



Post Event Report

18 - 19 June 2024
Adelaide, South Australia



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Department for Energy and Mining

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**THE AUSTRALIAN
MINING REVIEW**

From the Austmine CEO



I am thrilled to share the success of Copper to the World 2024, where we convened over 500 leaders, innovators, and experts in the mining and resources sector. With predicted copper demand far outstripping supply in the coming years, there has never been a more crucial time for the industry to unite and discuss what the future holds.

Our theme this year, "Innovating for a Sustainable Future," was at the forefront of every discussion, presentation, and exhibit. Delegates had the opportunity to learn from industry leaders, strategic thinkers, and technology experts from around the world.



Together, we explored the key levers necessary to overcome our challenges and meet the future demand for copper.

Our heartfelt thanks go to our major sponsors: **Department for Energy & Mining South Australia, BHP, and Fleet Space Technologies**. Their invaluable support emphasises the power of collaboration in driving our industry forward.

The conference showcased a multitude of groundbreaking technologies and innovative solutions, reflecting our shared commitment to sustainability. From advanced decarbonisation methods and artificial intelligence to eco-friendly practices, the innovations presented were nothing short of inspiring. These technologies are not just the future; they are the present, transforming how we approach mining and resource management.

Our speakers, a diverse group of thought leaders and industry pioneers, provided deep insights and sparked meaningful conversations about the future of copper mining. Their expertise and forward-thinking perspectives have set the stage for significant advancements in our field.

As we reflect on the success of Copper to the World 2024, we are filled with optimism and excitement for the future. The discussions and connections made here will undoubtedly drive progress and innovation in the coming years. Our commitment to a sustainable future remains steadfast, and we are confident that the collaborative efforts initiated at this conference will have a lasting impact.

Thank you to everyone who attended, participated, and supported this event. Your enthusiasm and dedication are what make Copper to the World a premier platform for innovation and sustainability in the mining sector. Together, we are shaping a brighter, more sustainable future for our industry.

I am excited to announce that **Copper to the World 2025 will be held on 26 – 27 August 2025**, in Adelaide. We invite you to join us once again to continue these vital conversations, explore new innovations, and strengthen our collective efforts towards a sustainable and prosperous future. We look forward to welcoming you to another inspiring and impactful event.

