



# Xstrata Coal

Ulan West Underground Project

## Ensuring Safe Design Through Procurement

2010

**Xstrata Coal**  
**Why Bother?**

- Tilt Angle Settings (3 drive positions)
- Locator Tabs ( tactile reference)
- Scalloped Keys ( helps fingers slide control to keys)
- LED Lights ( front, side, top, bottom)
- Dual Keys ( flexibility and efficiency)
- Large Contrast ( white on black)
- Safety & Comfort Guide ( web page for information)
- Grip Tabs ( stability on desk surface)
- Black Colour ( avoids glare on screen)
- Keys Textured ( reduced finger slipage)

**\$22.50 – PC W/H**  
**\$0.99 – EBay**  
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**Xstrata Coal**  
**Why Bother?**

Web Issues Sites Maps News Books Gmail more +

**Google** mining equipment ergonomics

about 14,500 results (0.27 seconds) Advanced search

Everything More

The web Pages from Australia Standard view Related searches Reader view Translate More search tools

**Ergonomics of Underground Coal Mining Equipment**  
Ergonomics and Design: Justin O'Sullivan: Ergonomics for Work (condition.pdf) (preprint.pdf)  
Equipment Related Issues and Controls in the US Mining Industry ...  
ergonomics.com/pdf/Previews\_Mining\_Equipment\_Slides004 - Cached

**www Reducing injury risks associated with underground coal mining ...**  
File Format: PDF Adobe Acrobat - Quick view  
by: NS/PC OPE - Related articles  
The objectives of the project were: (i) to identify injury risks associated with the ergonomics of underground mining equipment through analysis of the ...  
www.ergonomics.com/Equipment\_IC1415152004/02support.pdf

**14COE Mining Ergonomics Topic Page | COCOMOSH**  
Ergonomics in the science of designing tasks, equipment, tools ... The work in this topic area is supported by the 14COE Mining Ergonomics program ...  
www.sib.pennstate.edu/14coe/ergonomics/topicpage03.htm - Cached - Similar

**Mining - Welcome to ipm-SEA - The International Ergonomics ...**  
Encourage the incorporation of sound ergonomics principles in the design of mining vehicles and mining equipment. Identify causal factors associated with ...  
www.sea.csi.cmu.edu/learn/04mining - Cached

**www Heavy Mobile Equipment - Ergonomics and the Prevention of ...**  
File Format: PDF Adobe Acrobat - Quick view  
Heavy Mobile Equipment - Ergonomics and the Prevention of Musculoskeletal Injuries (Page 16) Kumar's (2002) study on evaluation mining heavy haul trucks ...  
www.ergonomics.com/pdf/Previews\_Heavy\_Mobile\_Equipment2.pdf - Similar

**www Special Issue - Mining Ergonomics**  
File Format: PDF Adobe Acrobat - Quick view  
ergonomics in Mining in Oceania has expanded. Further work has been done by MCL ... staff to establish the field of new in underground mining equipment ...  
www.scribd.com/doc/4014044/Mining-ergonomics.pdf

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**Mining Equipment**  
Ergonomics, Construction & Mining  
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# Project Overview

- Xstrata Coal NSW – 90% JV
- Approximately 45km NNE of Mudgee in Central West NSW



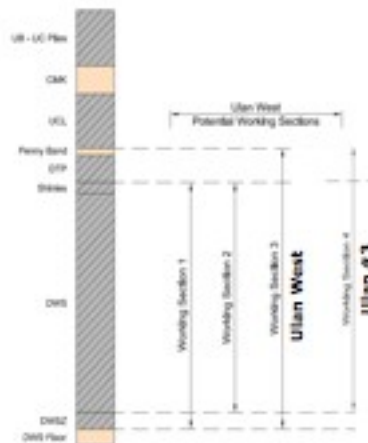
- Immediately West of current Ulan Underground



- LW1 = 5800m length
- LW1 = 9.9Mt ROM
- LW6 = 6100m length
- LW6 = 10.4Mt ROM
- Approx 62km total development before first LW coal
- First Development panel (TG1) contains approx 15,500m driveage
- 400m wide LW at 4500tph nameplate
- Four Continuous Miners (three units)
- Mains along strike




