



LYCOPodium ENGINEERING - Kwinana Nickel Refinery Replacement Hydrogen Sulphide

LOCATION	DURATION	VALUE	MAN HOURS
Kwinana, WA	Jun 2006 - Dec 2006	\$1.5 million	8,600

Project Overview

Lycopodium was awarded the EPCM contract by BHP Billiton to replace the aging H₂S plant at the Kwinana Nickel Refinery. Lycopodium engaged ECM as the key electrical and instrumentation contractor.

The Kwinana Nickel Refinery uses the Sherritt-Gordon ammonia leach process to convert nickel matte from the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter into London Metal Exchange grade nickel briquettes. The refinery receives two thirds of the nickel matte from the Kalgoorlie Nickel Smelter where nickel from Mt Keith and Leinster is smelted.

The refinery also produces nickel powder and a number of intermediate products including copper sulphide, cobalt-nickel sulphide and ammonium sulphate. The refinery was producing 32,000t/pa of nickel metal in 1993 and can now handle in excess of 70,000t/pa. It is the world's third-largest producer of refined nickel.

Scope of Work

- Specialised works in hazardous areas.
- Supply and installation of all electrical and instrumentation materials and equipment including selection, installation and pre-calibration of all hazardous areas drivers and instrumentation.
- After completion of the Hydrogen Sulphide Replacement, ECM was retained for 2.5 years to assist BHP in their capex and maintenance areas.