

MEDIA RELEASE



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SUNRISE DAM GOLD MINE DISTINGUISHED FOR OUTSTANDING SAFETY AND HEALTH EXCELLENCE

The Australian minerals industry's highest accolade for safety and health excellence – the MINEX Trophy – was last night awarded to **AngloGold Ashanti's Sunrise Dam Gold Mine** in Western Australia.

For the past 10 years, MINEX - the National Minerals Industry Safety and Health Excellence Awards - has successfully emphasised the minerals industry's commitment to the safety and health of its workforce and underscored the industry's pursuit of continuous improvement in achieving the industry's goal of zero harm.

MINEX is a public celebration of that commitment and recognition of the industry's collective determination to distinguish excellence and learn from each other how best to achieve an industry free of fatalities, injuries and diseases.

Presenting the 2004 MINEX Trophy and Awards at the Queensland Mining Industry Health and Safety Conference in Townsville, Minerals Council of Australia (MCA) Chairman, Mr Greig Gailey, said the team at Sunrise Dam Gold had demonstrated outstanding improvements in safety and health culture and performance.

"Sunrise Dam has made significant gains in its safety and health performance, developing a comprehensive integrated approach comprising highly committed leadership, rigorous risk management processes, continuity of communication, and a strong emphasis on the workforce and their families," Mr Gailey said.

Highly Commended Awards were presented to two operations, **Pilbara Rail (Rio Tinto)** and **BMA (BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance) Goonyella Riverside Mine** in Queensland, while **International Power Hazelwood** in Victoria received a Commended Award.

Two sites received Acknowledgements – **Henry Walker Eltin's South Middleback Ranges Iron Ore Operations** in South Australia and **Peak Gold Mines** at Cobar in NSW, owned by **Wheaton Minerals Asia Pacific**.

In congratulating the MINEX Award recipients, entrants, evaluators and judges, Mr Gailey emphasised the strength of the MINEX process in promoting safety and health awareness and continuous improvement across all levels of management and operations.

"MINEX encourages sites to learn and improve their approach to safety and health management, benchmark their performance against the industry nationwide and develop quality-based systems and processes.

"At a broader level, the MINEX process of recognising excellence and identifying and promoting best practice is a key factor which over the past decade has made the MCA's Safety and Health Strategy practicable, nationally consistent, outcomes focussed and performance measurable.

"MINEX is a key component of the MCA's health and safety strategy on behalf of member companies to drive for ever improving industry performance," Mr Gailey concluded.