Best wishes
Christine Gibbs Stewart
CEO, Austmine



Attendees



- > 502 Attendees
- > 71 Speakers
- > 28 Exhibitors

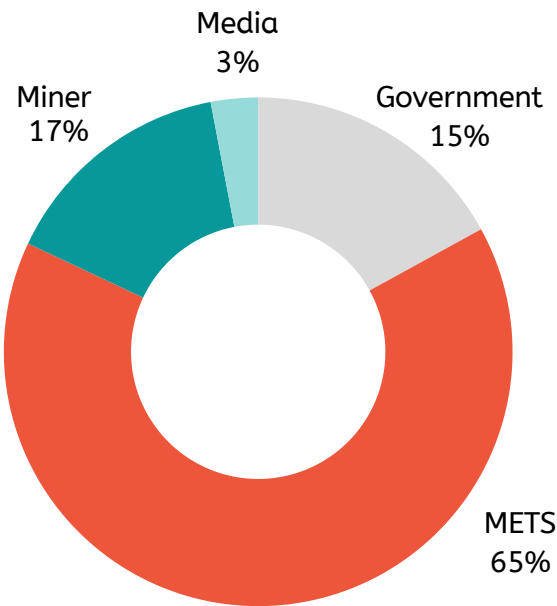


By Job Function

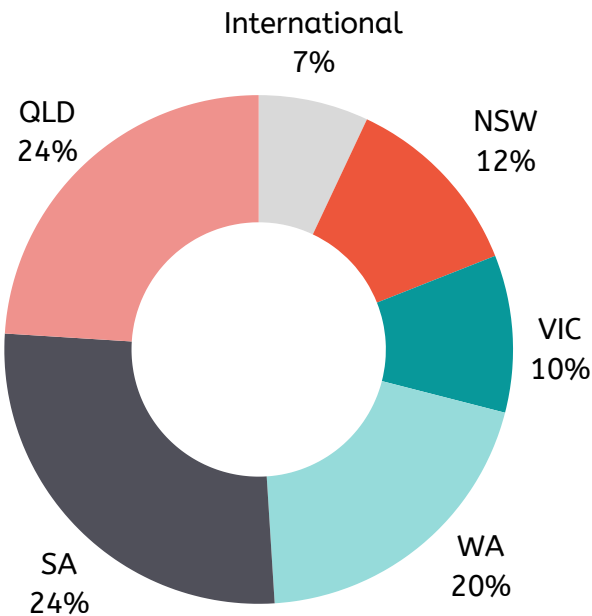


- 43% - MD, VP, GM, Senior Manager
- 20% - CEO, President & Director
- 12% - Engineer, Innovation, Technology
- 9% - Sales & Partnership Manager
- 8% - Account Manager, BDM
- 4% - Consultant
- 2% - Board Director
- 1% - Student
- 1% - Media

By Industry



By Location



Austmine was proud to host the **Copper to the World** in partnership with the Government of South Australia. Bringing together industry leaders, experts, and innovators from across the globe, the event facilitated critical conversations about the future of copper mining. This year's conference provided a dynamic platform for discussing the latest advancements, challenges, and opportunities within the copper industry.

Keynote speakers and panel discussions covered a wide range of topics, from the integration of cutting-edge technologies to strategies for enhancing sustainability and efficiency in mining operations. Attendees delved into innovative approaches to decarbonisation, explored new methods in mineral exploration and processing, and examined the pivotal role of data integration and AI in modernising the industry.

The event also highlighted the importance of strategic partnerships and collaboration across sectors to address the complex issues facing the copper supply chain. By fostering an environment of knowledge-sharing and cooperation, the conference aimed to drive sustainable growth and ensure a resilient and efficient copper supply chain for the future.

Conference Themes



Speaker Highlights



The Hon. Peter Malinauskas MP

Premier of South Australia

In a compelling keynote address, the Premier highlighted the pivotal role of copper mining has played in South Australia's wealth creation to date, with a resilient outlook for the future. **"Copper has been the cornerstone of South Australia's prosperity,"** he noted, referencing the discovery in 1842 that sparked the state's economic growth. He emphasised the global demand for copper, driven by the energy transition and urbanisation, stating, **"This is copper's moment, which also means it is South Australia's moment."** The Premier highlighted the Northern Water Project, representing a \$5 billion investment in water production and infrastructure, as a key initiative to unlock this potential.



Anna Wiley

Asset President Copper South Australia, BHP

In a powerful opening keynote, Anna Wiley emphasised the importance of collaboration and shared goals in advancing the copper industry. Highlighting the global demand for copper driven by population growth, rising living standards, and the energy transition, she discussed BHP's efforts in exploration and sustainable copper production. Wiley stressed the significance of partnership, stating, **"If we can work together in partnership, and remain focused on the pursuit of that shared ambition I am very confident that we can achieve it."** Her presentation underscored BHP's commitment to innovation, sustainable growth, and community engagement.



Dr Hermant Chaurasia

Chief Product Officer, Fleet Space Technologies

Hermant provided an insightful presentation on the next evolution in copper exploration technology. He emphasised Fleet' Space Technologies' mission to accelerate discovery using space exploration technology and AI, addressing the urgent need for faster copper discovery to support the global energy transition. He illustrated the potential of combining satellite connectivity, 3D multi-physics, and AI to enhance exploration efficiency. He remarked, **"The opportunity to fundamentally learn faster to close that loop between exploration teams and testing can be a lot faster with the combination of space and AI technologies."** This innovative approach aims to transform the industry by enabling high-quality deposits to be discovered more rapidly.



Speaker Highlights



Joshua Annear

General Manager Operational & Technical Excellence, MMG Australia

In his engaging presentation, Joshua highlighted the importance of efficient resource extraction and sustainable practices. He detailed MMG's commitment to working with traditional land custodians and governments to maximise the benefits of mining operations. He discussed MMG's global operations and strategic focus on operational technology improvements, renewable energy integration, and value chain optimisation. He remarked, *"You don't get the chance twice, you get the chance once and it's important that we do that on behalf of the countries that give us those licenses to operate."* His presentation demonstrated MMG's dedication to responsible mining and community engagement.

