assistance systems such as active person detection with brake assist; and model updates to the L 550 and L 556 XPower wheel loaders, which saw targeted increases in engine performance, working hydraulics and equipment. Liebherr continues to develop the proven XPower concept and uses it as a foundation for new technological milestones. Examples include the first prototype of a large wheel loader with a hydrogen engine, the L 566 H, and the development vehicle for an autonomous wheel loader, "Liebherr Autonomous Operations". Another milestone reached in the past decade was the 10,000th XPower wheel loader produced in 2025.

To mark its 10th anniversary, Liebherr would like to thank its customers with its "Power Deals", offering discounts on new orders for XPower wheel loaders including attachments in selected countries. Amplified performance across industries

At the heart of the XPower concept is the power-split travel drive, automatically and continuously combining the advantages of hydrostatic and mechanical

drives within a single machine, ensuring maximum performance and efficiency for all applications. Alongside their powerful drive technology, XPower wheel loaders offer lift arm variants tailored to both standard wheel loader tasks and demanding industrial applications. To help operators work efficiently and safely across a wide range of tasks, Liebherr provides its fully automatic "Solidlink" quick-coupling system for selected XPower models, enabling rapid tool changes at the touch of a button from inside the cab.

The ergonomically designed cab with its large, glazed area ensures excellent all-round visibility and a high level of operator comfort. Numerous equipment options allow the cab to be configured according to individual requirements – including the steering-wheel-free "joystick only" version, which offers generous space and improved visibility of the lift arm and work equipment. A range of optional assistance systems further enhances safety and efficiency. All systems are developed by Liebherr and are therefore fully integrated into the machine's control architecture.



MAKOR RESOURCES CONSOLIDATES DISTRICT- SCALE COPPER GROUND ACROSS KEY ZAMBIAN EXPLORATION CORRIDORS

Makor Resources has consolidated district-scale copper exposure across the Mumbwa, Ndola and Mkushi districts, creating a structurally coherent portfolio aligned with Zambia's broader copper system. The strategy combines greenfield targets, brownfield-adjacent licenses, and positions within established mineralized corridors.

CEO Brooke Bibeault said the focus is on consolidating "district-relevant copper exposure within structurally defined corridors" aligned with Zambia's production growth.

The Muli Copper Project in Mumbwa is Makor's flagship asset, located near the Sinomine Kitumba deposit. Structural analysis has identified four fault corridors, with ongoing mapping, reconnaissance, and geochemical sampling refining priority drill targets. The next phase includes expanded sampling, detailed mapping, and initial drill planning.

In Ndola, Makor holds licenses within the Katangan Supergroup, positioned near existing operations in a structurally mature Copperbelt environment, offering strong exploration potential supported by infrastructure and proven geology.

In Mkushi, the company has secured positions along extensions of mineralized trends, enabling flexible advancement through wholly owned licenses, joint ventures, and exclusive exploration rights.

Backed by a multi-year presence in Zambia, Makor continues to advance its portfolio within established regulatory and governance frameworks. Led by Brooke Bibeault and Executive Chair Ricus Grimbeek, the company remains focused on copper exploration following the separation of its MineHive initiative.

Aligned with Zambia's ambition to increase copper production, Makor's portfolio provides exposure to both greenfield discovery and brownfield expansion within a globally significant mining jurisdiction.

AFRICA'S RARE EARTH MOMENTUM BUILDS AS GLOBAL DEMAND TRIPLES BY 2035

Global demand for rare earths is set to triple by 2035, reaching 150,000 tons from 91,000 tons in 2024. As producers and consumers seek new sources of supply to meet this surge, Africa is increasingly coming into focus. Projected to account for 9% of global output by 2029, the continent is accelerating exploration and drilling activity as governments and developers move to translate geological potential into commercial production. While large-scale output remains underdeveloped, Africa's high-grade deposits, improving project economics and faster development timelines are positioning it as a strategic supplier of critical minerals to global markets.

