

While our job is to tell stories for other people, from time to time we have stories of our own to tell.

These appear on an ad hoc basis in Intelligence.

September 2009

- Last month, like many of you, I helped swell the crowds to record size at Diggers & Dealers. My take was that the atmosphere was tremendous and a number of people remarked to me that the mood was far more positive than it had been 12 months earlier – evidence of the rebound everyone's talking about
- Interesting that the GFC actually started to kick in almost exactly a year ago and while we've all held our breath to varying degrees since then, I think you'd agree that things could have been far worse for us in Australia – and they have been in many other parts of the world
- InTelligence is always published to coincide with the ABS's release of quarterly exploration stats and the latest figures are out today
- Nationally, the trend estimate for mineral exploration (other than petroleum) fell by 10.7% in the June quarter, much the same as the 10.6% fall in the March quarter. But seasonally adjusted, the June quarter fall was 5.6% compared with 17.9% in the March quarter. Clearly, in seasonally adjusted terms the decline in exploration is leveling out
- Total metres drilled (nationally) was up by 4.4% in the June quarter, the first increase in a year
- Petroleum exploration also rose in the quarter, by 1.9% to \$1017.4m
- In SA, mineral exploration (other than petroleum) rose from \$36m in the March quarter to \$41.8m in the June quarter – again, the first increase in 12 months
- Importantly, the majority of the increase was in new deposits, which more than doubled from \$10.3m to \$25.4m quarter on quarter
- And mineral by mineral, uranium exploration led the SA rebound, up from \$10.7m in the March quarter to \$21.7m in June
- In the same period, petroleum exploration in SA virtually doubled from \$17.9m to \$34.2m

- In other news, one new service we have recently been providing to clients is the provision of detailed and tailored community profiles, which enable a more targeted approach to community engagement. Please contact us for additional details
- And to close, some concrete examples which underline the confidence I referred to in opening this edition
- Rex Minerals share price has increased from around 12.5c at the beginning of the year to more than \$2 as this edition was being produced, on the back of some sensational and very exciting Cu-Au discoveries on Yorke Peninsula. Marlow Communications is proud to have been working with Rex throughout the year on its Government and Community Engagement Programs
- Iron Road has announced a 4 billion tonne magnetite gneiss exploration target at Warrambo on the Eyre Peninsula, confirming potential for one of Australia's most significant new magnetite projects. We are working with Iron Road on its engagement with the EP community and the SA Government
- Centrex is still waiting to hear from Minister Holloway re the DAC's recommendation on exporting iron ore from Port Lincoln; latest word is that this key announcement may be only days away. Clearly this announcement will have far-reaching implications for the infrastructure so urgently needed for the export of bulk ore from SA
- Altona Energy is working toward reaching a funding agreement to complete a BFS on its Arckaringa coal-to-liquid project in the north of SA. On current thinking, Arckaringa could comprise a modern, combined-cycle power station adding 560Mw to the national grid; a resource equivalent to 7.8 billion barrels of clean-burning fuel for Australia and the world; and hydrocarbon feedstock for the production of many high-value products ranging from fertilisers to plastics. Altona is a major client of Marlow Communications and we are delighted to be working on a project with such large-scale implications for the State.
- Our pick of the forthcoming conferences and events . . .
 - SACOME's 3rd Health, Safety, Environment & Community in Resources conference, Hilton Adelaide, 15 October
 - Mining 2009, Brisbane, 28-30 October
 - SA Explorers' Conference, Adelaide Convention Centre, 27 November

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