- 3m working section (2.8-3.2m)
- 5.4m wide headings
- Penny Band horizon
- Coal 35-40Mpa
- Typically 6 x 1.8m bolts per metre
- LW Strata Control 110t/m<sup>2</sup>



## Ergonomics Through Procurement

- So why the push for Ensuring "Safe Design" Through Procurement?
- Isn't it as simple as going to your favourite OEM and saying "I want ....."?
- Or is it as easy as "we'll go off the same spec that 'xyz mine' just did"?
- Yes we can!
- We decided to go back to the start and invent a 'new' wheel
- Work through a pre-defined risk-based process
- Engage experts in chosen fields (Risk Engineering, Ergonomists, OEM's, Engineers, Operators, ACARP etc)
- Traditional approach are the "nuts and bolts" – what about the mine itself?
- Longwall Recovery and Box Cut as the examples....

- A review of 15 recently completed mining projects – addressing their risk management activities – highlighted:
  - Studies conducted too late – and then had to develop work around plans for design introduced issues
  - Studies produced too much – and the project team were defeated by the sheer volume of action items.
    - "We did what we could"
    - "We're not sure if we covered off on the most important improvements"
  - A lot of really good information prepared – but the operations guys never look at it.

 Overview of Process




**Xstrata Coal Risk Process**

- Consolidate all losses and issues into a single Incident Type

Strata	Traffic	Caught In / Struck by	Explosion
Falls from Height	Fire / Spon Com	Dropped Loads	Inrush
Electric Shock	Confined Space	Structural Failure	Spills / DG
OOS / Strains	Business	Off site impact	Environment

**Xstrata Coal Risk Process – Historical Data Analysis**

- Broad Brush Risk Assessments

**Incident Causes - From BBRA Reviews**

**Xstrata Coal Risk Process – Historical Data Analysis**

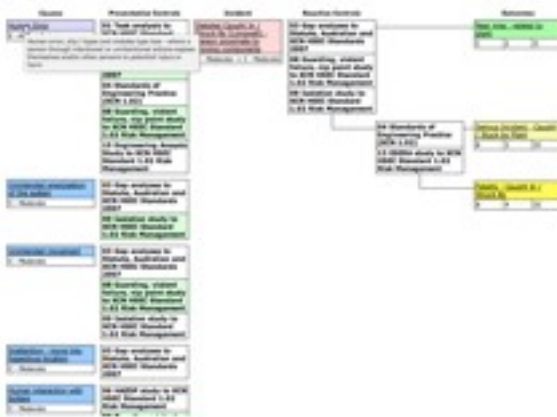
- Fatality Database – 1,311 deaths

**Frequency of Incidents**

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Risk Process – Typical Outputs



• Risk and Control Chart (Detailed Caught in / Struck by (Longwall) – Person proximate to moving components)



- Risk and Control Chart for Caught in / Struck by in the Development work package
- RCCs were generated for each incident type for the project
- For individual work package areas these are "focussed" on those incident types of most significance



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Risk Process – HAZID Workshop



- Development HAZID
- Gather the most experienced people we could find from a wide-cast net
  - ACARP Roadway Development Task Group Member
  - Previous General Manager of XCN
  - Current operations engineers
  - Geotech Consultants
  - OEM representatives
  - Development superintendent
  - Mechanical engineers
  - Electrical engineers
  - Mining engineers
  - People with 'hands-on' operator and development panel supervisory experience

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Risk Process – HAZID Workshop



- Presentations of scope, aims and objectives of the session
- Brain dump of biggest issues facing development
  - What are the biggest areas of concern (along lines of loss types)
- Brain writing (what are the biggest issues for each loss type)
- Reassemble group and compare
- List all issues raised and place on a wall
- Vote on each person's "Top 10" most critical factors
- Issues from top four or five loss types were then embedded into the design process (by way of tender spec)

- Tender Preparation (Contractor)
  - Contractor to provide details on the consultative process will ensure the equipment designs achieve control and the hazards identified through Human Factor Engineering/Ergonomic principles
- Tender Evaluation and Short-Listing
- Pre-Contract Award Risk Assessment
- Contract Consolidation and Award
- Design Documentation
- Equipment Manufacture
- Operational Risk Assessment



- Purpose of the Pre-Contract Risk Assessment, is to check that all the identified risks can be adequately controlled in relation to the contractor's:
  - Designs and Design Documentation (emphasis on Ergonomics and SIL's)
  - Proposed software capability and functionality
  - Fabrication and factory testing
  - Transportation of equipment to site
  - Installation, commissioning and testing procedures
  - Ongoing operation and maintenance of the equipment.

