

Genet Mining finds huge benefit in supporting local

The success that Bell Equipment, as an original equipment manufacturer has had amongst the Southern African mining fraternity, coupled with its user-friendly accessibility, is proof of what endears it to its clients.

So says Japie Botes, Managing Director of Genet Mining. Genet Mining is the South African contract mining subsidiary of Genet SA, which operates on the larger African continent. Other subsidiaries include Genet Mineral Processing, McPhails and Econoslag.

“What is important to us as contract mining clients of Bell Equipment, is that the company is accessible to us,” he says. “Bell Equipment speaks our language and is of the same culture as we are, which leads to an instant and positive understanding of our business.”

This, according to Botes, makes his company’s personal relationship with Bell Equipment and its personnel unique and adds to the success of both.

Genet Mining is heavily involved in contract coal mining for some of that industry’s major players.

Typical contracts last three years allowing Genet to commit to capital-intensive purchases of earthmoving equipment. The very nature of contract-mining dictates that it is production driven with the client demanding maximum uptime from its mining contractor and his earthmoving and material-handling equipment.

“To attain this benchmark for production, we as a company have the policy to maintain our Bell earthmoving equipment with original OEM spares and we adhere to strict service intervals of 250 hours,” he adds. “The advantages of this policy can be found in some of our 2007-model Bell B40D Articulated Dump Trucks (ADTs) that despite having done in excess of 23 000 hours, are still in productive use each day.”

Genet Mining’s fleet of Bell machines now numbers just more than 130 and comprises L1806D and L2606D Front End Loaders, Bell B40D and B50D ADTs and Bell 770G and 870G Graders. Bell 315SJ Tractor Loader Backhoes complete the fleet. Bell manufactured machines are generally acquired with extended warranties on their wet drive trains, which the company believes, adds to their working life.



Japie Botes (left) MD Genet Mining and Carel Venter (right) Bell Equipment Sales Representative: Middelburg.

The company offers total pit services starting with overburden removal, drilling and blasting and coal extraction using dozers, ADTs and mechanical shovels. Product stockpile and discard management is also offered. Even when full mining is not required, material-handling, haul road maintenance, rehabilitation and civil construction projects are tackled with equal commitment.

In the Mpumalanga coal mines, rollover mining is generally practiced where rehabilitation is done concurrently with the mining process.

“Each of our mining projects is treated as an individual business unit and our managers have single-point accountability,” Botes says. “It must be said though that the advantage for us with our coal projects in the Middelburg, Mpumalanga area is that Bell Equipment has a Customer Service Centre on our doorstep.”

According to Botes, earthmoving equipment performance is reliant on its technical back-up service

and this is where Bell Equipment has a distinct advantage with its well-established and wide service network.

“Bell Equipment’s B40D and B50D ADTs have made their mark as good all-wheel driven haulers in challenging underfoot conditions in many places but I want to point out how we’ve come to enjoy using their Bell 770G and 870G Graders,” he smiles. “We believe we were the first Southern African contract mining company to use these Bell Graders and have been mightily impressed with their performances where they are used to maintain our many haul roads and loading platforms.”

Backing this statement of confidence in the Richards Bay-based brand is the fact that Genet Mining recently took delivery of three Bell 870G and three Bell 770G Graders with the aim of complementing their Bell fleet on their coal mining projects.

