

Lake MacLeod Salt Mine Trial



PROJECT SUMMARY

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 Civil and Mining (GCM) with a request for a Surface Miner with conveyor loading capabilities. GCM 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, GCM 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, GCM 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
GCM17-003

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

Safety
Zero LTIs

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