## An Ergonomic Mine Plan?

## Mine design that drives the desired behaviour

*(Mine design that makes the correct decision/behaviour the easiest option)*

- Past projects in industry have suffered from:
  - Grand ideas that were not well thought through
  - Plans based on poor assumptions
  - Targets that were not achievable or realistic (give them the number they want)
  - Plans developed not practical in their implementation
  - No real contingency or 'back-up' plan
  - Lack of detail
  - Planning system not challenged or scrutinised
  - No change-management and recording of the reasoning of decisions made
  - No learning from past mistakes
  - Little in the way of benchmarking other similar operations
  - Focus on the gear (the fun stuff)
  - Not stopping to challenge and ask "how are people going to achieve this?"

- Large-scale mine is hard to plan as a whole
- How to keep a broad-scale approach and still capture the detail?
- MADA (Mining Area Design Assessment)
  - Break the 'mine' into discrete areas and work on each individually
    - Box Cut
    - Portals
    - LW Changeout Area
    - Typical Main Panel
    - Main/Gateroad Interaction
    - Typical Gateroad Panel
    - Conveyor Tripper Drive Installation
    - LW Installation Face (no panel inbye)
    - LW Installation Face (with LW panel inbye)
    - Main Shaft bottom
    - North-West to West Mains Turn
  - Then piece together for how they relate to one another and 'fit' – how does one factor in a given area affect another factor in a neighbouring area?



• **Factors to consider in each MADA**

- **Purpose**
  - why do we need this area?
  - what are we trying to achieve?
- **Customer**
  - what does the end user need?
- **Geology**
  - what do we need to consider in our design?
- **Geotech**
  - what design considerations do we need to give given the needs and geology?
- **Dimensions and Layout**
  - does the layout reflect the most effective use of real estate?
  - is all anticipated equipment able to use this area unimpeded?
  - can the equipment we have create this design efficiently and safely?

