

LYNWOOD QUARRY DEVELOPMENT

Located 140 kilometres (90 miles) south-west of Sydney, the quarry will provide more than 90 years of production at up to five million tonnes (5.5 million tons) of high quality aggregate a year. Most of the product will be destined for the Sydney market with up to 1.5 million tonnes (1.7 million tons) a year utilised in regional and local markets.



DIGITIN COMS PTY LTD - SPECIALIST ENVIRO HYDRO VAC OPERATORS

Starting out with just a ute, a pick and shovel in 2003, DIGITIN COMS has grown to be the most successful outfit of its type in the Canberra region and surrounds in 2012. With the biggest and most dedicated fleet of trucks in the territory, DIGITIN COMS is a leader in the growing field of hydro-excavation. Originally contracting for digging trenches for the telecommunications giant Telstra, the fledgling outfit evolved with demand, purchasing a five tonne excavator and moving into high voltage work for local electricity authorities. Working next in general earthmoving, eventually directors Beverly Shoard and Nigel Lamb purchased a hydro excavator and haven't looked back since.

Currently, the company is working on a major construction project at Lynwood Quarry which involves the construction of three large dams, a 6km water supply pipeline with pump station, construction of a heavy haul bridge and development of the Process Plant area including a 6km access road. It also involves the construction of a rail siding with train and truck fuelling stations.

DIGITIN COMS has five of its 12 staff working on the project, pot-holing and exposing 50m of high voltage communications cable

with its hydro excavating equipment. Lamb notes that hydro excavating is much safer than the traditional method of exposing operators to riskier alternative excavation methods.

"Hydro excavation is both safe and necessary these days," says Lamb. "It's a safer way to excavate because of the virtually risk-free digging and there's no steel parts that can damage or rip up a cable."

The main challenge at Lynwood Quarry for Lamb and his team was tracking Telstra's optical fibre – actually locating the cable underground. Usually there is a trace wire accompanying cable to allow for its easy location using a special machine, however in this case there wasn't one because of the cable's age.

"It's a matter of looking at and reading the ground - finding the trench. Trenchlines always leaves imprints in the ground," says Lamb.

Digitin Coms commissioned new custom-built vehicles from Vacvator, Goulburn to undertake the work, which involves high pressure water application. Lamb, a welder by trade, says it took two years for his initial investment in hydro excavation to become self-supporting and that

the business has grown exponentially partly due to his own-designed equipment innovations.

"Hydro excavation has been around for a long time but not many people have developed really good machines that can dig efficiently," says Lamb.

"Basically, I saw what was out there in the market and what we thought we would need to make our jobs a lot easier and the first thing I then added was a six-inch suction hose on a remote control boom. Not many people have done this. It adds a lot of money on to the price of the truck but the cost savings end up with the customer because we can do the job a lot more efficiently than other operators. For example, one of our trucks would be four or five times quicker. That's why I get the work. Our process is more efficient than the person with the cheaper truck.

"Also, all our trucks have GPS – that's unusual too because it is another expense - a lot of people don't do it because it's too costly. The advantage is that I can show the customer how long the truck has actually been onsite, down to even when the doors open on the trucks!"

The company prides itself on supporting local businesses and now has a fleet of five trucks including an 8000 litre hydro-excavator. Following its initial investment in hydro-excavating the company quickly grew to have three trucks running nearly 12 hours a day, six days a week so Lamb put in an order for another two, receiving the last of those two late last year.

Thinking green, Shoard and Lamb, are now moving into mud recycling – extracting the liquid waste from hydro excavating, drying out and re-using the dirt and water, instead of using scarce drinking water for operations.

"We use water pressure to turn the dirt into mud around the excavation, and suck it into our tanks. Because it evolves from solid waste into liquid waste the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) class mud as a possible waste containment. So what we're looking at doing now is drying out the dirt and recycling the water – it's for our benefit as much as the environment's – we can take the waste with us. If we recycle we have clean fill and water."

DIGITIN COMS performs regular and on-going works for Actew Corporation Ltd and ActewAgl Distribution for several years now, for both their electricity and water divisions as their contractor of choice.

Other projects the company is currently is working on include a number of collaborations with BMD Constructions, work on the Cotter Dam enlargement, the Murrumbidgee to Googong pipeline and the Cotter Dam and pump station.

For more information contact Digitin Coms, 9 Lorn Road Queanbeyan NSW 2620 or PO Box 806 Queanbeyan NSW 2620, phone 0407 406 766, email: digitincoms@grapevine.com.au





TRI UNDERGROUND MAKES TO ORDER

High quality customized products delivered reliably makes Tri Underground (formerly Tri Distributors) a leader in the field of specialist supplies for electrical and communications systems. For the Lynwood Quarry Project, they provided PVC electrical conduit, Fabricated PVC electrical bends, joiners, bell mouths and associated accessories, sometimes on an extremely fast turnaround.

