

# ONTARIO

# MINING Review



digital magazine

ISSUE 2 • 2025

**The gold standard of experiential learning:  
The Goodman Gold Challenge provides and  
unmatched opportunity for undergraduates  
to test their investing skills**

**Levack Mine poised  
for a new chapter with  
Magna Mining Inc.**

**Protecting nature and  
Indigenous rights in the  
Ring of Fire**

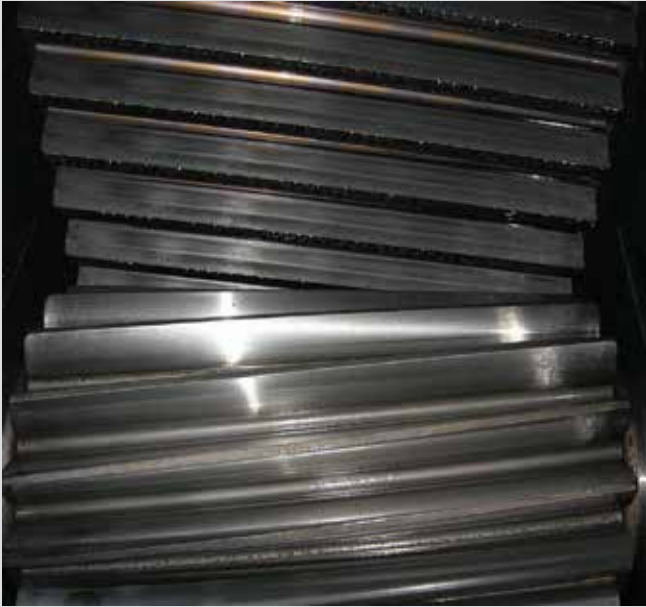


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*A 3D geological model of the Cortez district at the Barrick-operated Nevada Gold Mines, cut out to reveal the Fourmile-Goldrush orebody wireframes.*

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## Message from the editor

**OWEN  
WHITE**

Welcome to the latest edition of *Ontario Mining Review*, where we delve into the forces shaping the future of Ontario's mining sector.

As demand for critical minerals grows, Ontario's mining industry continues to grow in importance, but environmental concerns grow too. This means activism, but also technological advancements and new legislation, all while the next generation of industry professionals prepare to enter the workforce.

In the Goodman School of Mines (GSM) at Laurentian University, one of Canada's leading institutions for mining education, students participated in the Goodman Gold Challenge. An intensive three-day experience, the Goodman Gold Challenge has teams of students work together to evaluate three gold-mining companies to recommend one as the best investment. Students had chances to hear from the CEOs of the companies and talk to judges, making it a great learning and networking opportunity.

Magna Mining's acquisition of the Levack Mine property is a promising new investment. The historic mine has been a huge part of the Ontario mining sector's success for over 90 years, and now Magna Mining hopes to bring it back to a high-producing mine using new technology. Their approach emphasizes safety, sustainability, and meaningful engagement with local communities and Indigenous partners.

The provincial government's push to unlock the Ring of Fire area in northern Ontario continues to advance, sparking concern and outrage from grassroots Indigenous and environmental activism groups. An editorial from the Friends of the Attawapiskat River on page 12 explains why Bill 5 is a step in the wrong direction, regardless of your stance on mining in the Ring of Fire.

Ontario and Webequie First Nation signed a historic agreement toward unlocking the Ring of Fire. Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation says the tens of millions provided to Webequie First Nation is a start of the next chapter for First Nations economic reconciliation. The agreement speeds up the process of building the Webequie Supply Road, which will be an all-seasons road to the Ring of Fire. Read more about it in the press release from the Office of the Premiere on page 18.

With increased mining activity, safety is a priority, and part of that is safe and accessible equipment—and responsible use of said equipment. Editorials from West End Radiators, CAB Products, Brokk, Jetstream, and Richwood explain how their products and services can help make mines more accessible, safe, and efficient.

Ontario is already one of the world's leaders in mineral resources, and increased demand and production means it gets more important every day. Technological advancements unlock previously inaccessible resources, and new government policy aims to reach areas previously unutilized. But, are things moving too fast? Meaningful dialogue about environmental concerns seems to be on the backburner, according to some activists and experts. As Ontario's dynamic industry continues to grow, it walks a careful line between progress and regression.

We hope you enjoy this issue of *Ontario Mining Review*, and invite you to explore our official website, [www.ontariominingnews.ca](http://www.ontariominingnews.ca), which features more in-depth articles, expert insights, and updates on the technologies and trends redefining mining in Ontario.

**Owen White**

Owen@DELCommunications.com 



# The gold standard of experiential learning



*GGC 2025 competitors pose with their trophies at the Awards Ceremony (January 31st, 2025). Each student receives an authentic L. May miner's lunchbox as a token of their participation.*

The Goodman Gold Challenge provides an unmatched opportunity for undergraduates to test their investing skills.

Each January, Laurentian University becomes the epicentre of mining investment education as the Goodman School of Mines hosts the Goodman Gold Challenge (GGC). This unique case competition blends financial strategy with mining expertise and creates an ultra-realistic, highly competitive mock investment scenario focused on the mining industry.

GGC draws teams of undergraduates from universities across North America and beyond to Sudbury, Ontario for an immersive three-day experience. The task is simple: evaluate three gold mining companies and select one of them to recommend as the most promising investment. The catch? Each of the three case companies are real mining companies currently trading on the TSX or TSX-V, the companies are

presented to the competitors in live pitches by the company CEOs themselves, and the judging panel is made up of real industry professionals.

## **PUTTING THEIR STUDIES TO THE TEST**

When the idea for GGC was first conceptualized eight years ago, the Goodman School of Mines wanted to break away from the traditional paper-based style of most case competitions and provide students with a taste of what it's really like to act as a financial analyst recommending investments to their clients.

Teams prepare for weeks in advance, using all public resources available to begin formulating their recommendations. A win-worthy analysis takes into account the economic, geological, infrastructural, and social intricacies of the mines in question.

During the competition, teams have the chance to meet one-on-one with the CEOs to interview them about

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*A win-worthy analysis takes into account the economic, geological, infrastructural, and social intricacies of the mines in question.*

the current and projected strength of their respective companies. The competition judges, all of whom are experts from the mining and financial sectors, also meet with the students to provide advice on their proposed investment strategies.

#### Connecting Tomorrow's Professionals with Today's Employers

GGC attracts top student talent in finance, engineering, and geology, making it the ideal venue for hiring and internship recruitment. Networking is a key piece of the GGC experience; the opening gala and closing ceremony provide ample opportunity for competitors to interact with the suite of sponsors in attendance, including not only mining companies, but financial firms, consultants, and service providers.