Expanding Africa's Exploration Portfolio

As the adoption of electric vehicles, renewable energy systems and advanced manufacturing accelerates global demand for rare earths, African countries are scaling up exploration efforts to delineate resources, support job creation and attract international mining investment.

London-listed Pensana commenced preparations for a 7,000-meter infill drilling program at Longonjo Mine in Angola – the country's first rare earth project. The program is designed to support an early 2027 mining and stockpiling schedule, with initial production of 20,000 tons per annum (tpa) and options to increase output to 40,000 tpa

in a second phase. At full scale, the Longonjo project is projected to supply approximately 5% of the world's magnetic rare earths, positioning Angola as a key supplier on the global market.

Meanwhile, in Botswana, Canada's Tsodilo Resources is planning a 15,000-meter drilling campaign in 2026 at the Gcwihaba project for resource definition, while Kavango Resources intends to conduct additional drilling at its Ditau project as it seeks partners for expansion. In South Africa, Rainbow Rare Earths is advancing drilling at its Phalaborwa project, targeting completion of a feasibility study by the end of 2026. Namibia's ReExploration continues exploration activities at its Eureka and Lofdal projects, following several private placements raised in 2025. Meanwhile, in Mozambique's Tete province, Altona Rare Earths is drilling at the Monte Muambe high-grade gallium project, which has already defined a maiden mineral resource estimate of 13.6 million tons at 2.42% total rare earth oxides.

Rising Demand Bolsters Foreign Spending

While the majority of Africa's rare earth production assets remain in construction or pre-production phases, global investor appetite for the continent's resource potential continues to strengthen, with several projects securing financing to accelerate deployment.

In October 2025, South Africa's Steenkampskraal Monazite

Mine secured its first tranche of funding from the Industrial Development Corporation, supporting the development of the project's metallurgical phase and underpinning its production expansion plans. Hosting one of the world's highest-grade rare earth deposits, with an average grade of 14.5% total rare earth oxides, the project reinforces South Africa's emerging role in the global rare earth supply chain.

Momentum is also building in Malawi, where the Songwe Hill rare earth project secured \$4.6 million in financing from the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation in September 2025 to advance front-end engineering and design studies. As Africa is forecast to attract up to \$50 billion in investment for critical minerals development between 2024 and 2040, rare earth projects are increasingly central to converting rising investor interest into tangible capital flows and near-term production capacity.

Stepping into this picture, the upcoming African Mining Week (AMW) – scheduled for October 14-16, 2026 in Cape Town – will spotlight key project milestones and emerging investment opportunities across the continent's rare earth sector. The event will feature high-level panel discussions, exhibitions and exclusive networking sessions, bringing together global investors with African projects, regulators and stakeholders from across the rare earths value chain.



EPIROC TO BUY SOUTH AFRICAN MINING AFTERMARKET SOLUTIONS PROVIDER

Epiroc has agreed to acquire the business of Eventspec Proprietary Limited, a South African mining aftermarket solutions provider. The company manufactures parts for drill rigs, mine trucks and loaders, and provides related rebuilds, repairs and services.

Eventspec is based in Johannesburg, South Africa. The company, with more than two decades of industry experience, has around 120 employees and had revenues in 2025 of around ZAR 280 million (US\$16.6 million). Eventspec's customers are mainly mining companies in South Africa.

"This acquisition will be a strong and strategic addition to our manufacturing capabilities and expand our product portfolio of spare parts and related services in the growing and important African region and beyond," says Helena Hedblom, Epiroc's President and CEO. "We look forward to welcoming the capable team at Eventspec to the Epiroc Group."

The acquisition is subject to customary regulatory filings and is expected to be completed in the early part of the third quarter 2026. The transaction is not subject to a disclosure obligation pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation.

The acquisition will be part of the Equipment & Service Business Area, and booked under the Service revenue stream.



