MINING: Exploration

Pragmatic geological exploration is the cornerstone to any successful mining venture. At grassroots level, the ability to make effective use of tight budgets and maximise returns from staged investments is critical in ensuring efficient and robust project development. Royal HaskoningDHV’s mining team includes geologists and geoscientists with abundant experience in early-stage reconnaissance and site investigation, with an inherent understanding of what it takes to ensure a project can make the leap from concept to reality.

We support our clients through the design, management, and implementation of strategic exploration programmes that are aligned to their aims and project drivers. Regularly working alongside our client’s teams, we appreciate the need the need to deliver on investor targets and maintain shareholder confidence. At a time when the route to market and industry sentiment is as important as the project itself, we take pride in guiding projects to long term viability without sacrificing near-term gains.

As the foundation of any mining operation, exploration campaigns must balance the advancement of geological understanding, expansion of the mineral tonnage base, and acquisition of supplementary geoscientific data. They must also quickly align themselves with industry best practice; considering downstream targets such as reporting code compliance, Resource delineation and classification, and feasibility assessment.

Drawing on specialist skills from site and project management through to geophysical techniques and structural geology our consultants also appreciate the wider picture, offering advice tailored to the project’s overall requirements. We also provide round-the-clock specialist field skills such as geological logging, sampling, and mapping, through our junior geologist secondment service.

Fast becoming the consultant of choice for mining and investment companies Royal HaskoningDHV offer the industry something different - a more professional and flexible approach to consultancy, through a modern, forward-thinking, and efficient team of experts.

Ranked globally in the top 10 of independently owned, non-listed companies and in the top 40 overall Royal HaskoningDHV has more than 100 offices in 35 countries, 6,000 staff and a turnover in excess of £500 million. With over 135 years of experience defining a proud heritage of bringing leading expertise and innovation to the market the company provides the next exciting step in working towards ‘Enhancing Society Together’.

royalhaskoningdhv.co.uk/mining

“West Cumbria Mining contracted Royal HaskoningDHV to complete a Resource statement for our Cumbrian Metallurgical Coal Project in northwest England. We found the team to be very professional and technically sophisticated. The Competent Person was very well versed in all aspects of the JORC code for coal exploration. The team provided valuable guidance and assistance throughout our entire onshore exploration programme and the final Resource report was well presented. West Cumbria Mining intends to expand our exploration programme offshore; we are pleased to continue our working relationship and look forward to another productive year together.”

Eric Gozlan, Exploration Manager, West Cumbria Mining
Recent Exploration Projects

Offshore Exploration, United Kingdom

Royal HaskoningDHV acted as independent technical advisors to West Cumbria Mining Limited for the implementation of an onshore infilling and offshore exploration programmes to help progress the Woodhouse Colliery Project in northwest England. The team provided ongoing guidance and advice with regards to an exploration strategy, focused on confirming historical findings and serving as the basis for a robust and reliable geological model and JORC Code compliant Resource Statement; the conclusions and recommendations from which continue to guide the Project through the wider phases of feasibility assessment.

Coal Pre-Feasibility Study Exploration, South Africa

Royal HaskoningDHV provided Lephalale Coal Mines with on-site supervision and project management expertise for the implementation of an exploration programme, designed to provide additional geoscientific data to support ongoing feasibility and a Mining Rights Application. The team conducted day-to-day management in addition to undertaking geological interpretation and coal seam correlations for an enhanced understanding of the deposit’s geological structure and depositional characteristics. The data will later form the basis for an updated geological model and coal quality assessment.

Skarn Copper-Zinc Geological Assessment, Turkey

Royal HaskoningDHV conducted a site visit to evaluate existing protocols and provide recommendations for future exploration programmes including drilling, sampling and analysis of copper-zinc mineralisation. The team subsequently undertook a geological assessment including geological modelling and Resource estimation delivered as a Competent Persons Report in accordance with the JORC Code. The geological model and recommendations have served to assist Demir Export in progression of the project to feasibility study level as the foundation for a successful operational mine.

Coal Definitive Feasibility Study Exploration, South Africa

Royal HaskoningDHV supplied Namane Resource with on-site geological expertise for the duration of an infill exploration programme to support completion of a Definitive Feasibility Study. The programme combined the requirements of multiple technical disciplines – geology, geotechnics, hydrogeology, mining, processing – to acquire and interpret additional data in order to upgrade the Resource / Reserve estimates, improve the overall level of accuracy and mitigate against potential technical risks. Exploration best-practice procedures were implemented to ensure the project met the expectations of the international mining community.

Recent clients include:

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