

AUSROCKS NEWSLETTER No 20 Winter 2016

Welcome...

On 3rd February 2016, Carl Morandy took over as the Managing Director of Ausrocks from Alan Robertson. Alan remains as a Director. Alexandra MacHunter, a Chemical Engineering Student on work experience at Ausrocks interviewed Carl on his new role.

Alex: Carl, How did you become involved with Ausrocks?

Carl: I worked with Alan and Adebayo when we were at Avko Mining which was my first job after graduating in Mining Engineering at the University of Queensland. We worked on mining and quarrying projects together and were involved with drill and blast contracting for civil and quarrying projects. When AVKO Mining went into administration partly due to the global financial crisis, Adebayo and I joined Alan at his old house at Toowong where we operated the Ausrocks Consulting Business in the mining, quarrying and tunnelling industry. Our first big project was the Legacy Way TBM spoil placement concept design and implementation led by Alan.

Alex: What has happened since then?

Carl: Well the business has grown steadily, and although the focus has moved away from the mining industry, we have grown our business significantly within the quarrying industry. We have moved from Alan's front room to an industrial estate in Sumner Park with an office and workshop. We have doubled our staff and have worked on over 150 projects in Australia and overseas. On a personal front Emily and I have also doubled the size of our family with Jade and Reuben.

Alex: What makes Ausrocks such a good company to be a part of?

Carl: This is based on our attitude towards the work we do, the same core team has worked together since the start and we have built a great working environment within the office. Plenty of healthy banter occurs in the open style office.....wouldn't have it any other way. Probably the best part about working for the company is the variety of work. No other job has provided me the flexibility to work on so many different projects and learn a wide range of skills.

Alex: Is there a new direction you wish to guide Ausrocks through?

Carl: No grand plans for change of direction, the whole team actively participates in steering the company whichever way we choose. My main intention is to continue the good work we do within the quarry industry and keep sustainably growing the business.

Safety and Health Management System Audits

Safety and Health Management Systems (SHMS) are a mandatory requirement for all small mines and quarries. The document intends to provide an overarching safety and health record for the site and is auditable by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) during their regular visits. Ausrocks recently participated in a review of the new DNRM Safety Management Kit including 'guide to SHMS'. This new kit outlines a detailed process for auditing a sites SHMS against the legislative requirements. Ausrocks are suitably qualified to undertake third party audits for QLD quarries and it is anticipated that DNRM will be requesting a record of auditing history when visiting sites this year. If you would like to be proactive and ensure your SHMS meets all the legislated requirements please don't hesitate to contact the Ausrocks office on **(07) 3376 6839**.

As you may know Caged Rock was developed on the idea of making gabions with rock supply from local quarries. These gabions can be planters, fireplaces or as a fence with a letter box compartment. If you fancy yourself the DIYer, Caged Rock now offers these gabions in a flat pack for you to assemble yourself.

The flat packs include:

- Assistance in design
- A rendered image of what the final product would look like
- All cut pieces for your design including assembly instructions
- Accessories including: spacers, coils etc...
- Assistance in bulk rock supply

Another exciting feature of the Caged Rock design process is a rendered image of what your project can look like before it's even started. Can you tell the difference between the two images below?



The bottom image is the real completed project with Greywacke rock and 50 x 50mm mesh, the top image was our pre-project rendering to show our client what the end product might look like.

Recent installations by the Caged Rock team:

- A front fence with letter box compartment and a full front fence integrated with an electric gate at a property in Cornubia.
- Assistance with a gabion wall installation at Springbrook
- Seating installation at Corinda State High School



If you want to see some of our gabion products or discuss your requirements, do not hesitate to visit the Ausrocks office or check out our Caged Rock website.

www.cagedrock.com.au

Ring 07 3376 6839 and ask for Alan or Nick .

“Clever Innovation in the Mining and Quarrying Industry”

Tunnelling News

Check your heights

By Alexandra MacHunter

A truck carrying earth moving equipment had torn a 60 metre hole in the roof of the Acton Tunnel in Canberra, last October 2015, causing \$1.2 million in repairs. Despite the massive damage engineers deemed the tunnel structurally sound, with \$260 000 immediate repair cost and a two day closure.



The truck and excavator stuck inside the tunnel October 20, 2015. Photo: Jay Cronan

The two day closure caused major disruptions to the estimated 40 000 commuters who travel through the tunnel each weekday. Amongst the damage, there were fears of asbestos fibres being released in to the air. Testing by WorkSafe ACT later declared no release of fibres and the exclusion zone cleared. Thankfully no one was harmed in the incident and the ACT police confirmed that the driver of the truck will be charged this year.

India’s longest tunnel to open in July

By Alexandra MacHunter

Travelling 10.5 km from Chenani to Nashri, construction is due to finish, on India’s longest tunnel, end of July 2016. Construction started in 2011, and is now 95% complete with final electrification to go in place mid-June and final safety measures will be in place mid-July.