For sponsors, this translates to meaningful brand exposure among industry peers and the opportunity to engage face-to-face with the next generation of skilled

professionals and identify promising candidates.

#### LASTING INDUSTRY IMPACT

The 2025 edition saw eleven university teams evaluate G Mining Ventures Corp., Meridian Mining, and Omai Gold Mines, with Queen's University taking top honours. Looking ahead, the 2026 Goodman Gold Challenge, set to take place January 26 to 30, will continue its legacy of connecting undergrads with executives and fostering world-class hands-on learning opportunities.

As the global mining landscape continues to evolve, with rising focus on critical minerals, sustainability, and innovation, events like the GGC stand as vital bridges between the classroom and the boardroom, bringing together the people, ideas, and partnerships that will define mining's next chapter.

To register a student team or inquire about sponsorship and judging panel opportunities, contact [goodmangoldchallenge@laurentian.ca](mailto:goodmangoldchallenge@laurentian.ca). 





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# Levack Mine poised for a new chapter with Magna Mining Inc.

For more than 90 years, the Levack Mine has been a critical part of the Sudbury Basin mining district, contributing to the nickel and copper production that helped fuel Northern Ontario's growth and Canada's reputation as a global mining leader. In March 2025, Magna Mining announced the acquisition of the Levack Mine, the producing McCreedy West mine, and a number of other Sudbury projects from KGHM International, and in doing so realized a long-term objective to assemble a portfolio of properties in one of the world's premier nickel, copper, and precious metal mining districts.

The Levack property not only carries the legacy of nearly a century of production, but also offers the geological potential and infrastructure needed to support Magna's long-term vision. With Levack now part of the company's portfolio, Magna is advancing plans

to restart of production during the next 12 to 24 months.

"Levack represents more than a restart opportunity—it's a renewal of a legacy mine with world-class potential," said Dave King, senior vice president of exploration and geoscience at Magna.

Decades of historical production prove the area's geological endowment, and recent exploration has highlighted additional mineralization that could be unlocked through modern methods. Existing underground access and proximity to processing facilities provide strategic advantages, allowing the company to reduce capital costs and shorten development timelines.

For Magna, the Levack story is about more than geology. It's about helping revitalize a community that has long history of mining. With global demand

for nickel and critical minerals on the rise, projects like Levack are well positioned to contribute to Canada's role in supplying resources for electric vehicles, clean energy, and advanced manufacturing. Magna's approach emphasizes safety, sustainability, and meaningful engagement with local communities and Indigenous partners, essential elements in writing Levack's next chapter.

The story of Levack Mine has always been one of resilience. From its first days of production in 1915, it has shaped lives, supported families, and contributed to Sudbury's global reputation. With Magna Mining's acquisition and restart plans, Levack is set to begin a new era, one that honours its past while looking confidently to the future, delivering new jobs and economic benefits to Greater Sudbury while creating value for investors. ⚒️





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*Attawapiskat River (Eleven North Visuals)*

# Protecting nature and Indigenous rights in the Ring of Fire

By Kerrie Blaise, Michel Koostachin, and Kristen Lowitt

Pressures are intensifying in an area of Northern Ontario that has popularly become known as the ‘Ring of Fire.’ This is the name mining companies have given to a mineral-rich area in the Hudson Bay–James Bay Lowlands that some have heralded as among the most important mining discoveries in Canada’s history.

Home to the Ojishkego people, signatories to Treaty 9, who have stewarded these land for generations and maintain an active presence with the region’s wildlife, waters, and muskeg, the area is one of the last refuges on the planet for intact peatlands (muskeg) that have built up over thousands of years and store billions of tonnes of carbon.

The region where the ‘Ring of Fire’ is proposed has become a contested landscape—a place with competing visions for its future. What is clear is that the proposed Ring of Fire mining development will have far reaching consequences for the wellbeing of nature and the Indigenous peoples who live there.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL IMPACTS**

By some estimates, the peatlands in the ‘Ring of Fire’ surpass the carbon sequestration potential of the Amazon rainforest. Disturbance to this landscape, such as through draining or digging up wetlands, poses turning this carbon sink into a large source of emissions which will hamper Canada’s ability to meet its internationally ratified

climate targets. The region is also a vital habitat for wildlife, including home to one of the last remaining Woodland Caribou populations in the province and supports sensitive species including the polar bear.

Mining development that disrupts the environment poses a direct threat to Indigenous peoples’ ability to manage and conserve the land. In this context, the Indigenous grassroots have begun mobilizing to protect their homeland and have called for a moratorium on mineral exploration until their informed consent has been obtained.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND ONTARIO’S BILL 5**

Provincial and federal environmental and impact





*Muskeg near the Attawapiskat River (Eleven North Visuals)*

assessment laws provide an important mechanism for overseeing environmental impacts associated with development and consulting with Indigenous communities. However, many Indigenous groups in the region, especially the youth and grassroots, have voiced concern that they have been insufficiently included in these processes.

As well, the impact assessment laws that may help protect nature and uphold Indigenous rights are themselves under attack. In June 2025, the Ontario Government passed Bill 5: Protect our Economy by Unleashing our Economy Act. Schedule 9 of this Bill allows for the creation of 'special economic zones' in which trusted proponents and projects would be exempt from following provincial and municipal regulations. The current provincial government has stated its intention to declare the Ring of Fire a special economic zone.

Bill 5 is a significant threat to the

public and legal processes that are meant to provide oversight of development. Regardless of one's position on mining in the Ring of Fire, Bill 5 takes us in the wrong direction by shutting down meaningful dialogue and decision-making about mining activities and their impacts on nature and Indigenous rights.

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHORS:**

*Kerrie Blaise is an environmental lawyer and Founder of Legal Advocates for Nature's Defence.*

*Michel Koostachin is Founder of Friends of the Attawapiskat River.*

*Kristen Lowitt is Associate Professor in the School of Environmental Studies at Queen's University. ⚡*



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# CAB® Products: A true legacy in manufacturing



The total years of service the administrative staff at the Cambria County Association for the Blind and Handicapped (CCABH) has cumulatively performed is astonishing. Not many companies can boast about the number of staff and production employees who have worked there for over three decades, but CCABH can.

Established in 1927, CCABH is the proud manufacturer of CAB® Products. With over 350 years of service between a handful of the current administrative staff, CAB®

Products is the definition of an experienced manufacturer of metal hooks and hangers.