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SANDVIK INTRODUCES NEXT-GENERATION CH442 AND CH662 CONE CRUSHERS TO BOOST CRUSHING PERFORMANCE ACROSS AFRICA



For more than a century, Sandvik has focused on engineering equipment that delivers reliability, safety and long-term performance,” says Joakim Lindgren, Product Manager 400 and 600 Cone crushers. “The new CH442 and CH662 build on that heritage by introducing stronger key components, faster and easier maintenance and intelligent automation that gives operators clearer insight and better control of their production.”

The CH662 will be exclusively showcased at CONEXPO 2026, offering visitors an early opportunity to experience its strengthened design, upgraded automation and productivity driven improvements.

The CH442 and CH662 deliver improvements in

uptime, maintenance efficiency and operational stability. The backing compound free design removes hardening time during liner changes, while the strengthened mechanical structure supports long term durability. A compact footprint, longer wear life components and efficient operation contribute to reduced operating costs and more sustainable performance.

Stronger design and smarter maintenance where it matters most

Sandvik has focused updates on the areas that make the biggest difference for safety, uptime and day-to-day operation. The new CH442 and CH662 now feature a strengthened mechanical design that supports maximum availability in demanding conditions.



Key upgrades include:

New strengthened top shell and new main shaft
An improved top shell design features 10% more weight and better material distribution, together with a new main shaft contributes to the reliability needed for maximum crusher availability.

Backing compound free design

The compound-free design ensures easier liner changes and reduced downtime by avoiding the up to 24h hardening time compound typically require.

The new spider bushing has been re-engineered to extend the lifetime compared to previous designs.

It also now comes with an integrated temperature sensor connected to the automation alarm systems.

The CH662 and CH442 come equipped with user-friendly ACS-c 5 ASRi automation for crusher control, including proven automated setting regulation

and assigning role-based permissions for system monitoring, troubleshooting and performance optimization.

Both models are also fully connectable to SAM digital services, providing real time and aggregated insights into performance, wear, alarms and fleet status. This supports quicker troubleshooting, stronger planning and more informed decision making throughout the crushing process.

The upgrades reflect Sandvik's focus on smarter, safer and more predictable operation. By strengthening the mechanical core, simplifying vital service tasks and enabling deeper digital insight, the two models answer increasing demands for productivity, sustainability in production and ease of operation.

SANDVIK INTRODUCES NEXT-GENERATION CH442 AND CH662 CONE CRUSHERS TO BOOST CRUSHING PERFORMANCE ACROSS AFRICA

HITACHI CONSTRUCTION MACHINERY INVESTS \$3M IN MINING AI FIRM

Hitachi Construction Machinery has invested \$3 million in AI firm Rithmik Solutions to accelerate advanced data analytics for mining equipment and strengthen its digital solutions for global mine sites.

The investment supports Hitachi's strategy to help customers turn complex machine data into actionable insights that improve fleet performance, reduce unplanned downtime and lower total cost of ownership, according to today's Hitachi release. The investment also aligns with Hitachi Construction Machinery's planned rebrand to LANDCROS in April 2027, reflecting a broader focus on solutions beyond machinery.

Montreal-based Rithmik Solutions develops AI-driven analytics that identify early indicators of equipment issues and uncover root causes before failures occur, according to the release. The technology should significantly enhance Hitachi's LANDCROS Connect

Insight platform, which provides real-time monitoring and remote analysis for mining equipment.