• **Factors to consider in each MADA (cont)...**

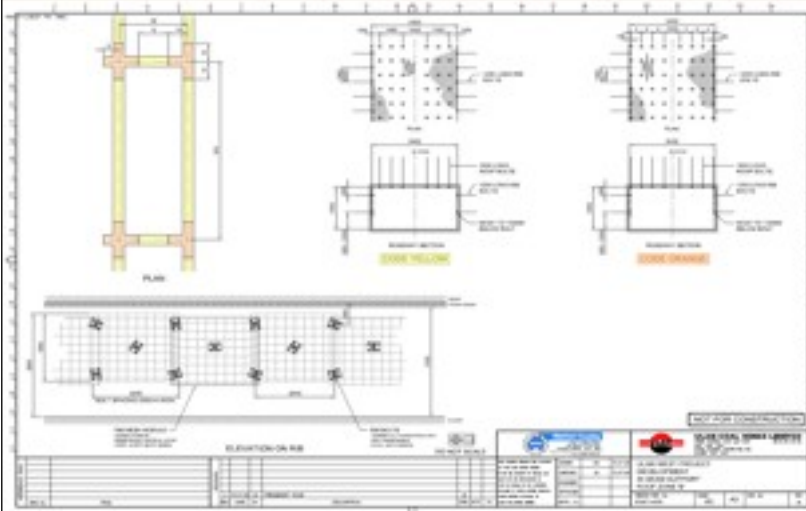
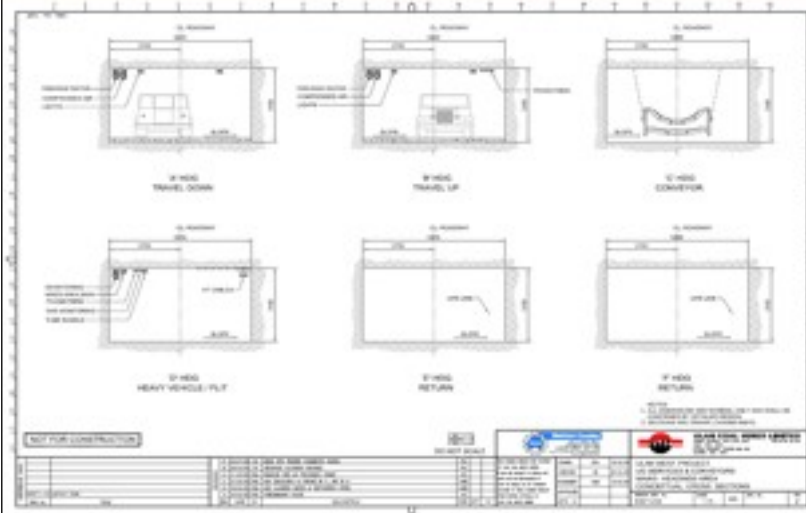
- **Safety**
  - what other considerations need to be accounted for in the design/layout (egress, fire-fighting, personal protection, guarding, working at heights etc)?
- **Ergonomics**
  - what ergonomic considerations have been made in the design of the work area?
  - is the area designed to provide the best chance for people to work safely, comfortably and productively?
- **Ventilation**
  - can this layout be ventilated according to design guidelines and limitations?
  - should the operational requirements of the area change, can ventilation be changed to accommodate?
  - is the ventilation proposed for the area reasonable (pressure, quantity, velocity etc)?