CCABH is a 501(c)(3) non-profit with a dedicated mission for their community in Western Pennsylvania. CCABH employs persons with disabilities while manufacturing high-quality products for customers worldwide. CCABH offers a supportive environment which promotes vocational and employment training, independence, and community involvement through

rehabilitative, recreation and low-vision services, and education for the prevention of blindness.

Dating back to 1977, CCABH first started manufacturing hooks and hangers for the mining industry. CAB® hooks and hangers quickly rose in popularity because of their durability, strength, and reliability. They were designed with the safety of miners in mind and were manufactured from only the highest-quality raw materials. Due to the increase in demand for its hooks and hangers, CCABH



had to expand. As manufacturing increased, the staff had to grow as well.

CCABH's loyal staff has always been passionate about the organization's mission to provide employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities. As any employer knows, employees come and go, but at CCABH, employees often spend a lifetime, driven by a dedication to help individuals with disabilities and the ever-growing demand for CAB® Products.

Many current staff members have celebrated their 20th, 30th, 40th, and 50th anniversaries

with CCABH. President/CEO Tara Bosserman, who celebrated her 30th anniversary in 2024, is joined by many other dedicated CCABH employees who have also celebrated milestone anniversaries recently.

CAB® continues to manufacture metal hooks and hangers for the mining industry with as much commitment as they did 47 years ago, even though CAB®'s products are sold into many other industries, including solar, electrical, utility, maritime, pipeline, and traffic communications. This enduring commitment to excellence has

solidified CAB® Products as a trusted name in the mining industry. CCABH's ability to adapt to changing markets while maintaining its core values is a testament to its leadership and dedicated workforce. Beyond the production floor, CCABH's impact extends into the community, where its efforts support economic growth and provide employment opportunities for individuals of all abilities. CAB® Products not only represents high-quality manufacturing, but also stands as a beacon of inclusivity and innovation in Western Pennsylvania and beyond. ⚒

**CCABH employs persons with disabilities while manufacturing high-quality products for customers worldwide.**



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# How a Manitoba rad shop cut downtime in half for an Ontario gold mine

**WESTEND**  
RADIATORS

*Two West End Radiators technicians use an overhead crane to lift a large haul truck radiator.*

Mining operations know a single day of equipment downtime can cost \$5,000 to \$10,000 or more in lost production.

West End Radiators (West End Rad | WER), a Manitoba heat exchanger repair, rebuild, and manufacturing company, has seen first-hand the extreme conditions their mining customers' equipment operates in.

So, when a radiator on a haul truck failed at one of Ontario's largest gold mines, the company couldn't afford extended downtime. The WER team knew they would need to quickly diagnose the issue, repair it, and return the unit to the mine as quickly as possible. Reducing the mine's downtime was top priority.

"We've designed our shop to specifically be able to maneuver rads of this size while providing

a high quality and long-lasting repair job," said Jason Hinds, shop foreman at West End Radiators.

Here's a behind-the-scenes look at how West End Rad helped an Ontario gold mine save thousands with one simple yet long lasting repair job.

## **EXTREME MINING CONDITIONS TAKE THEIR TOLL ON HEAT EXCHANGERS**

Like most mines, the mine's haul truck was operating around the clock in a harsh environment. The radiator was constantly exposed to engine heat, dust, and debris.

Over time, these factors led to cracking, leaks, and engine damage. All issues that can take critical equipment, like haul trucks, out of service if not repaired.

So when their radiator inevitably began to fail, the Ontario mine turned to West End Rad.

"We knew this radiator had to work reliably for one of the toughest jobs out there," said Hinds. "We wanted to make sure that when it left our shop, it was ready to work in one of the most extreme environments."

After thorough inspection at WER's Winnipeg shop, their technicians determined the Komatsu radiator required a complete rebuild to withstand the rigorous demands of Ontario's mining conditions.

## **BEHIND-THE-SCENES OF A KOMATSU RAD REBUILD FOR MAXIMUM DURABILITY**

The rebuild process began with the use of West End Rad's overhead crane, which carefully removed the rad from the flat-deck trailer



After thorough inspection at WER's Winnipeg shop, their technicians determined the Komatsu radiator required a complete rebuild to withstand the rigorous demands of Ontario's mining conditions.

it arrived on. WER's Winnipeg location has two overhead cranes capable of lifting up to 4,000 pounds each.

"This sets our shop apart," said Hinds. "Most mechanics don't have the ability to easily assess and repair a mining rad of this size. Our cranes make it not only possible but way faster."

Once secured in the crane, the team removed each tube and seal from the damaged rad.

Next came the pressure test to ensure the existing shroud (frame) was also completely leak-free. Luckily, it was! And reusable. The team then finished the rebuild with new heavier-duty aftermarket tubes, tighter seals and a fresh coat of paint.

Then it was time for a secondary check for leaks and cracks.

"We never send out a rad without doing multiple pressure checks to ensure it's 100 per cent leak-free. It's our guarantee and especially important for mining equipment," said Hinds.



*A haul truck carries material across an active gold mining site in Ontario.*

Once the new, rebuilt rad passed the second and final test, it was off to the shipping department for a quick delivery back to Ontario.

#### **BACK TO PEAK PERFORMANCE**

Within two weeks of the breakdown, the haul truck was back to operating at full capacity. The client said this was half the time they had anticipated.

West End Rad said they've heard great feedback from the mine since the repair. The haul truck is now able to run all day long without overheating. And plugging is no longer an issue for their new, aftermarket rad.

West End Radiators services heavy-duty industries across Canada. Learn more on their website, [westendrad.ca](http://westendrad.ca). ⚡

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# Ontario and Webequie First Nation sign historic agreement to unlock the Ring of Fire

*Press release from Office of the Premier*

On October 29, 2025, Premier Doug Ford, Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Development and Minister Responsible for Ring of Fire Economic and Community Partnerships, and Webequie First Nation Chief Cornelius Wabasse signed a Community Partnership Agreement that will unlock economic development and speed up all-seasons road construction in the Ring of Fire while providing critical supports and community benefits for Webequie First Nation.

"This historic agreement is a massive milestone in our plan to protect Ontario, achieve economic reconciliation with First Nations and bring prosperity to

Northern Ontario and across the province by unlocking the Ring of Fire," said Premier Doug Ford. "I want to thank Chief Wabasse and Webequie First Nation for their partnership in getting this done, so we can build a more competitive, resilient and self-reliant economy that can stand up to tariffs and anything else that comes our way. Now, we need the federal government to work with us to remove duplication so we can get shovels in the ground building these roads as soon as the ground thaws this coming spring."