Jacqui McGill AM

Non Executive Director, 29Metals

Jacqui delivered an impactful presentation discussing 29Metals' mission and the vital role of copper in the global energy transition. She highlighted the company's commitment to being a leading copper-focused business, showcasing their assets, including Golden Grove and Capricorn Copper in Australia, and the Red Hill exploration project in Chile. Jacqui noted, *"Copper is the unsung hero of the energy transition,"* addressing the supply and demand dynamics and the industry's challenges in discovering new deposits and the increasing costs of production. She also stressed the need for sustainable practices and the importance of attracting young talent to the mining sector.



Craig Stegman

Managing Director, Group Technical, Development & Technology
Rio Tinto

Craig delivered a compelling presentation focusing on innovation and sustainability in the mining industry. Drawing on his extensive experience, Craig highlighted the critical role of partnerships and technological advancements in addressing the looming copper supply gap. He emphasised the importance of efficient extraction, decarbonisation, and the adoption of new technologies. Stegman remarked, *"Our industry must pursue all these pathways; we just can't single out one."* He also discussed the challenges of operating in diverse political and social environments and the need for bold steps and collaboration to secure the future of copper supply.

Panel Discussion Highlights



Building a World Class Copper Nation

The dynamic panel featuring **Dallas Wilkinson, Adele Seymon, Andrew Labuschagne, Ariella Helfott, Jacqui McGill and Richard Laufmann** discussed the critical importance of increased investment in exploration, the need for supportive policies and efficient permitting, and the transformative role of technological advancements and sustainability. Emphasis was placed on the urgency of attracting new talent and integrating cutting-edge sustainable technologies to reduce emissions.



The panel collectively underscored the pivotal role of copper in the energy transition and called for greater collaboration between industry, government, and educational institutions, setting a visionary tone for the industry's path forward.

Copper Across Continents - Africa

This panel featured **Clement Owusu, Ambassador Dr. Elias Munshya, Nkandu Beltz, and Grant Fraser**, who shared diverse perspectives from academia, government, and the private sector. The conversation revolved around the opportunities and challenges in the African copper mining industry. Panelists highlighted the continent's underexplored potential, the critical need for reliable energy supplies, and the importance of sustainable practices.



They discussed Zambia's efforts to attract investment through tax reforms, streamlined licensing processes, and partnerships for infrastructure development. The panel underscored the need for collaboration between governments, investors, and local communities to ensure responsible mining practices and emphasised the Africa's readiness for exploration and investment in the copper sector.



Breakout Streams



Innovation in Decarbonisation: Driving to Zero

The Innovation in Decarbonisation stream highlighted critical strategies for the mining industry to achieve decarbonisation. Discussions centred on leveraging data and AI to drive business value, electrification opportunities, and the importance of partnerships. Key challenges addressed included transitioning to electric-powered machinery, optimising energy consumption, and aggregating demand for renewable energy. Additionally, the commercial aspects of electrification were examined, emphasising the need to adjust financial metrics and consider carbon credits.



Innovation in Underground: Extending Life of Mine

The Innovation in Underground highlighted discussions in underground mining technology to boost efficiency and sustainability. Block caving was showcased for its fixed design, reduced costs, and decarbonisation potential. The future of underground mining was discussed, focusing on automation, new skill requirements, and mass mining challenges. The session also covered digital solutions to enhance drilling and blasting efficiency, and semi-autonomous operations at large underground mines, emphasising the importance of collaboration in remote operations. The panel discussion underscored the need for technology integration, data management, and continuous mining to optimise resource extraction and reduce costs.



Breakout Streams



Innovation in Processing: The Next Frontier

This breakout stream explored advancements in mining technology aimed at enhancing sustainability in processing operations. Speakers highlighted emerging technologies such as automation, robotics, and novel separation techniques for upgrading low-grade copper ores. Emphasis was placed on understanding ore properties and utilising these technological advancements to achieve optimal recoveries, reduce costs, and improve the economic viability of deposits. The panel also addressed challenges in mineral exploration and development, considering factors like location, jurisdiction, and technology to ensure project success.

