

FROM INDUSTRY

Hon Sec attended the ADIA Management conference at the Radisson Resort Hotel on Queensland's Gold Coast on September 14/15 as the MDAA representative.

It was a successful conference in all respects, with some interesting papers and speakers as well as much traditional drilling industry comradeship.

Hon Sec, on a personal note, was pleased to catch up with a number of old friends, including 83 year old George Milling, 70 year old Alan Ryan and a number of others.

There was a pleasing contingent from WA, including Brian and Jason Linaker, Kevin Ewing, Lindsay Blackburne Kane and his wife, John Martinovich from ACE Drilling Supplies, Greg Wear and Terry Sanfead from Air Drill and Andrew Ogden and his wife.

The team organising the conference must be congratulated on the scope and smooth running of the conference and in particular Simon Fitzgerald for his indefatigable contribution to proceedings. He was always ebullient and was in great form as master of ceremonies.

Ili Cava received the Haydn Egan trophy for best speaker and this was richly deserved for a speaker who is passionate about the subject of his paper and about the drilling industry. Ili spoke about pre-employment training for offsidars.

DHS Appoints Business Development Manager

Downhole Surveys welcomes to their team **Benoit (Ben) L'Heureux**, in the newly created role of Business Development Manager.

Based in Perth, but originally from Montreal, Canada, Ben holds a Bachelor in Marketing and Communications with a major in International Marketing from the University of Montreal.

Previously employed by a Canadian manufacturer of drilling equipment as Marketing Director, Ben has over 10 years experience in technical sales, product application, development projects and field customer service, and 6 years in international marketing. He will primarily be responsible for new business, strategic development and marketing (in particular Gyrosmart) for the DHS Group. Since joining the company, Ben has already made his mark, securing several new rental and sales contracts for survey equipment, as well as forming an alliance with local company 2iC, and a distributorship for Pelican Cases.



Pelican Cases available at DHS for the exploration sector

Downhole Surveys has been appointed Australian exploration sector distributor for world-renowned Pelican Cases.

With their reputation for being watertight, unbreakable and dustproof – ideal for the harsh Australian conditions - Pelican Cases were the first choice of DHS for carrying their new Gyrosmart survey instruments, tablet PC's and running gear.

In addition to an unconditional life-time guarantee of excellence, all cases come with a neoprene gasket, ABS latches and a pressure release valve, and are available in a wide range of sizes and colours to suit every application. Foam lined, hard-wearing and washable, they can be custom-made to suit your particular requirements



Members of the Association will receive a discount for any purchase of Pelican cases products or equipment. Lap top cases or special Pelican flashlights could make an ideal Christmas corporate gift!

To view the full range of Pelican products, visit our website at www.downhole.com.au.

NEW DRILLERS INSURANCE FACILITY FROM INTERLINK

Interlink Insurance Brokers have negotiated a general insurance facility to cater for the requirements of the Drilling Industry.

The facility includes;

- **COMMERCIAL BUSINESS:** covering buildings, plant, contents at fixed locations.

The policy automatically covers, Fire and Perils, Accidental Damage, Money, Glass and Burglary.

- **GENERAL PROPERTY:** covering portable tools and equipment anywhere in Australia.
- **BROADFORM LIABILITY:** up to \$20,000,000
- **MOBILE PLANT AND EQUIPMENT:** covering unregistered mobile plant anywhere in Australia.
- **MOTOR VEHICLE:** covering registered vehicles
- **WORKERS COMPENSATION**

Other forms of insurance cover can also be arranged where required.

The available insurances are competitive with broad covers and have the flexibility to cater for the specific needs of members.

Interlink Insurance Brokers are proud members of the Mineral Drilling Association of Australia and will be pleased to speak with members regarding their insurance requirements.

For further enquiries, please contact:

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Fluidstar, a privately owned Australian drilling mud company with offices in Perth, Kalgoorlie, Brisbane and Sydney advise contact details for WA employees David Williams (0437 180 007) and Sunia van Niekerk (0400 331 440)
dwilliams@fluidstar.com.au
sunia@fluidstar.com.au

FluidStar drilling fluid stock points are established in Perth and Kalgoorlie and other stock points are available Australia wide.

Recent job advertisements in the "West Australian" have included

Drillers and Helpers for Drillcorp Western Deephole.

Human Resources and Safety Manager for Drillcorp Western Deephole

Driller's offisers for Bostech Drilling

Drillers and Offsiders for Drilling and Grouting Services

Driller's Offsiders for Grove Brook Drilling

U/g Drillers for Gilberts Drilling

Surface Diamond Drillers for Westralian Diamond Drillers.

Diamond Drillers and offsiders for MOSSLAKE Drilling Services.

Drillers offsiders for Challenge Drilling

Exploration Drillers and Area Supervisor for Ausdrill Limited

Executive Officer for the MDAA

Back in about 1981, Selco in Canada, a subsidiary company of the Selection Trust Group, which became BP Minerals International, used a sonic rig run by Mid West Drilling, equipped with a Hawker Siddeley sonic head.



Winterised rig



Sonic rig in California

HERE AND THERE

From *The Australian newspaper* :
Commodities exports earn \$140bn, says ABARE

COMMODITIES exports will rake in \$140 billion this year, most of it from booming energy and mineral shipments to Asia, a forecast says. The government's chief commodities forecaster, the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE), today lifted its forecast for export earnings, tipping a 14 per cent increase for 2006-07 compared with the previous year.

Read the ABARE Report:
<http://theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,20867,20471477-601,00.html>

Thanks to the AusIMM week in review

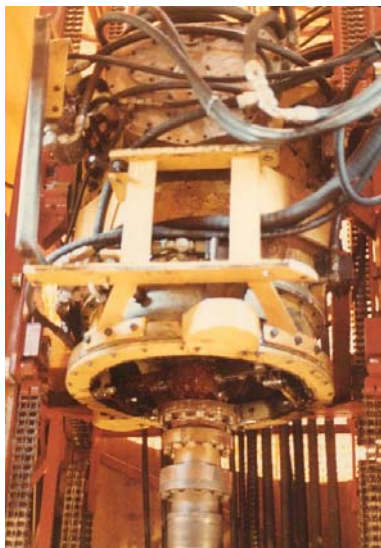
From *The West Australian newspaper* :
Future mining activity 'may be hit'

A successful native title claim in the South-West would not affect existing mine sites but could slow future mining activity, according to a leading resource sector lawyer. Blakiston and Crabb mining specialist Christine Lovitt said a successful claim over the South-West would force a rise in the value of any compensation which may be paid to native title holders, potentially making it uneconomic to explore and mine certain areas.

Thanks to the AusIMM week in review

Paul Mander, Business Manager, Drilling Services, North Western Australia for Boart Longyear presented an interesting paper on Sonic Drilling at the recent ADIA Management conference.

This is, clearly, a developing market and much interest was shown in what Paul had to say.



Hawker Siddeley Sonic Head



Typical pipe problems experienced

A sonic drill with a Hawker Siddeley head operated by Polar Drilling was also used, at about the same time, in California, to drill a placer type deposit.



Rocks being drilled

TRAVELOGUE



Zambian Entrepreneur – Kitwe, Zambia circa 2001



Sherbourne Guest House – Kitwe, Zambia