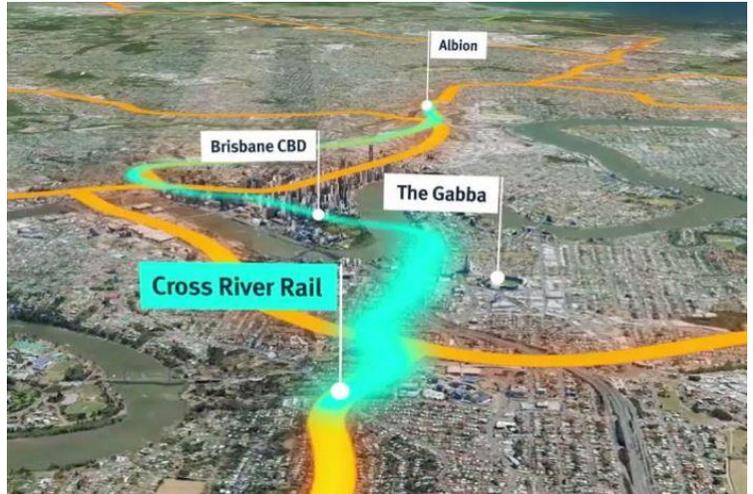
Once completed, the tunnel will act as an all-weather alternative to the existing highway that travels 41km through mountainous terrain.



Looking inside an entrance to the tunnel. Photo: Leighton India Pvt. Ltd

A political debate or a new cross river rail line for Brisbane.

By Alexandra MacHunter



The third revision of the Cross River Rail line.

Cross River Rail is a transformational 10.2km rail link connecting Dutton Park in the south to Bowen Hills in the north, with 5.9km of tunnel under the Brisbane River and CBD. It will deliver new services to stations at 5 key locations including Boggo Road, Woolloongabba, Albert Street, Roma Street and Exhibition showgrounds.

The Queensland Government is labelling it the natural and necessary next step and catalyst for urban revitalisation in Australia’s New World City, a.k.a. Brisbane. However, there is so much talk about where the funding is coming from to start and complete this project.

Deputy Premier Jackie Trad is placing the project cost at approximately \$5.4 billion. The Transport Minister stating that the cost will be split between three levels of government and the private sector, a pledge of \$800 million from Opposition Leader Bill Shorten, and the state not ruling out borrowing money for its share, it is still unclear as to where \$5.4 billion is coming from.

The LNP’s Infrastructure spokesman Tim Nicholls concludes that “If we had a dollar for every time that Labor was going to do the cross river rail, we’d probably have enough money to deliver it by now!!!!”

Equipment News

By Alan Robertson

Atlas Copco’s Scooptram ST7 Battery is their first battery driven product for the underground mining industry. Advantages of the unit which is being trialled in North America are:

- No connection to electric cables.
- Quiet operation for operator comfort and operational focus.
- No vehicle emissions resulting in fuel savings (loaders and trucks consume about 85% of the diesel fuel at most underground mines) as well as a better underground operating environment and ventilation savings.



Scooptram ST7 Battery - Photo by Atlas Copco

14th Annual Quarrying Safety & Health Seminar

By Dale Brown

On the 17th of June, Ausrocks attended the 14th Annual Quarrying Safety & Health Seminar organised by the Institute of Quarrying Australia (IQA), the Queensland Government and the Cement Concrete and Aggregates Australia (CCAA).

The seminar featured 10 presentations that addressed important current safety and health issues with specific reference to the quarrying industry. A large portion of the day was dedicated to exploring ideas that could help the quarrying and mining industry to meet the desired goal of ZERO HARM in work places.

Major themes throughout the day emerged such as:

- Trying to create a greater focus on “Health” of workers in the OHS system diversifying from the significant focus on “Safety”.
- Movement away from large OHS systems associated with Large Sites and focus on more direct informal method of conveying OHS information i.e Verbal JHAs (JSAs) and Toolbox Meetings which can then be documented at a later date.
- Improvement of mental health services.
- Ergonomic Improvements.

Additionally, presenters also touched on multiple case studies that have caused fatalities in the industrial, agricultural, quarry and mining sectors. In most circumstances safety indicators such as LTIFR’s (Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate) and TRIFR’s (Total Recordable Injury Rate) were decreasing and this can result in complacency, leading to potential “unexpected” fatalities. The main message that was taken out of these presentations was that despite constantly improving safety we must remain vigilant to reach a target of ZERO HARM.

Throughout the day there were a number of presentations from the Department and Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) which reinforced OHS themes in the past and strategies to continue working towards a ZERO HARM workplace. Back Analysis of fatalities in Quarrying and Metalliferous mining can be traced back to one of the “Fatal Four”:

- Falling Accidents
- Collisions
- Uncontrolled release of pressure
- Entanglement, Entrapment

With a number of recent diagnosis of Pneumoconiosis cases in the coal mining industry there will be an upcoming focus on respirable dust at quarries, more specifically at sandstone mining operations. To ensure compliance, reference site documents such as Site Based Management Plans (SBMPs) will be reviewed as to their efficacy and confirmation that recommended practices are being undertaken.