SEDGMAN



Innovation in Exploration: Accelerating Copper Discovery

The Innovation in Exploration stream underscored the challenges and advancements in copper exploration. Discussions emphasised the importance of leveraging big data to improve mineral discovery and exploration, with a focus on data integration, acquisition, and interpretation for accurate resource estimation. Speakers discussed the need for standardisation and collaboration within the industry to unlock the full potential of data. Geopolitical instability and social concerns were noted as significant challenges. The conversation also covered the latest technologies, including AI and sensors, to enhance exploration efficiency and accuracy, stressing the importance of innovation and diversity of thought to drive the industry forward.



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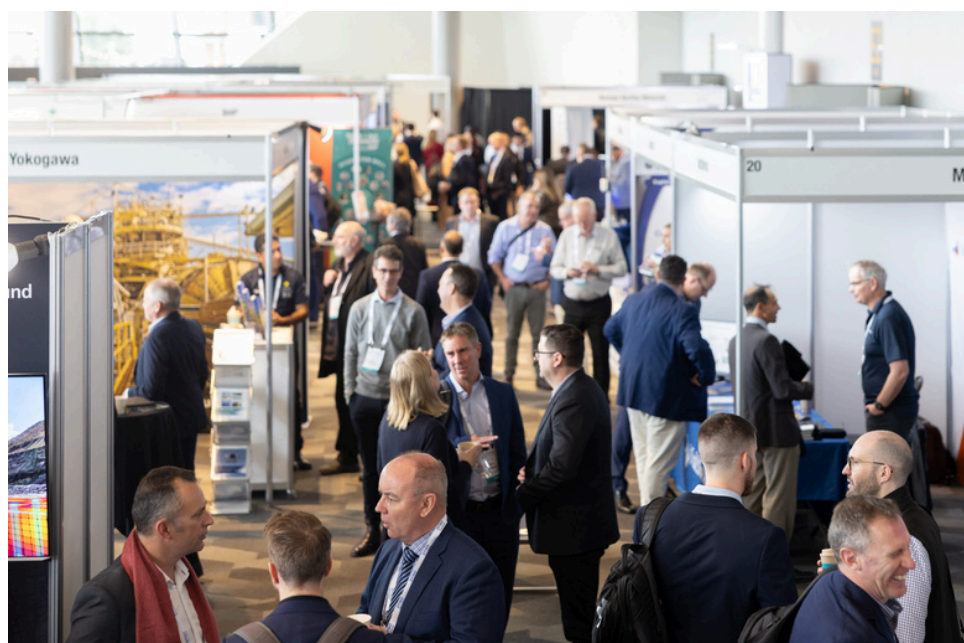
Exhibition Floor



The exhibition buzzed with excitement as delegates explored cutting-edge technologies and innovations. Industry professionals, innovators, and enthusiasts engaged in lively discussions and demonstrations of the latest advancements in the METS sector.

Extended catering breaks and end-of-day networking events on the exhibition floor provided ample opportunities for delegates to connect with exhibitors, learn about new products and services, and discuss potential collaborations.

The diverse range of exhibitors, from established leaders to innovative startups, showcased live demonstrations, offering a comprehensive understanding of the future of copper mining.



Exhibitors



corehesion

CYIENT

FLEET



HILLGROVE
RESOURCES

intertek
minerals



LCCM
LEIGH CREEK COPPER MINE



ThermoFisher
SCIENTIFIC



Networking



Copper to the World featured vibrant networking opportunities, beginning with the official Conference Opening Networking Event, proudly sponsored by **Sandvik**, where attendees were eager to connect. **Fluor** sponsored an energetic networking gathering on day two, with live cooking stations and music, followed by our closing networking event.

Attendees also enjoyed extended catering breaks and peer-to-peer communication courtesy of the Conference App, promoting some lively discussions and enabling new connections.



