



Big wheels roll out mining software revolution

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Australian tyre experts, Klinge Group, have joined forces with the world's pre-eminent gold producer to achieve one of the largest deployments of tyre management software ever undertaken in the mining industry.

In January 2008, Barrick awarded Klinge the contract to install its Total Tyre Control software to provide a standardized system across all mines, providing significant potential commercial, safety and environmental benefits for the gold producer.

Klinge Co-executive Director Tom Klinge said the scheduled rollout of 23 mine sites was almost complete with successful installations at 20 mines across seven countries – Australia, Tanzania, the United States, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Argentina and Chile.

"Barrick had been using a variety of methods across their mines to track the life of tyres," Mr Klinge said. "A standard interdependent system will provide a reliable and consistent method to monitor and evaluate each tyre's performance.

"Klinge's Total Tyre Control tracks tyres and rims, provides in-depth information on tread wear, tyre usage, manufacturer comparison and more. It quickly identifies the best tyre for the job, monitors day-to-day tyre maintenance, reports on tyre performance and condition, and includes accurate tyre budget forecasting.

"It will allow better tyre performance, tyre selection, increase safety levels and increased fleet production at a lower tyre cost."

Mr Klinge said Total Tyre Control had been created after the Klinge Group was unable to find software to meet its own needs and the needs of the mining industry.

"We couldn't find it, so we built it," he said.

"For Barrick, this software allows the data from each mine to be delivered to five regional offices: Perth Australia; Salt Lake City, USA; Santiago, Chile; Johannesburg, South Africa; and the Corporate Head Office in Toronto, Canada. This is done through Klinge's unique 'Data Transfer Agent' (DTA) that moves the data seamlessly

and provides all users – whether regional or corporate – access to tyre and rim information including inventory, performance outcomes, budget and forecasting using the Klinge Total Tyre Control Consolidator Browser software.”

The software now in use in mines across the world is one of a number of products of an Australian company with small beginnings.

The Klinge Group began in 1971 when Tom Klinge, with the support of his wife and now Co-director Dianne, decided to go out on his own as a freelance/contract tyre fitter. The business started slowly but, through hard work, has grown to a team of about 100, with a global support office in Brisbane, Australia, and people in Indonesia, the United States and New Zealand. The company has an emphasis on safety and customer service.

The Klinge Group has four focus areas:

1. Tyre maintenance and management services, with people currently working at mine sites in Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Western Australia;
2. Tyre management consulting;
3. Tyre service training (Klinge is a Registered Training Organisation); and
4. Tyre software, with the Total Tyre Control Earthmover software used by 400 customers in 28 countries.

The Klinge Group customers include: Rio Tinto, BHP Billiton, Xstrata, Peabody, Freeport McMoRan (FMI), Grupo Mexico, Lihir Gold, SLN New Caledonia, Michelin Tyres, Marathon Tyres, KPC Indonesia, PT Inco Indonesia, Newmont Gold and Barrick.

For more information about the Klinge Group and Klinge Group products, visit www.klinge.com.au