

AUSROCKS PTY LTD

CONSULTING MINING ENGINEERS

ABN 64 056 939 014

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Introduction:

Ausrocks has been busy over the past few months, working on new and exciting mining, tunnelling and quarrying projects as well as ongoing work for our long-term clients.

One of the areas of interest of Ausrocks is the concept of a quarry where information is optimised from the Resource drilling stage to the final rehabilitation stage. Ausrocks sees the need for quarries to have a GPS based integrated software package that handles everything from quarry design, scheduling, maintenance and equipment performance, costing, material processing and product specification. Only time will tell if this target is achievable, given the current lack of integration of software systems for different steps in the mining and processing sequence, both from a design and equipment perspective. In addition the quarry companies need to be clearly shown that their investment is worthwhile.

Another area of interest, Underground Space, stems from our tunnelling experience and we are often approached in regard to this. In the early 1990's I investigated underground quarrying in urban areas and while my predictions involving implementation were premature, it is likely that there will be a move towards underground quarrying in Australia in the next two decades, particularly where the final use of the void is more valuable than the quarry materials obtained from creating the void itself.

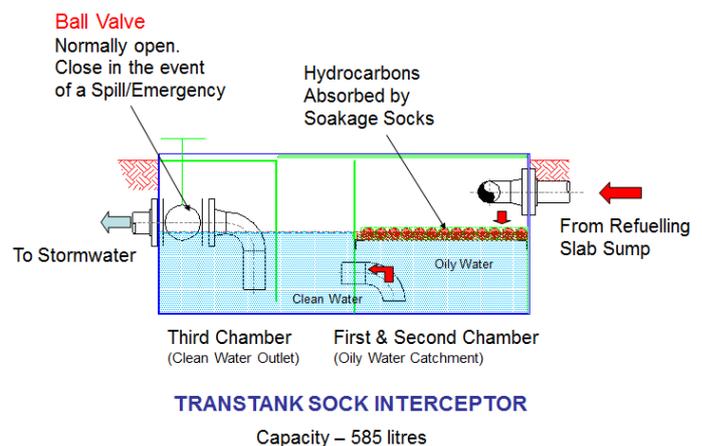
A third interest is the Ausrocks' take on the introduction by of the Australian Government's proposed "price on carbon". The repercussions will be high to the mining and quarrying companies as the cost of fuel and electricity rises dramatically in the near future, based on the high energy cost of production and the difficulty of using alternative energy sources. One technical step will be a focus on mobile conveyor systems as an alternative transport methodology in the materials handling stages of quarrying and mining. The new and existing technologies are flexible, productive and significantly lower in power consumption than conventional methods with some systems generating power through regenerative braking. Certainly any innovation that reduces the total power cost but gives equivalent or better productivity and mechanical availability will be well accepted by our industry.

All the best

From Alan Robertson, Director.
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Great Innovation – The Transtank Sock Interceptor

The Transtank concept of fully bunded fuel tanks has completely rationalised the safe storage and handling of fuels and hydrocarbons for mining and quarrying operations. A further extension of the Transtank concept for handling spills during re-fuelling is the Transtank Sock Interceptor. The concept traps the hydrocarbons in the soakage socks and releases cleanwater into the stormwater management system as shown in the diagram below. The photo below shows an installed unit.



In the event of a major spill/emergency, the ball valve can be closed between the third chamber and the storm water outlet, thus eliminating external contamination.

For further information on Transtank products, contact Denis Dardengo at Transtank. Tel (07) 3205 4436

Email: denis.dardengo@transtank.com.au

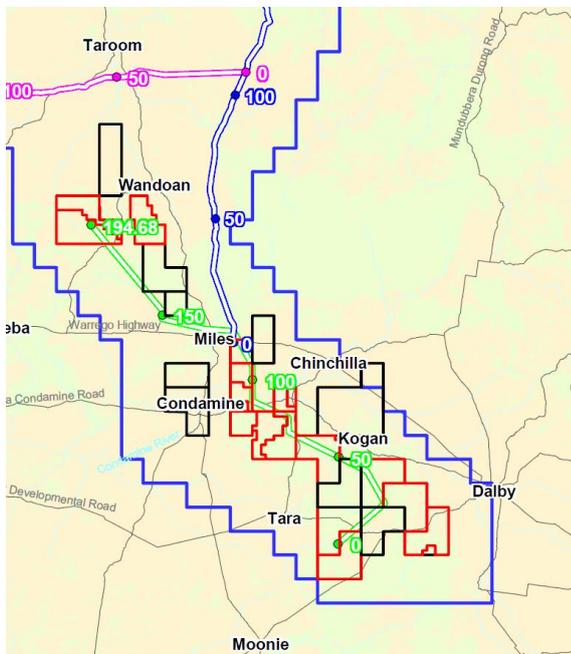
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“Clever Innovation in the Mining Industry”

Western Development

It is well documented that Queensland stands to be greatly affected by the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) & Coal Mining Industries. The western corridor from Dalby to Miles and beyond is experiencing significant growth and is proving to be an exciting place to work. Many small-medium operators in this area have been making best use of this growth with multiple Development Applications, particularly in regard to quarry material, being processed this year through Ausrocks.

There are eight proposed LNG projects in the Surat and Bowen Basin. One that has been approved that will source hard rock from the Chinchilla and Miles Region is Queensland Gas Company's (QGC) \$35 billion Queensland Curtis LNG Project.



Source: QGC Environmental Impact Statement Volume 2 Chapter 4: Location of Project. Publicly available at www.qgc.com.au

Ausrocks have been investigating the need for a long term hard rock Resource to service the Chinchilla and Miles Region. Currently hard rock is generally sourced from the Toowoomba or Kingaroy regions with haulage distances of 80+km to Chinchilla.

(continue reading on opposite)

Western Development (Cont.)

Typical hard rock requirements for the QGC project (only 1 of 8 proposed) are as follows;

- Gravel for hardstand areas: approx. 2.5Mm³
- Road base for road construction: approx. 0.98Mm³

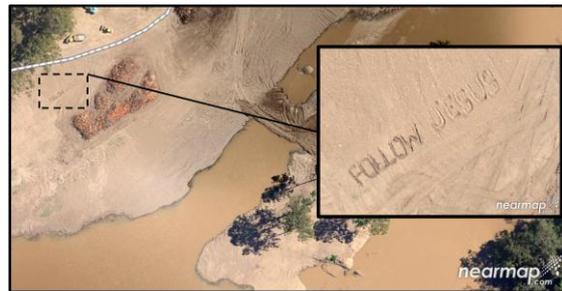
(Source: EIS, Volume 2, Chapter 11: Gas Field Construction)

This material is listed to be obtained from local quarries where possible. Ausrocks believe that the current Resources available at local quarries will not suffice and at least one new large scale quarry is required in the Chinchilla/Miles Region, particularly when coal projects such as Xstrata's Wandoan Coal project are also considered.

For more information visit:

www.qgc.com.au

SIGNS WE HAVE NOTICED:



Technically it's a sign? An interesting sight on Nearmap: "Follow Jesus" written in the sand near Karana Downs during the QLD flood clean-up.

You will be pleased to see that Dale has upgraded the "new look" Ausrocks website and we are currently reviewing our Capability Statements.

For any help in mining, quarrying and tunnelling, contact:

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