Australian, Queensland and Broncos legend Shane Webcke finished the afternoon speaking about his personal experience with workplace accidents, having lost his father to a workplace accident 22 years ago. As an entertaining final presentation this was an excellent conclusion to the day and drove home points made by the earlier presenters.

Overall the day was very informative and successful with many compliments passed on to the organisers of the event, as well as special thanks to the sponsors and exhibitors.

It is important that Quarry Managers and Mine Managers from small operations attend these seminars in the future.... there is a lot to be learnt in one day. Ironically, their general absence was noted on the day.

Rally Car under Construction

By Alan Robertson

The rally car progress has been slowed down by the workload at Ausrocks. Thanks to Shane from Mobile Conveying Services (MCS) for the update of the vehicle electrics. Watch this space in the Summer Newsletter for the final completion of this vehicle.



Town Planning News

By Wendy Wood

On 12 May 2016, the Queensland Parliament passed new planning legislation which will include:

- The Planning Act.
- The Planning and Environment Court Act.
- The Planning (Consequential) and Other Legislation Act.

The new legislation will commence in about April 2017.

The purpose of the new legislation is to provide “efficient, effective, transparent, integrated, coordinated, and accountable system of land use planning, development assessment and related matters that facilitates the achievement of ecological sustainability”. (Planning Bill 2015). The legislation replaces the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 and there will be a 12 month transition period so that planning professionals can fully understand the new legislation.

Changes to the legislation will include lengthier public notification periods for development applications and more transparent rules in planning schemes. Watch this space for further information in future newsletters.

For more information on Town Planning, contact Wendy Wood at Ausrocks in Buderim Tel 07 5746 9691 or Mobile 0418 405 006.

Ausrocks and Caged Rock Support Students from the University of Queensland

Ausrocks is focused on the future of our young engineers including students in Mining Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Civil Engineering and Chemical Engineering. Over the past 12 months, Ausrocks and Caged Rock have provided mentoring support with university student theses, undergraduate employment towards statutory Work Experience and practical experience in gabion design and construction for more than 10 undergraduates. Current students are Patrick (UQ Mining and Geotech), Alexandra (Chemical Engineering) and Natsacha (Civil Engineering).

Innovative Equipment

By Alan Robertson

Crusher & Screen Sales and Hire (CSS) are the Australian distributors for IMS products made in Northern Ireland.

The IMS Pugmill offers a high production affordable track mounted machine which hydraulically packs down by folding up into transport mode without the removal of any items which is ideal when operating multiple sites or working on road construction sites.

When not required as a pugmill the pughead can be removed and used as a sixteen metre track conveyor which can be fed with either a loader, crusher or screen. This can also be fitted with its own two deck screen box offering the upmost flexibility in plant management and utilization of capital instead only offering a single plant function as is the case with most Pugmills.

The stop/start remote operates the feed hopper, pughead and water pump all from the loader driver to ensure quality control and minimum operator overseeing.



The IMS Pugmill folded up ready to move to site or to be packed away at the end of the day. Photo: John Andersen

IMS are also releasing a track mounted twin hopper high production blending machine at the end of June which can operate with the Pugmill by offering an additional two more size products or work as a standalone machine blending two products with production of up to a 1000 TPH, or working as a high production feed hopper feeding conveyor systems.

Introducing interesting options for quarry and processing operations, the blender has a mixer for dry mixing which hydraulically moves to the side when not required and offers blended products at an affordable price and offer improved product management and stock control.

Happy Customers, Sibelco lime quarry in Tamworth purchased a IMS PM1050-16TB track mounted pugmill from CSS for the processing of their road base, and liked the mobility that the track mounted machine offers plus it high production of up to 400 TPH.

For More information on the IMS Pugmill, twin hopper or any another crushing and screening equipment for your situation, contact Crusher & Screen at www.crusherscreen.com. **Phone John Andersen on 0424 181 056.**



The IMS Pugmill in operation. photo: John Anderson

For more information on Ausrocks and Caged Rock:

Visit: 17/71 Jijaws St, Sumner Park, Q4074

Ring: (Office Hours) 07 3376 6839

Ring: (After Hours) 0402 445 418

Email: alan.robertson@ausrocks.com.au

Our Web-site is: www.ausrocks.com.au

Caged Rock: www.cagedrock.com.au

For Town Planning enquiries, please contact Wendy Wood at 32 Cottman St, Buderim, Q4556:

Mobile: 0418 405 006

Email: wendy.wood@ausrocks.com.au

Interesting Signs and Safety Procedures



Only 2 jacks and 3 tyres to be changed, no worries. - Sent in from one of our readers in Saudi Arabia.

If you have a funny sign or a sticker or a photo involving safety (or if it is just funny) that is just not quite right, please send to: Alan.Robertson@ausrocks.com.au