

Middlemount Mine



Location: Bowen Basin, near Middlemount, Queensland
Client: Custom Mining (Middlemount) Pty Ltd
Commodity: Coal
Duration: Life of mine, start August 2007



A partnership for the long haul

A newcomer to the industry client Custom Mining (Middlemount) Pty Ltd is developing its first site, Middlemount, and is ambitious for its future. A greenfield site, Leighton Mining has been contracted to perform the entire mining operations for the life of the project. We are responsible for preparing the mine site and its facilities, mine planning, surface mining operations and site rehabilitation. Leighton Mining is also responsible for managing the camp.

In the initial stage (two years) of the mine operations Middlemount Mine will produce two million tonnes of coal – a mix of hard coking coal and low volatile pulverised coal injection coal – a year. The product will be washed and railed to port for export to overseas markets.

In stage two the client will introduce an ultra-class fleet to complement Leighton Mining's existing fleet and mining production will gear up to about four million tonnes of coal a year. Leighton Mining employees will operate and maintain all equipment.

Some 44 million tonnes of coal will be removed over the expected 15 year life of the mine. Further localised resources may extend the mine's life.

Leighton Mining runs a fleet of two 600-tonne excavators and nine 220-tonne dump trucks at Middlemount Mine which haul overburden to designated waste dumps and coal to the run-of-mine load out for processing. Equipment is operated and maintained on site by teams of trained and skilled people.

The mining fleet will be used to mine both overburden and coal.

Initially the Middlemount workforce will consist of 95 persons expanding to a full workforce during stage two of around 140 people, working 11 to 12-hour shifts on a seven-days-on, seven-days-off roster. The workforce will be housed in purpose-built accommodation located in the local district.