

INSIDE RESOURCES

MINING AND QUARRYING INTELLIGENCE

Friday 9 February, 2018

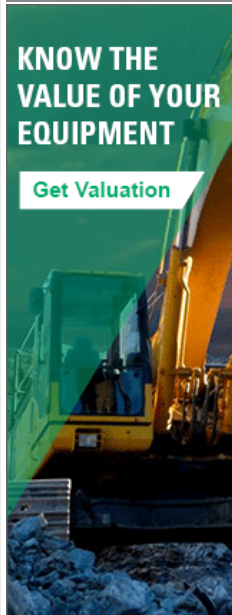


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Recent comments

MinEx says no silicosis risk for residents (2)

Thanks Murray. The press release has gone too general media so hopefully some will pick it up.
 Wayne Scott

MinEx says no silicosis risk for residents (2)

This is a great article, but nothing that we didn't already know. Pleased that Wayne has met with Dr Humphrey as it is...
 Murray Francis

Plan needed for aggregate supply to Christchurch (1)

Rail it over from Westport, plenty in the Buller river, right next railway. Good for flood protection as well, two...
 Neal Clementson

Call to save lives from RCS exposure - MinEx (1)

It is interesting that operators focus on health checks rather than exposure monitoring. By the time health monitoring...
 Kerry Cheung

Young accuses PM of mining policy misinformation (1)

Jonathan Young has hit the nail on the head. The

Yaldhurst dust monitoring failure risk - MinEx

Bernie Napp - Fri, 15 Dec 2017

The Yaldhurst quarry dust monitoring programme will likely prove nothing, MinEx warns.

Canterbury Regional Council is due this month to start monitoring the contribution of quarries to airborne fine dust particles and respirable crystalline silica (RCS) in Yaldhurst. At issue is whether the quarries are affecting the health of residents from long-term exposure to dust.

MinEx CEO Wayne Scott says he is worried the three-month monitoring programme will fail to deliver any useful results.

"All that will happen is the instruments will collect various airborne matter that cannot be correlated with the exposure of residents in Yaldhurst to RCS."

"It's very likely going to be a waste of time and money, and the temptation will be to try to draw conclusions from the work when there are none to be made."

Scott, a former quarry manager in Australia, says ambient monitoring, as a measure of dust exposure, was dropped years ago across the Tasman in favour of personal dust monitors worn by individuals exposed to dust.

"Personal monitors are the only way to reliably measure a person's exposure to dust as they go about their daily lives, because the monitor goes where the person goes," Scott says.

An initial personal monitoring trial of eight Yaldhurst residents, and one non-resident, revealed negligible risk to health from exposure to dust and RCS, ECan reported last month.

Airborne dust is a general issue in Canterbury, blown from dry riverbeds, high mountains, agriculture and other land-uses, construction, as well as quarries.

Yaldhurst quarries step up dust management

Harewood Gravel's appeal to the High Court of the Environment Court's overturning of resource consent for a new quarry throws a question over the future of quarrying in Yaldhurst.

The outcome of that case, to be heard in February next year, will affect existing quarry operators Fulton Hogan, GBC Winstone, Road Metals, and KB Quarries, and recently-consented Frews Quarries, and SOL Quarries.

The Canterbury Aggregate Producers' Group has been reconvened to engage with ECan on dust management.

In new developments, Fulton Hogan has just installed a fogging system at their Miners Road quarry, and GBC Winstone installed a mobile unit three months ago at their Old West Coast Road site.

Using a water-blaster pump, water at high pressure is sprayed through thin nozzles to produce a fine mist at targeted areas and times when dust is produced during rock processing around the quarry site.

In the past year GBC Winstone has re-routed trucks leaving the quarry onto a new sealed road of more than 400 metres in length. That and water sprinklers, and other water spraying equipment ensure laden trucks leave the site clean of dust.

As a rule, the quarry companies stop removing raw material during very high winds, noting there are days where some airborne dust from quarries is inevitable.

Best-practice for dust control at quarries is to apply water to processes where dust is generated, typically transfer points and where material drops into bins or onto stockpiles. Once the dust is airborne it is difficult to control. Nozzles applying water, mist or fog need to be directed to dust-generating areas, appropriately sized, and maintained to avoid clogging up.

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Autonomous vehicles inevitable in mines and quarries

Cameron Massey

Leading quarry and mining equipment dealers believe it is only a matter of time until autonomous vehicles are operating widely in the industry.



Mimico general manager Chris Gray says at this stage the technology may be better suited to the civil construction sector, but he says the technology could be transferred to the mining industry soon.

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Plan needed for aggregate supply to Christchurch

Bernie Napp

The Harewood Gravel High Court appeal highlights growing pressure on aggregate supply to Greater Christchurch.



If the High Court agrees with the Environment Court on this appeal by the Road Metals-Isaac Construction joint venture, the availability of resource would reduce, even in quarry zones.

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Practical Pete

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Matt Freeman



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- **EXECUTIVE INTERVIEW: Michael Meehan - West Coast Regional Council**

Factfiles

Organisation Factfile	Fulton Hogan Road Metals GBC Winstone
Resource factfile	Miners Road (Fulton Hogan) Yaldhurst (Road Metals) Yaldhurst (GBC Winstone) Miners Road (KB Group)

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Supporting our Industry's Future Leaders.

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MML 322522
 Minerals mining licence



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Organisation Factfile

Silver Fern Farms



CEO	Dean Hamilton
Revenue 2016	\$2147.2m
Ownership	100 per cent farmer-owned co-operative
Description	Large coal user

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