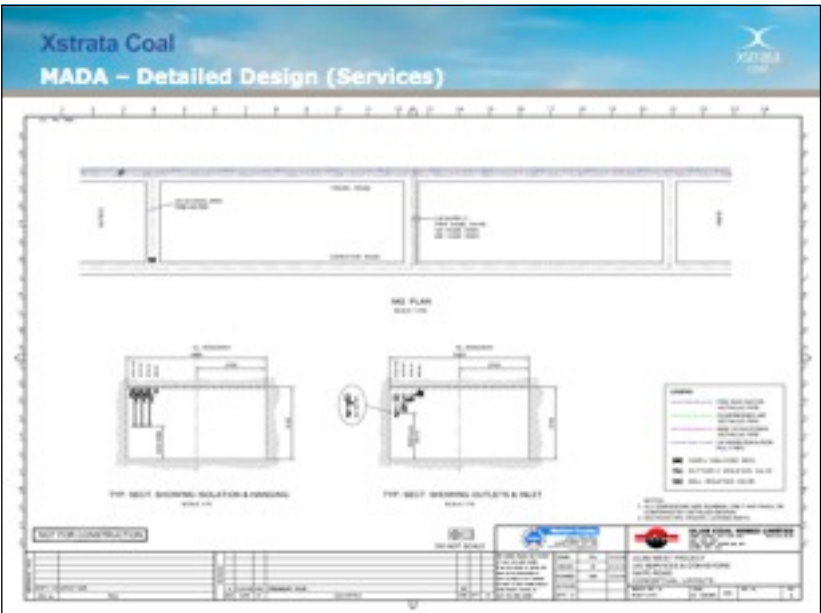
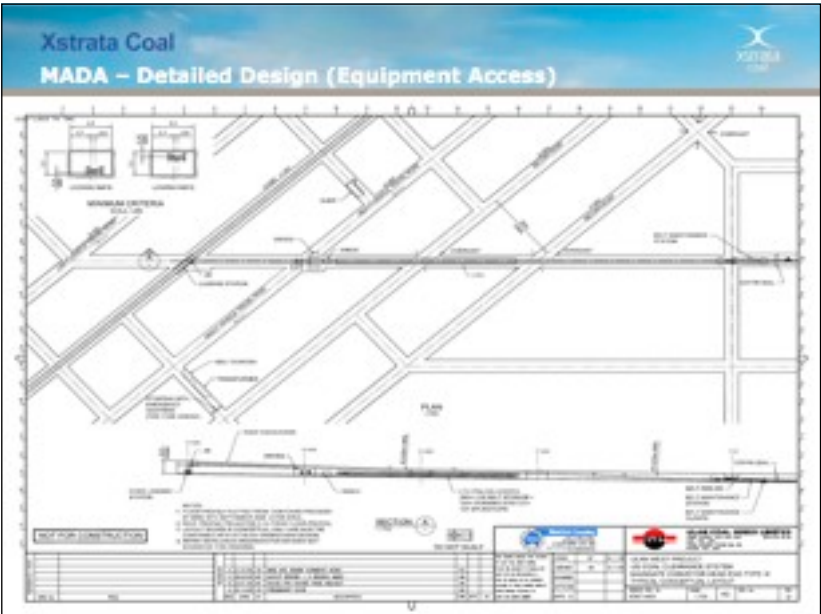
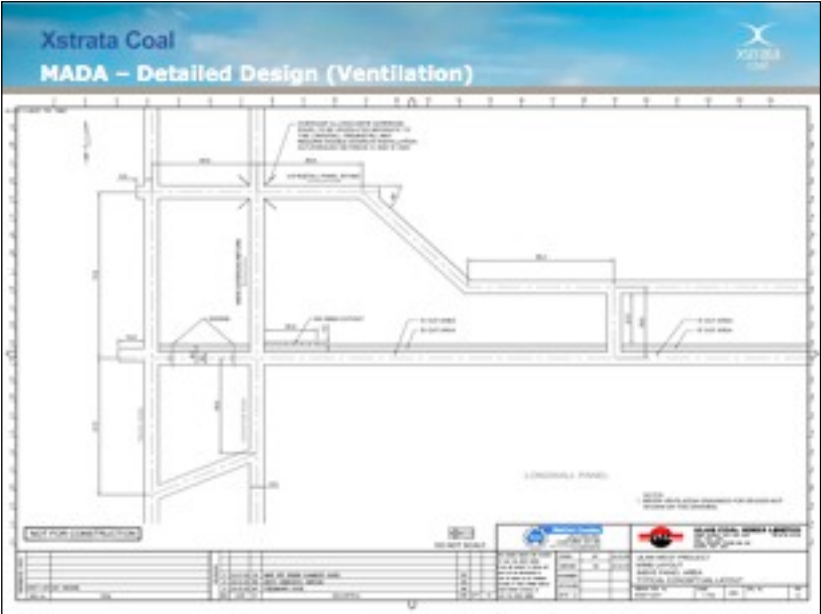
• **Factors to consider in each MADA (cont)...**

- **Sequencing**
  - what is the most practical and efficient sequencing of machinery and other resources in developing this area?
- **Scheduling**
  - given the geology expected and resulting pretechnical infrastructure to be installed, considering the layout, dimensions, layout, ventilation while developing, and sequencing, what is the most appropriate rate to assign to each item of plant and activity in the formation of and other resultant uses of this area?
  - can this be refined through better planning?
  - how do the assumptions made, factors considered and rates assigned compare with previous experience or comparable data at other operations?
  - is the result defensible?
- **Budget**
  - what will this area cost?
  - are there any areas where cost efficiencies can be provided?



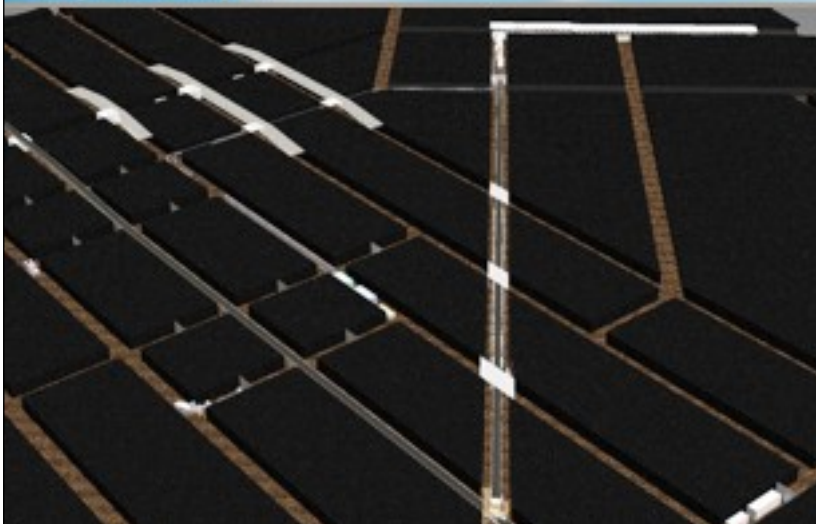
- Challenge Test for each decision:
  - Is it Safe?
  - Is it Legal?
  - Is it Logical?
  
