Kalgoorlie to host landmark Sustainable Mining Conference

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As the appetite for commodities in developing economies steadily increases, many believe Australia is on the cusp of another mining boom.

As a result, continuous improvement aimed at reducing the environmental footprint of mining and ensuring that communities benefit from mining activity is a priority for companies and professionals working in the industry. The AusIMM Sustainable Mining Conference will address the challenge of sustainable mining by drawing on the knowledge of leading experts and innovators, as well as drawing on case studies of what can and has been done.

To be held from 17 - 19 August at the WMC Conference Centre Kalgoorlie, conference sessions will address topics such as: Increasing the Energy Efficiency of Mining and Processing Operations; Reduction, Reuse and Remediation; Sustainable Water Use, and Communities and Local Adaptation.

The conference theme is Sustainable Mining – A Business Case. Conference chair Morrie Goodz says the Conference will have a strong, local hands-on approach.

“Kalgoorlie has a history of over a century of mining activity, and continually improving and adapting both technology and practice in order to deliver consistently improved sustainability outcomes,” Morrie said. “Many of the case studies are of mines operating in the Kalgoorlie Goldfields, and there are also opportunities to attend open pit and underground mine tours, so there will be a great chance to look more closely at possible solutions in this region.

“We are also fortunate to have presenters from overseas locations such as Papua New Guinea and Indonesia.”

The conference will include a strong technology and innovation focus with Dr Peter Lilly, Director of CSIRO Minerals Down Under Flagship providing the opening keynote on the topic of: A Sustainable Minerals Sector in Australia? Thoughts from a Science and Technology Perspective.

Issues of regulation, royalties and native title will be addressed by experts in these fields at the Sustainable Mining Conference.

“A key aim of the conference is to encourage a multi-disciplinary approach by creating a program that has relevance to the work of geologists, environmental scientists and engineers, along with senior managers, regulators and policymakers,” Mr Goodz said.

“As regulations and social expectations increase, an integrated approach is critical. Many companies are already taking this approach, and others are looking for innovative practices and technologies that will allow them to do so.”
The event has attracted strong sponsorship from local operators and global companies, with GHD and Gold Fields Australia Pty Limited principal sponsors of the Conference, and Goodz GMC and KCGM major sponsors of the Conference.


**Full technical program:**

**Media contact:**
Monika Sarder
Manager, Policy & Professional Standards
The AusIMM
(03) 9658 6159
0406 061 455
msarder@ausimm.com.au

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