

Argyle loss reporting and implementation of the theory of constraints to drive productivity improvements

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ABSTRACT

Argyle Diamond mine had a history of mine underperformance with 'tonnes to the sun' being the operation bottleneck and a historical view that underperformance was a direct result of mining rates from the drawpoint to the crusher. There was lots of finger pointing with no clarity on sources of loss and value.

The Copper and Diamonds Group Technical Services introduced the site mining team to loss reporting and constraint modelling. This prompted a revised view on bottlenecks for 'tonnes to the sun' and contributors to value loss.

This paper will discuss the journey from recognising the issue, to celebrating record breaking performance, through:

- System loss reporting – demonstration of value loss to identify best opportunity to drive value.
- Departmental detail – developing the tools to identify opportunity within separate functions of the system.
- Clarity across the team – breaking down communication barriers and ensuring alignment.