



Location: 150 kilometres south-east of Auckland in Waihi, New Zealand

Client: Newmont Australia Pty Ltd

Commodity: Gold

Contract duration: December 2004 to May 2010

Major contractor since: 2004



Maximising the mine's potential

HWE Mining has been responsible for the development, management and operation of the Favona underground gold mine in New Zealand since 2004. Gold was first extracted from the mine in 2006 using modified Avoca retreat long-hole benching.

The mine currently produces 80,000 ounces of gold annually – an excellent result for a mine of its size – and the life of the mine is expected to extend until 2010.

HWE Mining provides the full range of underground mining services at the Favona mine. This includes mechanised underground development and stoping using drill and blast

techniques, as well as maintenance and transportation services. We use the complete range of underground mining plant and equipment at the mine.

Favona operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and employs 106 personnel, most of whom live locally. HWE Mining employs over 90 people at the mine.

In October 2007, Favona celebrated a major safety and health performance milestone – 1,000 days without a single Lost Time Injury on site – a very significant achievement for an underground mine site.

Production results at a glance

- 300,000 tonnes of gold ore mined per year
- 5,500 metres of horizontal development per year
- 100,000 metres of production drilling per year
- 10,800 metres of diamond drilling per year