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Media release:

OZ Minerals Wins South Australian Training Award



As part of the South Australian Government Training Awards, OZ Minerals has taken out the 'Training Initiative Award'.

OZ Minerals was recognized for our Prominent Hill Pre-employment Training Program (PEP) and other initiatives related to indigenous training and employment.

The current Pre-Employment Program, the sixth, includes participants from the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands, most of whom have never had full time employment or worked in the mining industry.

With support from OZ Minerals staff, nineteen students from the APY Lands are participating in nationally accredited TAFE modules; Certificate 1, Resources and Infrastructure – Operations and Certificate 2, Metaliferous Mining and Operations – Open Cut. Successful graduates, who reach specified criteria in relation to health and fitness, will be offered employment at OZ Minerals Prominent Hill mine.

The 2009 pre-employment program involved the local Antakarinja community and was very successful, placing seven people in full time employment. OZ Minerals has previously run five pre-employment programs, in which 42 local and regional people were trained, over 30 of whom are still employed on-site at Prominent Hill.

The South Australian Training Awards are the peak State awards for vocational education and training (VET), recognising innovation and excellence in the training sector.

The awards aim to recognise organizations and individuals for their efforts and achievements. They also aim to raise the profile of skills and reward businesses and organisations for innovative approaches to training that help to develop industries and workforces.

As a winner of the SA Award OZ Minerals are automatically entered into the National Australian Training Awards held in Sydney in November this year.

OZ Minerals operates the Prominent Hill copper mine in northern South Australia, located approximately 130 Kilometers from Coober Pedy. The mine has a preferential local employment policy and employs approximately 600 people of whom over 80 percent are from South Australia.

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