- Piece the composite parts together and assess the interaction between each area
  
- Mind Map tool



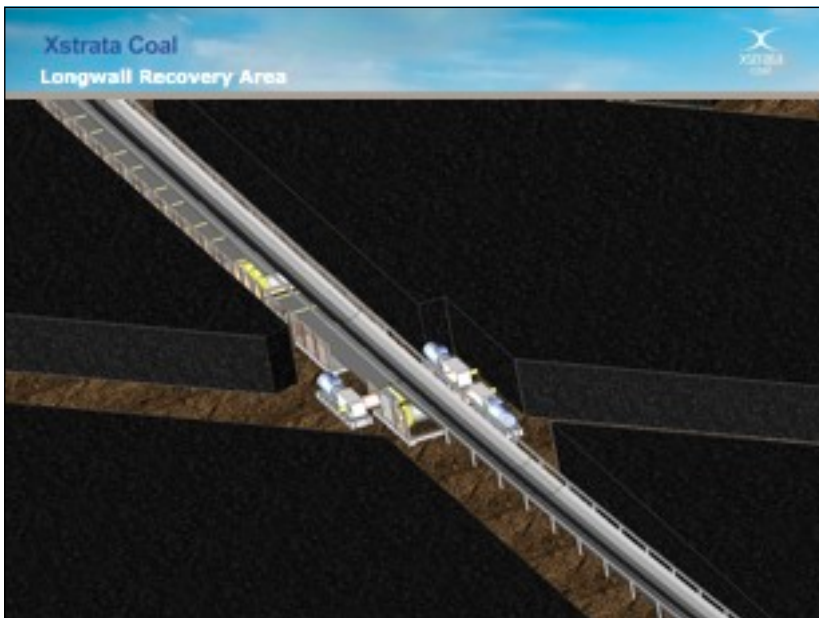
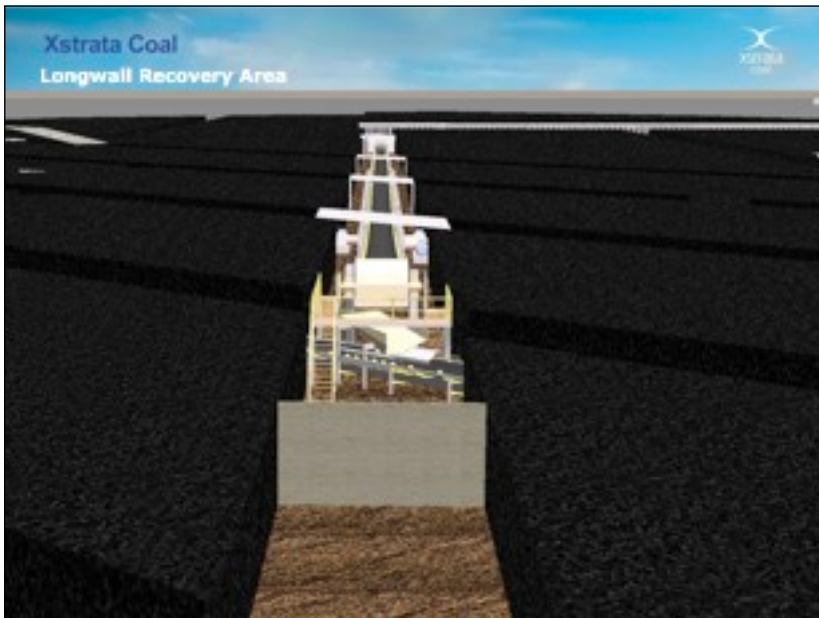
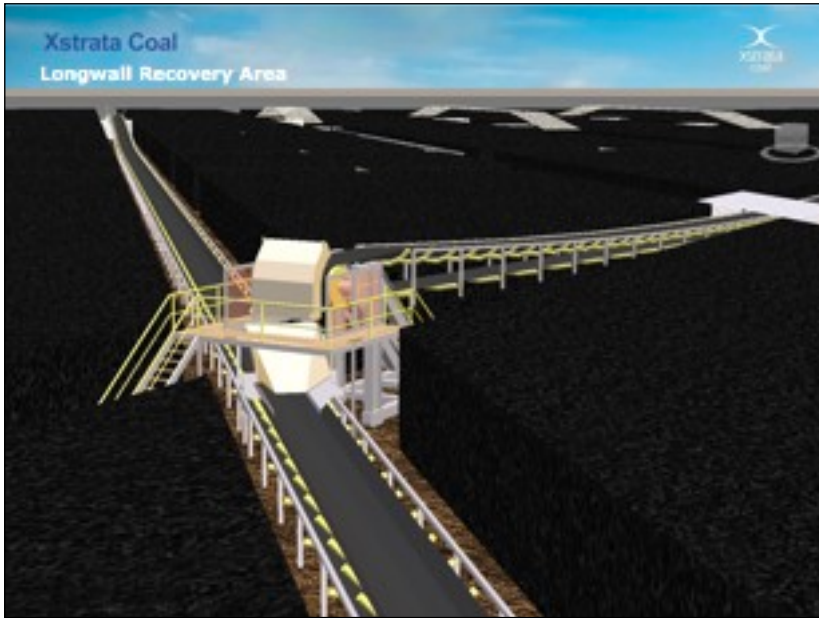


