

Case Study:

HOW WE SAVED A COAL MINE AROUND \$1.5M A YEAR WITH PDS IDLER

INTRODUCTION

Unexpected failure of key assets is a big problem in mining operations around the world. The resulting loss of production adds up to countless millions of dollars worth of lost revenue, much of which could have been avoided. In our experience, a high percentage of 'unexpected' failures are simply down to poor or ineffective maintenance regimes.

A large Australian coal mine was experiencing high costs and inefficiencies due to idler delays caused by corrosion, which in turn accelerated shell failure.



CHALLENGES ON SITE

The mine faced several pressing issues:

- **Challenge 1:** Downtime was increasing at an alarming rate, peaking at 180 hours per year - that's over 1 week of downtime annually.
- **Challenge 2:** Corrosion was causing accelerated shell failure but the mine had no system for recording and analysing delays, nor for managing the associated maintenance.
- **Challenge 3:** Maintenance costs were high due to inefficient planning and lack of training in idler failure detection.

"The mine was essentially flying blind, with failures costing downtime and high costs and no way of understanding the root cause."

- PDS

KEY FINDINGS:

\$1.5M

Projected Annual
Savings

50%

Reduced Idler
Delays

90 HRS

Projected Downtime
Saved Per Year



Objective: Conveyor
Downtime

Location: Queensland, AU

Solution: PDS Idler

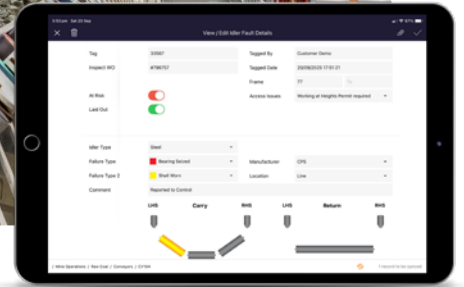
PDS SOLUTION

PDS conducted an audit of idler usage to gain a full picture of all contributing issues. From this audit and collaborative consultation with the workforce, PDS Idler was configured and implemented to the site. This implementation and in-depth user training enabled:

- Failure records to be captured.
- The ability to report on corrective work required.
- Statistical evidence of failures to be surfaced and action taken.

“Our solution delivered much-needed clarity on the idler assets that were causing problems and provided actionable insights for the maintenance manager to act upon.”

– PDS



RESULTS

The project delivered immediate and measurable results:

- A projected annual saving of \$1.5m through efficient planning of labour.
- Idler delays were reduced by 50% (and counting).
- The mine saved an average of 7.5 hours per month in unplanned downtime.

“Since implementing PDS Idler, we’ve not only saved our client \$1.5m through improved equipment reliability, we’ve also provided peace of mind that their equipment is running at its best at all times.”

– PDS

TRUST PDS WITH YOUR SITE

PDS Asset Management Software is an asset management and condition monitoring system for web, android and iOS applications that eliminates the need for complicated spreadsheets and inefficient manually prepared reports.

We strive to deliver smart, data-driven asset management solutions that cut downtime and drive cost savings across the mining industry.

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