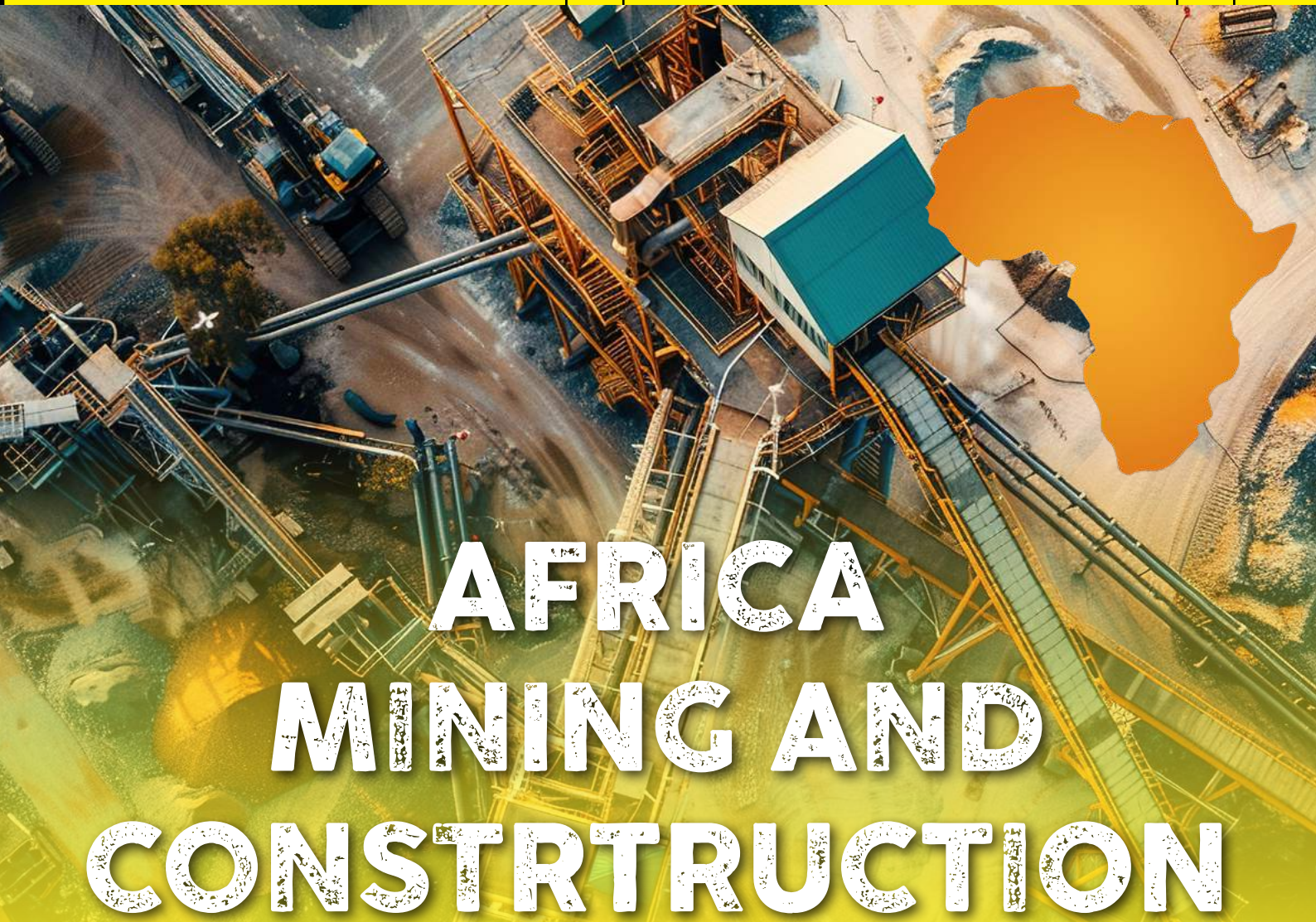
By integrating Rithmik's AI capabilities, the platform will be able to recommend proactive maintenance actions earlier, enabling more precise asset health management and preventing major mechanical problems, according to the release. Additionally, partnering with Rithmik supports Hitachi's open-collaboration strategy and underscores its commitment to leveraging advanced AI technologies to meet the evolving needs of the mining industry.

The collaboration builds on a demonstration conducted at a mine site between August 2024 and July 2025, where operational data from 40 dump trucks and six ultra-large hydraulic excavators was analyzed. The testing confirmed the accuracy of early anomaly detection and showed potential gains in productivity, equipment availability and cost reduction.



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