



## COMPANY ANNOUNCEMENT

25 May 2017

### **PanAust Way Ahead in innovation**

PanAust’s innovative approach to mining has been recognised at the Austmine 2017 Mining Innovation Conference & Exhibition in Perth, where PanAust was a finalist for the 2017 Miners Innovation Award.

The nomination recognises the inventive solution developed by PanAust’s employees to simplify and improve the maintenance of its primary excavator fleet in Laos.

PanAust Managing Director, Dr Fred Hess noted the significance of the nomination.

“PanAust is proud to be recognised for its innovative approach to the business of mining. Working with Global Bucket Solutions, we have designed and implemented a new way to undertake maintenance activity that has led to significant improvement in performance with a significant reduction in risk,” said Dr Hess.

The replacement of slew ring bearings in the PC3000 face shovel and PC 2000 excavator fleet typically involves the use of cranes to separate the large face shovels and excavator track frames from the car body. Given the high resource-intensity of the separation process, PanAust and GBS set about identifying a new approach to be applied by the Mobile Maintenance Workshop at the Phu Kham Copper-Gold Operation in Laos.

The result is a custom-built ‘banana link’ jacking stand designed, engineered and certified in accordance with relevant Eurocodes that enable car bodies to be lifted inside the mobile maintenance workshop. This approach fundamentally improved the process of changing out slew ring bearings by saving time and money.

Most importantly, it improves safety outcomes by removing the inherent risks associated with working with suspended loads and the hazards presented by crane use and interaction.

“The broader use of this system within the mining industry has the potential to enhance workplace safety and efficiency,” Dr Hess commented.

This follows both the Phu Kham Operation and Ban Houayxai Gold-Silver Operation in Laos again achieving the maximum Caterpillar ‘5-star Contamination Control Facility’ rating for their mobile maintenance workshops and associated supply facilities in October 2016.





*A PC3000 lifted from the carbody by the custom-built 'banana link' jacking stand. The jacking system is used to replace slew rings in the PC3000 face shovel and PC 2000 excavator fleet inside the Phu Kham Copper-Gold Operation's mobile maintenance workshop.*

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