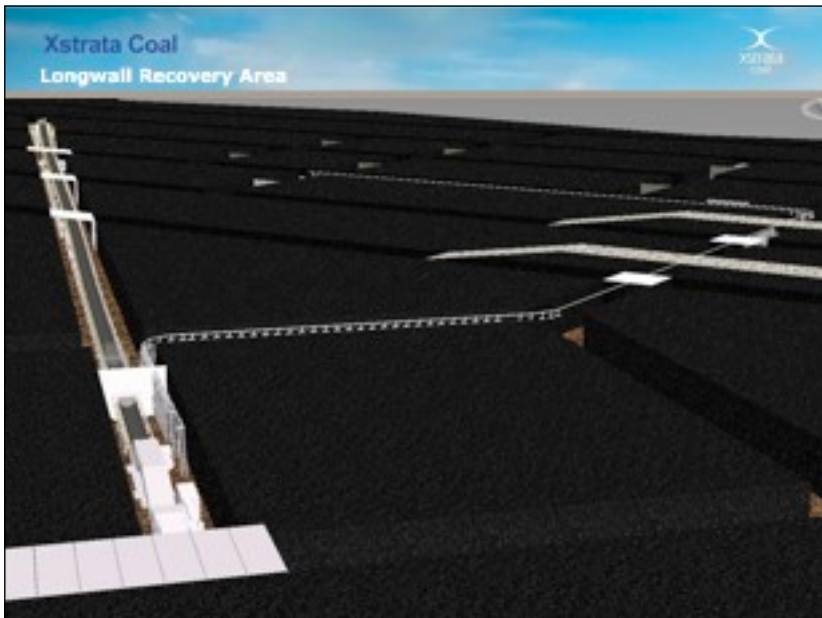
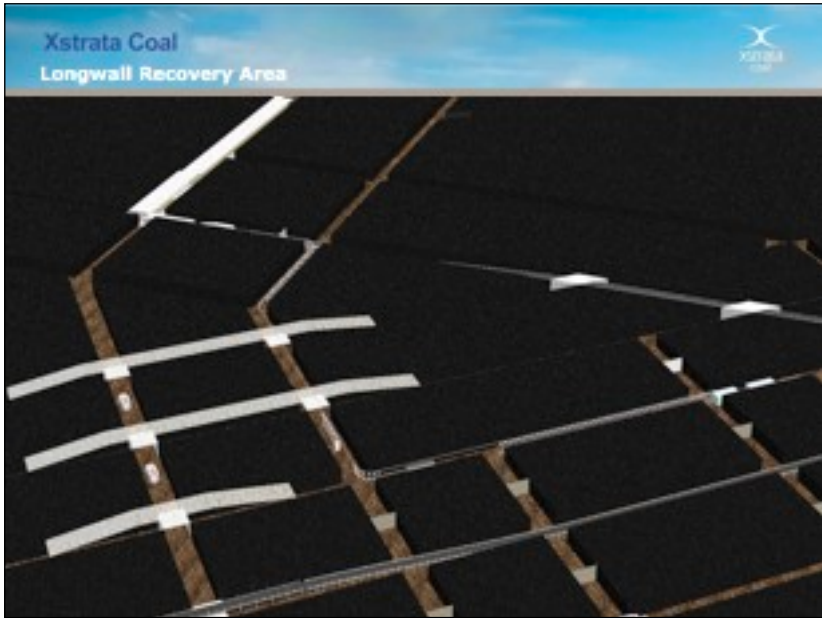
# Longwall Recovery