To support the government's plan to protect Ontario, this agreement provides Webequie First Nation with up to \$39.5 million for community infrastructure and supports and is a critical step in the development and construction of the proposed all-season Webequie Supply Road to the Ring of Fire. Through this agreement, Webequie First Nation will submit its final Environmental Assessment for the Webequie Supply Road in early January 2026. Pending approvals and consultations, construction will begin on the Webequie Supply Road in June 2026, subject to the federal government ending its duplicative impact assessments in the region. This road would help strengthen the local economy, create jobs and build a secure supply chain for manufacturing, while acting as a critical link to the Ring of Fire.

"The Webequie Supply Road is more than a road—it's a pathway to opportunity, access and growth on our terms," said Cornelius Wabasse, Chief of Webequie First Nation. "This Agreement with Ontario is a meaningful step in our ongoing work to lead development that supports our community's well-being, strengthens our infrastructure, upholds Webequie First Nation's way of life and creates lasting economic opportunities for our people."

This agreement builds on more than a decade of collaborative work between the province and Webequie



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First Nation. As a next step, Ontario and Webequie First Nation will work together to design a partnership model to guide the planning, development and upkeep of the proposed all-season road. The approach will reflect environmental priorities outlined through the environmental assessment led by Webequie First Nation, consider land access interests and seek coordination with the federal government.

"This historic agreement is reflective of our nation-to-nation partnership, and the leadership of Chief Wabasse and Webequie First Nation," said Greg Rickford, Minister of Indigenous Affairs and First Nations Economic Reconciliation and minister responsible for Ring of Fire economic and community partnerships. "We are writing the next important chapter of First Nations economic reconciliation by investing in infrastructure, essential services and road access to legacy projects like the Ring of Fire. In partnership, we are positioning Ontario as the global leader in sustainable mineral development and an economic powerhouse."

Ontario's \$39.5 million investment will address urgent community priorities identified by the Webequie First

Nation, including resources for mental health and social supports and a new indoor multipurpose facility for sports, recreation, and social gathering. In addition, funding will support local jobs and the procurement of materials and equipment needed to begin early work for the road to the Ring of Fire. The agreement will also rebuild and upgrade the community airport, which will serve as a regional transportation hub and explore additional all-season road links for Webequie First Nation to the rest of the province.

This agreement is part of the government's broader strategy to unlock the economic potential of the Ring of Fire region while ensuring First Nation and northern communities reap the benefits of critical mineral development through partnerships that offer economic opportunities spanning generations. This initiative complements the Shared Prosperity Agreement with Aroland First Nation and supports Ontario's Critical Minerals Strategy to build an end-to-end critical minerals supply chain, with critical minerals mined and refined in Ontario, by Ontario workers. 



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# Benefits of remote-controlled demolition equipment for mining

By Jeff Keeling, Vice-President of Sales & Marketing, Brokk Inc.

*In narrow-vein mining applications, demolition robots offer exceptional power-to-weight ratios and significantly out class even the most advanced jackleg drills.*

Precious metals like gold, platinum, and chrome are vital components for everything from cell phones to space shuttles. To secure these resources, miners are digging deeper than ever before. Currently, demand keeps the value of these ores higher than the cost of extracting them. However, long-term profitability of ultra-deep, narrow-vein operations will require a more sustainable approach that increases productivity while minimizing the cost of extraction.

To this end, some operations have adopted remote-controlled demolition machines, which allow workers to drill, blast, bolt, and break remotely. With 80 per cent of underground mining accidents and fatalities occurring at the face, remote operation saves lives.

As the mining industry looks to rewrite its history in terms of safety and environmental impact, it is turning to manufacturers like Brokk to find effective solutions. From deep-vein operations to support tasks such as shaft revitalization, here's how demolition robots are helping producers all over the world increase safety and efficiency.

## **ULTRA-DEEP, NARROW-VEIN APPLICATIONS**

Safety risks and logistical needs, such as providing air, electricity, and other utilities, increase exponentially the deeper a mine goes. By removing the absolute minimum of rock as they chase after ore-rich veins, producers reduce extraction costs and minimize overburden. However, this leads to

tight spaces and difficult working conditions for miners at the face.

Traditional ultra-deep mining methods rely on hours of physical labour in extreme conditions using manual tools such as jacklegs, stoppers, and ad-hoc bar and arms. These tools can weigh upwards of 72 pounds (32.4 kilograms). During operation, miners must maintain close contact with the drill, increasing exposure to falling rock, vibrations, sprained backs, pinched fingers, and noise.

Now, what if there was a system that offered the safety and productivity of remote operation with the flexibility and precision of a jackleg—and more? Some gold mines have achieved this by adding demolition robots. These compact





*As the mining industry looks to rewrite its history in terms of safety and environmental impact, remote-controlled demolition machines are providing effective solutions for a number of applications.*

machines offer exceptional power-to-weight ratios—often on par with machines three times their size—and significantly out-class even the most advanced jackleg drills. Designed for demanding demolition applications, these machines easily stand up to the heat and pressure of ultra-deep mining, while heavy-duty caterpillar tracks and outriggers allow them to cover even the roughest terrain. An advanced three-part arm provides unrivaled range of motion for drilling, scaling, breaking and bolting in any direction. The use of hydraulics also eliminates the need for supplying compressed air, which, in turn, minimizes the utility requirement at the face, while electric running guarantees zero-emission operation.

In addition, demolition robots provide versatility that can streamline operations and limit emissions. With the right attachment, operators can move from drilling to breaking to scaling while never getting within 13.1 feet (four metres) of the work surface. Thanks to advances in technology, these machines can also handle much larger attachments than

similar-sized equipment, allowing mines to bring powerful tools to new applications without increasing shaft size. It even makes 100-per-cent remote drilling and bolting possible since there are several compact demolition robots with ample power to operate carousel attachments. While the operator stands a safe distance away, the robot can drill, load a rock bolt, then torque it without any wasted movement for fast, efficient, safe bolting of the back.

One South African gold mine employing demolition robots in ultra-deep applications has seen labour costs per linear meter go down by 60 per cent from conventional manual methods.

### **STOPE RETRIEVAL OPERATIONS**

The durability and dexterity of demolition robots doesn't just benefit deep-vein mining operations. Retrieving equipment and materials from stopes has been delegated to demolition robots for some time.

Take a loader retrieval after a rock fall, for example. Some mines



*Thanks to advances in technology, demolition robots can also handle much larger attachments than similar sized equipment, allowing mines to bring powerful tools to new applications without increasing shaft size and opening up the possibility of 100-per-cent-remote drilling and bolting.*

have found that demolition robots traverse the uneven ground more quickly than traditional retrieval equipment, and they can break up oversize rock and other obstacles to make extraction easier. The highly maneuverable arm also makes attaching cables through the scoop's lug more efficient.