Student Program



Austmine welcomed high school and university students to Copper to the World. Our Supported by our Future Workforce Partner, the **Mining and Automotive Skills Alliance**, this initiative aimed to spark early interest in the METS sector and support STEM education.

Throughout the event, students had the unique opportunity to immerse themselves in the world of mining and resources technology. They participated in engaging career-focused panel discussions featuring industry experts who shared insights into the latest technological advancements and the diverse career paths available within the sector. These discussions not only provided valuable information but also inspired the students by highlighting the exciting possibilities and innovations driving the industry forward.

In addition to the panel discussions, the students were given guided tours of the exhibition floor. These tours allowed them to explore new technologies and solutions showcased by leading companies in the METS sector. The hands-on experience enabled the students to see firsthand how these innovations are applied in real-world scenarios, enhancing their understanding and appreciation of the industry.



Proudly Supported By



The Innovation Hour at Copper to the World was a standout segment, showcasing groundbreaking advancements and forward-thinking solutions in the mining industry. This session provided a dynamic platform for innovators to present their pioneering technologies and ideas that are set to revolutionise the copper sector. Attendees had the opportunity to witness five METS start-ups pitch their innovative solutions to an expert judging panel. The panel, composed of industry leaders and technologists, provided valuable feedback and insights, fostering a vibrant exchange of ideas.

Loop Hydrometallurgy Wins Innovation Hour

Loop Hydrometallurgy emerged as the standout winner with their **Halion Loop™** Copper Production Technology.

This innovative technology eliminates noxious gas emissions and liquid effluents, unlocking value from low-grade, polymetallic, and arsenic-contaminated feedstocks. Halion Loop™ significantly expands the range of economic resources and allows for the thorough utilisation of existing mine sites.

It is the first technology to directly recover copper from chloride liquor, particularly from the cuprous state, and has been recognised globally for its efficiency and sustainability.



Finalists:

- **GeoDataDecisions (GDD):** A pioneering SaaS platform enhancing ore deposit identification through advanced machine learning.
- **Gyratory Roller Solutions - GRolls® Crushing Technology:** A patented technology reducing energy, media, and water requirements in comminution circuits.
- **NGMX - RIMM (Resin in Moist Mix) Metal Recovery Method:** A technology combining leaching and sorption to extract non-ferrous metals efficiently.
- **Presien – Blindsight AI Vision Safety System:** An AI vision safety system designed to prevent accidents in heavy industries.



Government Partner



**Government
of South Australia**

Department for
Energy and Mining

Austmine is proud to partner with the South Australian Government to deliver the Copper to the World Conference & Exhibition. South Australia, home to 70% of Australia's copper reserves, is renowned for its commitment to innovation and technology, strong focus on emerging industries, and being a leader in green energy transformation. As demand for copper grows, this partnership is an opportunity to showcase South Australia's important copper industry and bring a focus on innovation to ensure critical supply.



Principal Partner

BHP

BHP's role as the Principal Partner enhances the event's prestige, and emphasises their commitment to sustainability, innovation, and responsible resource development. As the largest miner in South Australia and one of the world's leading copper producers, BHP's support of Copper to the World is instrumental in not only ensuring the conference's success but also giving it an international focus, fostering the growth of a world-class copper province.



Platinum Partner

FLEET

Fleet specialises in seismic exploration, low-power connectivity, edge computing, and additive manufacturing. Our satellite constellation is the foundation for our groundbreaking solutions that are unlocking new capabilities in space, defence, and critical mineral discovery needed to achieve net-zero.

Sustainability Partner



Accenture solves clients' toughest challenges in Australia by providing unmatched services in consulting, digital and technology.

Innovation Partner



Dyno Nobel is a global leader in commercial explosives, delivering groundbreaking performance through practical innovation.

Copper Partner



Hatch embraces clients' visions as its own to develop better ideas that are smarter, more efficient, and innovative.

Technology Partner



Rockwell Automation is dedicated to industrial automation and information, with a keen focus on technology innovation.



COPPER to the WORLD

Conference & Exhibition

Returning to Adelaide, South Australia

26 - 27 August 2025

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