- Typically very busy area during changeout
- Focus on (but not limited to):
  - Pedestrian and Vehicle interaction
  - Vehicle and equipment interaction
  - Services
  - Efficient supply storage (bolts, chemicals, mesh etc)
  - Equipment parking (rapid face bolters, chock transporters, support recovery mules)
  - Longwall Hydraulics (monorail, pump station)
  - Water management
  - Conveyor interaction
  - Ventilation
- Utilised 3D and rendering features of AutoCAD









## Box Cut

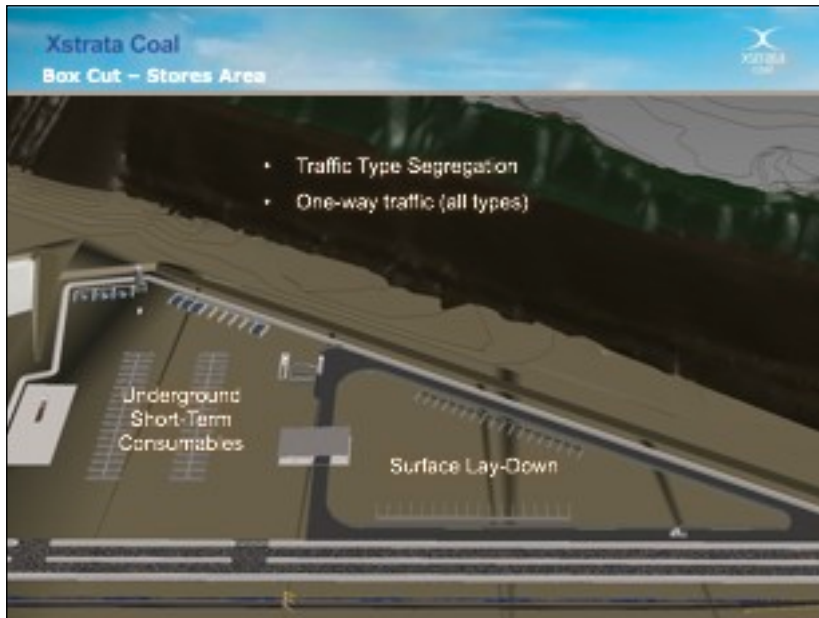
- Have an existing highwall, so why a box cut?
  - Reduced mains drivesage (approx 8000m)
  - Allows longer lead times on development equipment and defers employment of crews
  - Allows increased pre-start training
  - Increased coal recovery (full seam vs roadways)













- Nearing end of Feasibility Phase (project not yet approved)
- Aim is to design and implement a 'big picture' mine
- Devil is in the detail
- Up to people to make it happen
- Need to give people the environment that is most conducive to their well-being
- The processes to create that environment are supported by correctly-designed and chosen equipment

*"I don't care so much about shareholders. I care about my staff, who in turn look after my passengers and my passengers look after my shareholders".*

*Ralph Noms, former CEO Air New Zealand*

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