### **SHAFT MAINTENANCE OPERATIONS**

Opening up shafts or performing shaft maintenance are other areas where remote-controlled demolition equipment can provide more efficiency.

Mining techniques have changed over the years, and for many, operations returning to old veins with more modern equipment can supplement production. However, these shafts are usually found in a very deteriorated state—with large rubble, collapsed supports and downed utilities—making the process of opening them up slow and dangerous. In addition, safety requirements have advanced along with mining techniques, so revitalizing old shafts can require

substantial work to meet modern regulations.

In these types of situations, the versatility of remote-controlled demolition machines can minimize equipment and personnel requirements for highly efficient renovation. Armed with a suite of attachments, a demolition robot can perform almost any required task. These attachments can also

make routine shaft maintenance more efficient, allowing mines to maximize productivity for these vital, yet time-consuming and risky operations. One operation in Saskatchewan, Canada, was able to eliminate all manual labour in a shotcrete removal application and advance their maintenance schedule by months. They positioned the demolition robot on a

platform that rotated around a shaft boring machine. After the shotcrete was removed, they used the robot to pin and bolt new screening.

## THE FUTURE OF MINING

From ultra-deep to applications just below the surface, demolition robots can increase safety and productivity throughout the mine. Position a demolition robot above a stationary grizzly or in a blast chamber to tackle oversize rock without explosives or any unnecessary material handling. The possibilities are only limited by the imagination.

Modern mining has many exciting challenges in store for the new generation of technologists who will need creative solutions to supply the world's ever-growing demand for minerals. Working with demolition robot manufacturers to provide mechanized mining and maintenance solutions promises to improve not only current productivity, but ensure a safer, more sustainable future for mining operations.

## ABOUT BROKK

Brokk has been the world's leading manufacturer of electric remote-controlled demolition machines and attachments for nearly 50 years. Through continuous innovation in engineering and design, Brokk is able to offer unique solutions to multiple industries worldwide, including construction, demolition, mining and tunneling, cement and metal processing, nuclear, and other specialty applications.

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# Bold Ventures Inc. poised for discovery

Bold Ventures Inc. (BOL:TSX.V) is a junior mining exploration company with gold and critical mineral projects in Ontario and Québec. Bold is committed to making new discoveries and advancing its projects through responsible exploration while building relationships with stakeholders, including First Nations communities, at all stages of exploration.

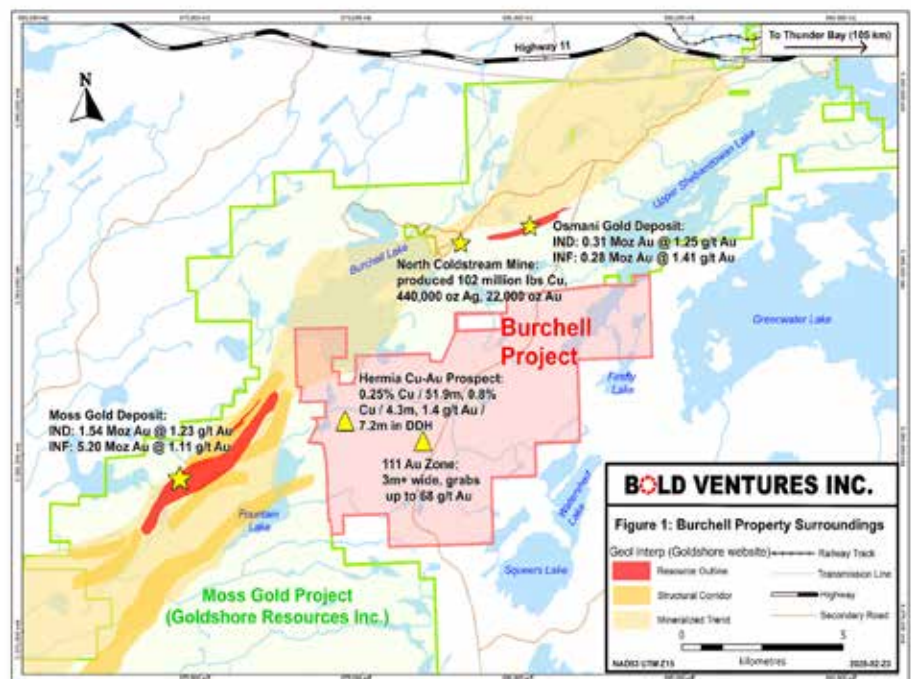
Bold is currently focused on its flagship Burchell Gold and Copper Property located approximately 100 kilometres west of Thunder Bay, Ont., where the company made a high-grade gold discovery in November of last year, with grab samples returning between 10 ppb Au and 68 g/t Au. This brand-new discovery, named the 111 Zone, has never been drilled or sampled to Bold's knowledge. This area will be the focus of work during the upcoming 2025 field season. Less than five kilometres west of the property boundary lies the Moss Gold Deposit owned by Goldshore Resources Inc., which hosts an inferred resource of 5.20 Moz Au and an indicated resource of 1.54 Moz Au (2024 mineral resource estimate). The Moss Trend strikes northeast onto the Burchell Property, where soil sampling last fall yielded gold, molybdenum, copper, and zinc anomalies.

Bold's Traxxin Gold Project is the company's next priority asset and

is located 30 kilometres northwest of the Burchell Property and 40 kilometres east of Agnico Eagle's Hammond Reef deposit (proven and probable reserves of 3.3 Moz Au, measured and indicated resources of 2.3 Moz Au – Agnico website 2025), in a similar geological environment: gold is related to a northeast trending splay off the east-west regional Quetico Fault. The Traxxin Main Zone was discovered in 2016, with one grab sample returning 1281 g/t Au. 2021 drilling by Bold yielded the best intersection to date of 3.6 g/t Au over 12.3 metres, including 6.1 g/t Au over 4.9 metres. Further exploration is planned along strike to the north and south of the Main Zone, as well as further drilling to expand the Main Zone.

Bold's other assets include four additional early-stage gold and critical mineral projects: the Wilcorp Gold Project near Atikokan, Ont.; the Farwell Gold and Copper Project in the Wawa region of Ontario; the Springpole East Gold Project east of Red Lake, Ont. (next to First Mining Gold Corp's Springpole Property hosting the Springpole Gold Deposit [4.9 Moz Au indicated and inferred – First Mining website 2025]); and the Joutel Base Metal and Gold Project in Québec.

