

## Minerals Industry - Facts

Did you know ....

- The mining industry **employs more environmental scientists than any other industry.**
- **Over 20 different mineral commodities** are produced in significant amounts in Australia.
- Australian mineral production comes from **over 400 medium-sized to large mines.**
- Since 1990 **more than 12 new world-class mineral deposits** have been discovered in Australia.
- **Australia** remains effectively **under-explored**, particularly at depths over 100m.
- **Environmental management** of mining encompasses all phases of the mineral industry from discovery through to mining, processing and rehabilitation.
- Over **5600 petroleum exploration** wells have been drilled in Australia.
- Major **oil and gas discoveries** include
  - Giant gas condensate fields on **the North West Shelf** (Carnarvon and Browse Basins)
  - **Exmouth Sub-basin** (Carnarvon Basin)
  - **Otway Basin**
  - **Perth Basin**

## Did you know ....

- Australia is the **leading producer** of
  - **Bauxite and alumina**
  - **Diamonds (by volume)**
  - **Ilmenite, rutile and zircon**
  - **Tantalum**
- Australia is the **second largest producer of zinc ore**
- Australia is the **third largest producer** of
  - **Aluminium**
  - **Iron ore**
  - **Nickel**
  - **Gold**
- Australia is the **largest exporter** of
  - **Gold**
  - **Iron ore**
  - **Black coal**
- The Australian Minerals Industry has **contributed \$500 billion directly to Australia's wealth** over the past 20 years through export sales.
- **60% of mining software used** in operations around the world is exported **from Australia**.
- **Directly and indirectly employs** around **321 000** Australians

*Reference: Minerals Council of Australia Annual Report 2003*