The Lynwood Quarry Project will involve the construction of three large dams, a six kilometre water supply pipeline with pump station, construction of a heavy haul bridge, and development of the process plant area including a six kilometre access road. It will also involve the construction of a rail siding with train and truck fuelling stations.

The company manufactures and distributes underground products such as pits, covers, conduit, bends and fittings to contractors in the electrical, new estate, civil and rail industries. There are currently 60 staff across manufacturing and distribution sites in Queensland, Victoria, Perth and New South Wales, servicing Australian and New Zealand customers.

“The biggest challenge was ensuring the right products were delivered at the appropriate point in the construction schedule, a task requiring ongoing liaison with BMD and focused commitment from the manufacturing and distribution operations.” Says Tri Underground’s Adam Bell.

“Tri Underground has the capabilities that have allowed BMD to deliver its infrastructure in what seems to be a totally seamless environment. Tri has a superior customer service that allows us to easily order what we require and know that the products will be delivered timely and accurately.” Says BMD’s Matthew Smith Project Engineer

Tri Underground is currently working on major defence projects and NSW government sub-stations, transmission lines as well as supplying products into the NBN network.

For more information contact Tri Undergroround Australia Pty Ltd, phone 1300 TRI TRI (874 874) anywhere in Australia, website: www.triunderground.com.au

THE EXPERTS IN EARTHMOVING

Coopers Earthmoving and Haulage already knew what they were dealing with when they took on work at the Lynwood Quarry. Based locally in Marulan, they’d been working on the quarry site for several years before construction began, completing road maintenance and other jobs.

Daniel Cooper, Site Manager for Coopers Earthmoving on the Lynwood Quarry job was familiar with the lay of the land and the material that they would be working with, which was largely blue metal hard rock, often used to make concrete. Around six machines and operators from Coopers Earthmoving have been working on the Lynwood Quarry for over 18 months now, with work expected to continue for another 12 months or so. Excavators, GPS equipped graders, articulated dump trucks and water trucks are all beavering away building rock walls, working on roads and creating and maintaining drainage and sediment construction on the five or six big dams on-site.

Coopers is a family business with four generations of earthmovers. Sally Cooper, one of the Directors of Coopers Earthmoving along with her

husband Russell, says the business evolved over time with the company priding themselves on customer service, versatility and quality work. Sally has operated some machines, but her main role is taking care of the extensive administration. The couple have three sons who are all involved in the business and their grandchildren like to push dirt too!

Coopers Earthmoving was started in 1994, after many years of earthmoving experience. Back then they only had one backhoe. The business grew from there to the 20 employees and the fleet of machinery they have today. On the other side of the Hume Highway at Marulan South, Coopers are working on the Boral Peppertree Quarry Site. They were also heavily involved in the Highlands Source Project - the construction of an 80km pipeline to take water from the Southern Highlands to Goulburn.

For more information contact Coopers Earthmoving and Haulage, PO Box 181 Marulan NSW 2579, phone 02 4841 1660, fax 02 4841 1663, email: admin@cooperearthmoving.com.au

Lynwood Quarry Development, NSW



GOULBURN ENGINEERING'S LITTLE BIG SHOP

Established for more than 60 years Goulburn Engineering (in the NSW Southern Tablelands) has comprehensively-equipped workshops for a wide range of metal manufacturing needs. For a small country operation, there is not much that the company cannot do in its field.

Established in 1945, Goulburn Engineering has 20 staff, six of whom have been engaged on work on Lynwood Quarry – a major construction involving the building of three large dams, a 6 km water supply pipeline with pump station, a heavy haul bridge, and development of the process plant area including a 6km access road. It will also involve the construction of a rail siding with train and truck fuelling stations.

The company's involvement with the Lynwood Quarry project included fabricating a lot of the stainless steel pipework for the Quarry's comms stations. Goulburn Engineering also Installed a lot of the valves and pipework for pipelines.

"We also did a lot of pipe supports for their bridges over the main southern railway line and we also did some steel work on the main bridge that goes over the Hume Highway," says workshop foreman Tony Bush.

Goulburn Engineering specializes in repairing and manufacturing hydraulic cylinders, machining services (including CNC), repairing and manufacturing of mining and earthmoving equipment (including mobile) and in-house line boring and all types of metal fabrication. A particular challenge on the Lynwood Quarry Project, according to Bush, was "doing the pipework with different angles and levels – there were different levels that the pipes had to run at to connect up to existing pipework and the pumps that were already in position – it was a challenge to get it to line up."

These challenges overcome, the company is now working on several new projects, including hand-railing at the Goulburn Police Academy to bring the building into line with building codes; maintenance work out at Veolia mine in Tarago and a lot of maintenance work on the heritage-listed Rossi Bridge in Goulburn, making up steel black and white colourbond sheeting to protect the timberwork - all of which takes precision and attention to detail. The company also has a comprehensive retail outlet and can order in anything that is doesn't already stock.

For more information contact Goulburn Engineering, North Street Goulburn NSW 2580, phone 02 48 211 972, fax 02 48 21 5227, email: ali@goulburnengineering.com.au