The company also owns legacy assets in the Ring of Fire region of Ontario. Bold has a vested 10 per cent carried interest (to production) in the Black Horse Chromite NI-43-101 inferred resource of 85.9 Mt at 34.5 per cent Cr2O3 at a cutoff





Traxxin Discovery Outcrop 1281 g/t Au



grade of 20 per cent Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (KWG/CACR website 2023). Bold has a 40 per cent working interest in all other metals found within the claims and is the All Other Metals' project operator. Bold also owns a right of first refusal on a one per cent net smelter royalty covering all metals produced from the property. The Koper Lake Property is located adjacent to and contiguous with Wyloo Ring of Fire's (formerly Noront Resources Ltd.) Blackbird Chromite deposit and within 300

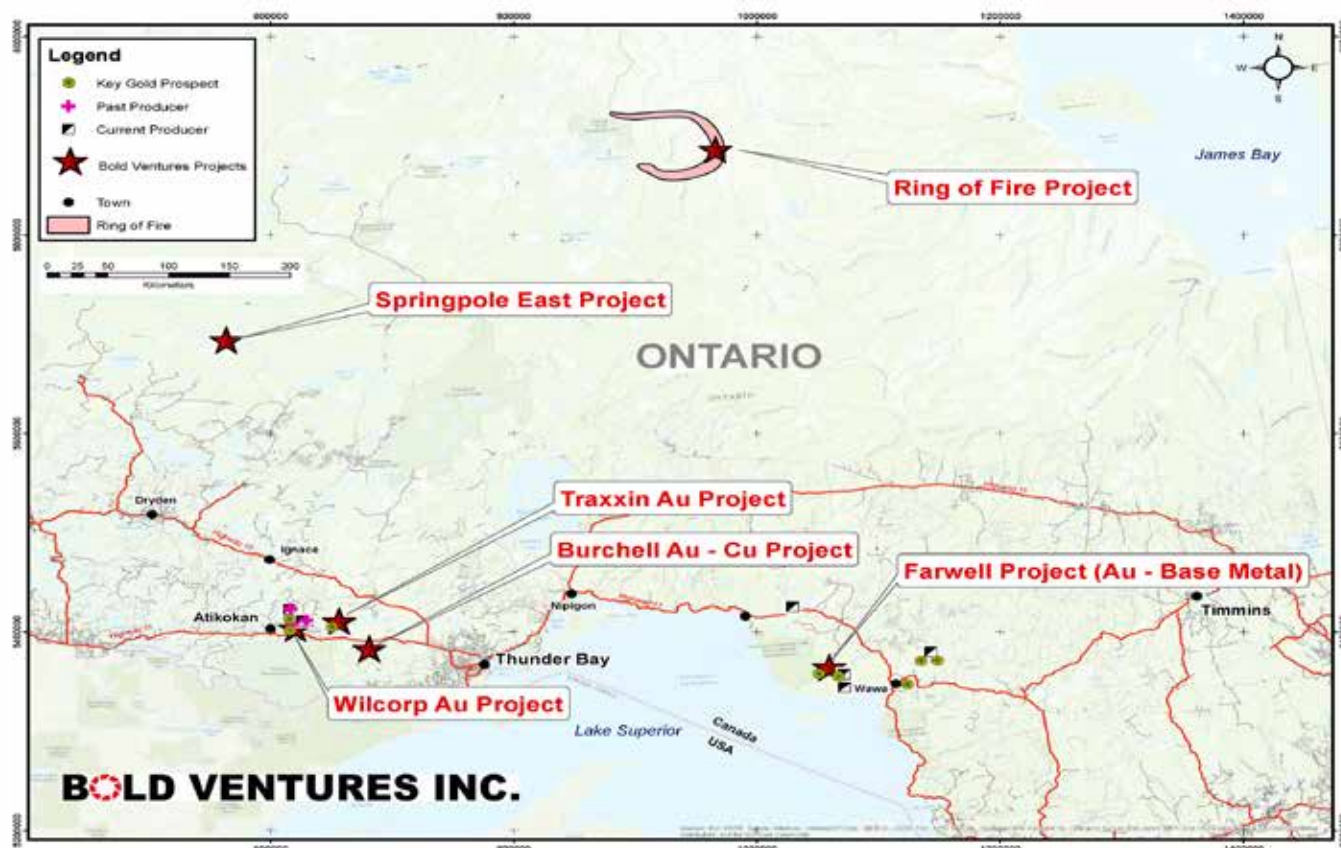
metres of the Eagles Nest Nickel-Copper Massive Sulphide Deposit in the permit stage.

Bold's management team played a key role in the original discovery of the Ring of Fire, Ont. deposits with Noront Resources, as well as in Noront's discovery of the Windfall Gold Deposit in Québec, now owned by Gold Fields Ltd. It also played a key role in the discovery of the Eagle River deposit owned by Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd. in the

Wawa region of Ontario.

The technical information in this article was reviewed and approved by Coleman Robertson, B.Sc., P. Geo., V.P. of exploration for Bold Ventures Inc. and a qualified person (QP) for the purposes of NI 43-101.

For additional information about Bold Ventures and our projects, please visit [www.boldventuresinc.com](http://www.boldventuresinc.com), or contact us at 416-864-1456 or by email at [info@boldventuresinc.com](mailto:info@boldventuresinc.com). 





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**Jetstream** 

# Waterblasting safety for the mine

## Keep the basics in mind to ensure high safety standards

By John Schaer

There are instances in life when standards may be set too high. However, when it comes to waterblasting and handling water jets powerful enough to cut through the toughest pipe buildup, setting the highest safety standards is of the utmost importance—especially when those processes are taking place in a mine setting. Whether ensuring a belt press is free of debris or cleaning a surge tank, meeting OSHA and MSHA standards and keeping contractors and crew members safe are key.

Here are some straightforward steps contractors and internal mine crews should take to start on the right path when it comes to waterblasting safety.

### **CHOOSE YOUR MANUFACTURER WISELY**

Nothing can replace qualified training. However, the manufacturer you work with should provide top-tier equipment and service as well as make safety a priority. Choose a manufacturer that offers a commitment to safety

through both equipment features that help ensure operator safety and aftermarket support and education. For example, some manufacturers offer waterblasting pumps that come standard with a locking rod box, which protects the operator from moving parts and equipment from dirt and debris. Additionally, look for pumps with dual rupture discs to provide pressure relief protection and prevent injury. All operators and other crew members who will be around waterblasting equipment



should read the owner's manual and a manufacturer-provided safety pamphlet.

### **CONSIDER FUNCTIONAL TRAINING**

It's one thing to read about safety, it's another to put it into practice in the field. Some manufacturers offer large-group in-person training sessions that operators can attend. Consider enrolling your operators in a WJTA certification course that includes both classroom and field tests for safe waterblasting practices. In some instances, it may be more feasible to bring a WJTA trainer to a location of your choosing so that your whole crew can receive safety training.

