Case Study

MINING BUCKET MAINTENANCE

PILBARA BASED MINE SITE

2008-CURRENT

PROBLEM

Austin Engineering Group Member Pilbara Hire was tasked with minimising maintenance costs and downtime related to mining buckets on a Pilbara mine site. The bucket maintenance program was to incorporate back hoe buckets, face shovels, loader buckets and auxiliary equipment.

SOLUTION

Pilbara Hire developed a maintenance program involving all bucket inspections; repairs and maintenance, including ground engaging equipment (GET) changes.

Two teams of experienced tradespeople work an 8/6 roster giving excellent coverage to site at all times. The team has been able to quickly repair mainframe cracking issues on excavators, and boom cracking issues on excavators, using on-site tradespeople which minimises additional costs and costly downtime on major equipment.

The reduction of GET downtime achieved through Pilbara Hire being onsite and monitoring and capturing all GET changes in shift changes / crib breaks or scheduled maintenance timeframes allows the dig units to get maximum capacity out of their work time.

Pilbara Hire's ability to provide constant feedback about how GET is performing, and recommend changes and adaptions to suit the current digging conditions, has given the mine site the edge with maintenance costs.

Attention to detail, including high quality paint finishes on the buckets, have seen Pilbara Hire build a close relationship with the customer.

Pilbara Hire has been providing this maintenance service to the site for over six years now. The results of this maintenance program are proven with other clients and sites using now using Pilbara Hire's services based on this module.

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