



Location	600km north-west of Adelaide, Gawler Craton region, SA
Client	Dominion Mining
Commodity	Gold
Major contractor since	2004



HWE Mining provides the full range of underground mining services at the Challenger gold mine in South Australia, where gold is mined using conventional uphole stoping methods.

One of the most productive underground mines in Australia, the Challenger mine initially started out as an open-cut operation in October 2002, before transitioning to underground operations during early 2004. Full scale underground production commenced early in 2005 and the mine life is expected to extend beyond 2011.

HWE Mining provides skilled labour to perform mechanised underground development and stoping using drill and blast techniques, as well as maintenance and transportation services at Challenger. We use the complete range of underground mining plant and equipment at the mine.

Challenger operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and employs 140 personnel. HWE Mining employs over 60 people at the mine.

In March 2007 Challenger poured its 10th tonne of gold – a significant achievement for the mine considering its size and location, not to mention the original expectation of a two-year mine life.

This exceptional result is testament to the highly successful partnership approach between HWE Mining and Dominion Mining, where operational teams work collaboratively to meet rigorous safety and production targets.

Production at a glance

- 420,000 tonnes of gold ore mined per year
- 5,000m of horizontal development per year
- 72,000m of production drilling per year
- 14,000m of diamond drilling per year



Scope of work

Project management

- Management of:
 - Safety and health
 - Environment, community and
 - Indigenous affairs
 - Plant and procurement
 - Human resources and industrial relations
- Preparation of costing and optimisation studies
- Excavation design
- Drilling and blasting design
- Long-term mine planning and short to medium-term scheduling
- Mine development planning
- Plant maintenance
- Ventilation design, installation and maintenance

Mining

- Portal, decline, level and vertical development
- Development and production drilling, blasting and excavation
- Exploration drilling
- Ground support installation including rock bolting, strapping and meshing
- De-watering
- Backfilling

EQUIPMENT	
Two boom Tamrock Axera 07 jumbo	1
Two boom Tamrock Minimatic Powerclass jumbo	1
Tamrock Solomatic 720 long hole drill	1
Normet Charmec charge up rig	1
Elphinstone R1700/G wheel loaders	3
Hitachi AH400-D dump trucks	4
Bell B40C dump/water truck	1
Caterpillar 14H motor grader	1
Boart Longyear LM75 diamond drills	2
Light vehicles	
Ancillary items	