### **COMPLETE AN EQUIPMENT INSPECTION**

All the training in the world can't make up for equipment that isn't in safe working condition. Before heading out for the next pond or line cleaning job, complete an equipment inspection. Operators

should always start by checking and maintaining grease points on waterblasting units. Then, move on to the filters and look for any dirt or debris in the unit—operating with dirt in the system presents tremendous danger as it may lead to a blockage that could cause a line to rupture or propel debris out with the water. Always check for any leaks and determine that water runs through the unit properly. Some manufacturers offer walkthrough videos of the entire inspection process that can be a valuable guide as new operators or crew members come on board.

### **USE YOUR RESOURCES**

In addition to knowing maintenance best practices, use the safety and maintenance resources available. Some tools contain a QR code which links to safety and maintenance videos as well as tips for safe operation. Additionally, look for maintenance and training videos on YouTube from a trusted manufacturer.

### **STANDARDS THAT MATTER MOST**

Maybe there are times in life or at work when standards are set too high or are unachievable. When it comes to waterblasting though? Set your standards high and keep them there.

### **ABOUT JETSTREAM OF HOUSTON LLP**

Jetstream is a leading global manufacturer of industrial high-pressure waterblasting equipment, parts, and accessories. With more than 45 years of experience in the industry, the company offers expertise in products and solutions for maximizing efficiency and minimizing downtime. For more information: Jetstream of Houston LLP, 5905 Thomas Road, Houston, TX 77041; 832-590-1300; [www.waterblast.com](http://www.waterblast.com); Jetstream on Facebook; Jetstream of Houston on LinkedIn; Jetstream Waterblasters on YouTube. 🛠️



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# PDAC announces 2026 Awards recipients

The Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2026 PDAC Awards, celebrating the people and partnerships driving discovery, development, and sustainable growth in the mineral industry.

"The 2026 recipients demonstrate how passion and teamwork can turn ideas into achievement," said Karen Rees, PDAC President. "Their word reflects the determination, resourcefulness, and shared commitment that keep our industry moving forward."

Since 1977 the PDAC Awards have recognized the dedication and ingenuity that drive advancement in communities across Canada and around the world.

The 2026 recipients will be honoured during the PDAC 2026 Convention at the Awards Celebration and Nite Cap on March 3, 2026, at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto. One of the Convention's most anticipated evenings, this event features a cocktail reception, three-course dinner, and the presentation of the PDAC's five prestigious awards, followed by the Nite Cap reception. It offers a unique opportunity to celebrate achievement, connect with industry leaders, and enjoy an evening of networking and inspiration.

## 2026 PDAC AWARDS RECIPIENTS

**Bill Dennis Award:** For a Canadian discover or prospecting success.

- **Canadian Royalties Exploration Team**—For the discovery of the Inukshuk Deposit in Nunavik, Que., Canada.

**Shookum Jim Award:** For Indigenous achievement in the mineral industry.

- **Des Nedhe Group**—For advancing Indigenous entrepreneurship and community-led economic development across the mineral industry in Sask., Canada.

**Sustainability Award:** For outstanding leadership in environmental protection and/or good community relations.

- **Blue Lagoon Resources**—For Commitment to sustainable development and Indigenous partnership at the Dome Mountain Gold Project, B.C., Canada.

**Thayer Lindley Award:** For an international mineral discovery.

- **AngloGold Ashanti, Renaissance Gold, and Callinan Royalties**—For the discovery of the Silicon and Merlin gold-silver deposits (Expanded Silicon Project, now Arthur Project), near Beatty, Nevada, U.S..

**Viola R. MacMillan Award:** For leadership in management and finance for the exploration and/or development of mineral resources.

- **Equinox Gold**—For the acquisition, financing, and development of the Greenstone Mine in Geraldton, Ont., Canada.

## AWARDS SELECTION PROCESS

PDAC's Board of Directors select Award Recipients based on recommendations of the association's Awards Committee. Learn more about the PDAC Awards, including how to nominate candidates for the 2027 PDAC Awards at [pdac.ca/about-pdac/awards](https://pdac.ca/about-pdac/awards).

## AWARDS CELEBRATION & NITE CAP

Ticket sales open on PDAC's website in December.

## ABOUT PDAC

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community, an industry that employs more than 724,000 individuals, and contributed \$156 billion to Canada's GDP in 2024 (Natural Resources Canada, February 2025). Currently representing over 8,200 members around the world, PDAC's work centres on supporting a competitive, responsible, and sustainable mineral sector. PDAC 2026, our 94th annual convention, will take place in person in Toronto, Canada from March 1-4. Please visit [pdac.ca](https://pdac.ca) for more information. 



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# Ontario Mine Rescue to celebrate 100th anniversary and host IMRB Conference in 2029



*Left: Ontario Mine Rescue CEO Mike Parent and Chief Mine Rescue Officer Shawn Rideout present at Austria's IMRB Conference on September 23, 2025.*

*Right: Ontario Mine Rescue Chief Mine Rescue Officer Shawn Rideout*



(September 23, 2025) Salzburg, Austria – Ontario Mine Rescue (OMR) is thrilled to announce that in 2029, it will celebrate its 100th anniversary and have the honour of hosting the International Mine Rescue Body (IMRB) Conference in Ontario, Canada.

OMR's CEO Mike Parent and Chief Mine Rescue Officer Shawn Rideout shared this exciting news Tuesday September 23, 2025 during Austria's IMRB Conference. This biennial conference is a keystone event for the global mine rescue community, as it facilitates networking and knowledge exchange between mine rescue organizations on an international level.

In addition, Shawn Rideout was elected to the IMRB Board of Directors, securing one of only two available positions amid a competitive field of candidates. This election highlights the international recognition of OMR's expertise and leadership in mine rescue and safety.

"Mine safety and emergency preparedness has always been our top priority," said Mike Parent. "Not only will hosting the IMRB Conference in 2029 welcome our international colleagues to share knowledge, innovation, and best practices, but also invites them to celebrate a dedicated century of protecting miners' lives with us."

Ontario Mine Rescue has been at the forefront of mine safety in Canada for 100 years, and the upcoming conference will highlight ongoing advancements in training, equipment, and emergency response, while fostering collaboration with mine rescue organizations worldwide.

A special video announcement has been released, providing a glimpse of what to expect for OMR's centennial celebrations and the 2029 conference.

For more information about OMR, visit [workplacesafetynorth.ca/minerescue](https://workplacesafetynorth.ca/minerescue). 





