

Challenger



Location: 600 kilometres north-west of Adelaide, Gawler Craton region, South Australia

Client: Dominion Mining

Commodity: Gold

Contract duration: February 2004 to December 2011

Major contractor since: 2004



A golden operation

HWE Mining provides the full range of underground mining services at the Challenger gold mine in South Australia, where gold is mined using conventional uphole stoping methods.

One of the most productive underground mines in Australia, the Challenger mine initially started out as an open-cut operation in October 2002, before transitioning to underground operations during early 2004. Full scale underground production commenced early in 2005 and the mine life is expected to extend beyond 2011.

HWE Mining provides skilled labour to perform mechanised underground development and stoping using drill and blast techniques, as well as maintenance and transportation services at Challenger. We use the complete range of

underground mining plant and equipment at the mine.

Challenger operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and employs 140 personnel. HWE Mining employs over 60 people at the mine.

In March 2007 Challenger poured its 10th tonne of gold, a significant achievement for the mine considering its size and location, not to mention the original expectation of a two-year mine life.

This exceptional result is testament to the highly successful partnership approach between HWE Mining and Dominion Mining, where operational teams work collaboratively to meet rigorous safety and production targets.

Production results at a glance

- 420,000 tonnes of gold ore mined per year
- 5,000 metres of horizontal development per year
- 72,000 metres of production drilling per year
- 14,000 metres of diamond drilling per year