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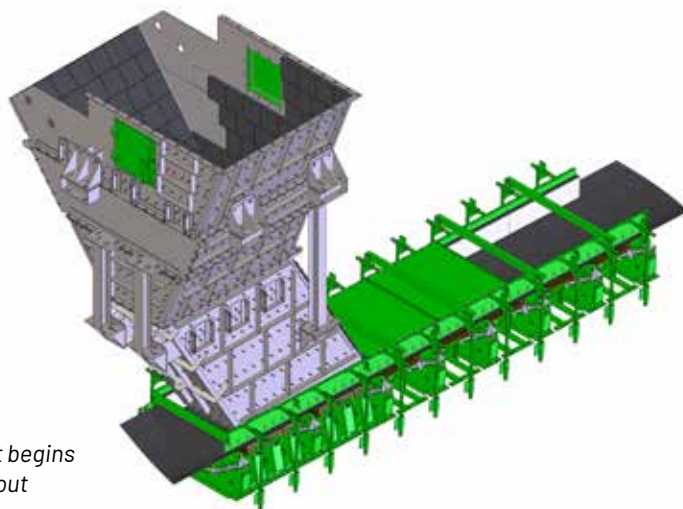
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# Engineering cleaner transfers: The case for complete conveyor sealing in dust control

By Richwood



*The key to passive dust control is a fully sealed conveyor transfer point that begins with proper transfer chute design and ends with effective belt sealing without relying on chemicals or mechanical filtration.*

In the mining and aggregate industries, dust control is not just a matter of regulatory compliance, it's a critical factor in operational efficiency, equipment longevity, and worker safety. Whether moving potash, coal, or crushed rock, transfer points on conveyors are often the biggest contributors to fugitive dust on site.

As more operations look for sustainable, low maintenance solutions, the focus is shifting away from active dust suppression methods like water sprays or collection systems toward passive dust control. This approach aims to contain dust at the source through smarter engineering and better system integration. The key? A fully sealed conveyor transfer point that begins with proper transfer chute design and ends with effective belt sealing without relying on chemicals or mechanical filtration.

Passive dust control is based on the principle of managing airflow and material movement within a sealed environment. Instead of capturing airborne dust after it's been generated, this method prevents dust from escaping in the first place. And in sectors like coal

and potash where dust can be combustible, corrosive, or extremely fine, preventing release at the source is not only safer but also more cost-effective in the long term.

Dust generation often starts in the transfer chute. Poorly designed or undersized chutes create turbulence, unpredictable material flow, and uncontrolled impact forces. These conditions pulverize material, bounce fines into the air, and increase wear throughout the system.

A properly engineered transfer chute must be tailored to the application. By controlling the trajectory and energy of the falling material, properly designed chutes reduce both spillage and airborne particles from the outset.

Too often, discussions about dust control jump straight to sealing components like skirting or curtains. But those solutions can only be effective if the conveyor belt itself is properly supported. If the belt is sagging between idlers or has any vertical movement while being loaded, efforts to seal fines and dust will typically fail.

In fact, trying to seal against a moving unstable belt



creates gaps and pressure inconsistencies that actively promote dust escape. Proper belt support is fundamental. This is usually best accomplished using engineered impact beds or cradles. It provides a stable, consistent surface that allows sealing components to function as designed. Without it, every other dust control measure is compromised.

## **THE FIVE PILLARS OF PASSIVE DUST CONTAINMENT**

A high-performance passive dust control system integrates several interdependent components. These include:

### **1. Controlled Material Flow**

The geometry of the transfer chute should guide material smoothly and centrally onto the belt, minimizing bounce and degradation that leads to fine dust creation.

### **2. Energy Dissipation and Belt Support**

Engineered belt support systems—like impact saddles or idlers—absorb the shock of material drop, protect belt integrity, and ensure the belt remains flat and steady, enabling effective sealing.

### **3. Full Transfer Enclosure**

Effective containment requires more than just basic skirting. It demands a sealed system—including rugged wear liners, properly design skirting, skirtboards, and proper sealing rubber—to prevent escape paths for dust-laden air.

### **4. Air Velocity Reduction**

Turbulent air is one of the primary causes of dust becoming airborne. Passive systems use baffled stilling zones and dust curtains to slow air movement, allowing fine particles to settle back onto the belt.

### **5. Pressure Equalization**

A sealed enclosure must allow for pressure relief to prevent sudden air bursts that force dust out. Passive systems incorporate venting, chimneys, and extended containment zones based on CEMA 575 principles, allowing dust to settle naturally without needing active suppression.



Across North America and globally, mining operations are proving the value of this passive approach. Companies like Richwood have delivered complete transfer point solutions that significantly reduce dust without water, filters, or moving parts.

In one coal facility example, implementing a full Richwood passive dust system reduced visible dust emissions to near-zero while cutting cleanup time and improving conveyor belt life. In potash handling, systems have maintained long-term performance in highly corrosive, fine dust environments. And in aggregates they've proven successful under heavy impact from high tonnage loads, reducing spillage and airborne particulate.

In addition to improved worker safety and actual system performance, passive dust control is far less maintenance intensive than active dust control methods like misting systems or baghouses. Its long-term impact on safety, production, and worker morale is significant.

## **ABOUT RICHWOOD**

Richwood engineers complete conveyor solutions for the mining and bulk material handling industries, specializing in dust containment, impact protection, and belt support. With almost 50 years of field experience, Richwood products are trusted worldwide for durability and performance. Learn more at [www.richwood.com](http://www.richwood.com). 

# THE Mining Investment Event

THE Mining Investment Event – Canada’s Only Tier 1 Global Mining Investment Conference® is held annually in Québec City, Canada. It is independently sponsored and designed to facilitate privately arranged meetings between mining companies, international investors, and various mining and government authorities. The conference has become one of the most important platforms in Canadian mining for investors and thought leaders in the sector. THE Event is also committed to promoting diversity,

equality, and sustainability in the mining industry through education and innovation through its unique Student Sponsorship and SHE-Co Initiatives.

THE Event launched International Mining Week with the support of the international Trade and Forfeiting Association (ITFA), representing the rights and interests of banks, financial institutions and service providers involved in trade risk and asset origination and distribution, and the Association Minière du

Québec (AMQ), who count as members some of the largest international mining issuers. The vision for International Mining Week is to create collaborative partnerships that bring together international mining companies, supply chain expertise, investors, and government entities in one location concurrent with THE Event. THE Event will be announcing other mining community groups and jurisdictions as we grow this initiative. ⚒

**Information on THE Mining Investment Event & International Mining Week, or register to attend: [www.themininginvestmentevent.com](http://www.themininginvestmentevent.com)**



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