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Rexx delivers in demanding mine trials

A revolutionary new mine haul truck designed and constructed in Western Australia by leading mining services company Bis, has delivered outstanding results in trials at a working mine in the North Eastern Goldfields.

Known as Rexx, the dual powered 20-wheel dump truck has been designed with a range of features specifically incorporated to deliver savings to Bis customers. Rexx has more than four times the range of conventional dump trucks, outstanding maneuverability, operator comfort and maintainability plus on demand power that lowers fuel consumption.

Bis CEO Brad Rogers said the testing at Glencore's Murrin Murrin mine has been carried out in 'real-life' operating conditions and the results to date indicated Rexx had the capacity to deliver up to a 30 per cent reduction in operating costs compared with conventional dump trucks. Rexx will deliver savings to miners as part of Bis' integrated haulage solution.

"At Bis, we are constantly searching for new ways to deliver safe, efficient and flexible solutions for customers and in these trials Rexx has ticked all the boxes," Mr Rogers said.

Mr Rogers said one area of the savings which could be passed on to Bis customers in haulage costs was average fuel use by Rexx, which was around half the fuel consumed by equivalent competing dump trucks.

The fuel savings are a direct consequence of Rexx being designed with patented on-demand power that lowers fuel consumption. The vehicle has the capacity to carry enough fuel for at least two 12hour shifts, eliminating downtime needed for refuelling.

Mr Rogers said Rexx had been designed in-house by the Bis engineering team while the construction had utilised the talent of Western Australian tradespeople.

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“In Rexx we have a game changing work horse that showcases Australian innovation,” he said.

For example, the steering system enables an industry leading turning circle of just 13.6m, allowing Rexx to manoeuvre easily in smaller spaces.

Mr Rogers said that with an eye to industry trends Rexx had also been designed and built to be easily retrofitted for autonomous operations with features including steering sensors, stability control sensors and a futuristic in-cab console. The console provides the operator with real time data including pressure monitoring on all tyres and sensors for detecting bin tipping, engineering operation and payload.

Mining Manager at Murrin Murrin, David Ayres, said “We were thrilled to be involved with Bis on this exciting project. Outside of autonomous systems, there haven’t been many major fundamental design changes in the rigid-frame off-highway game in a long time.”

“The Bis design offers the ability to haul directly from pit-to-plant from a much longer distance, without the need for the rehandle step, which should save costs and reduce ore loss/dilution. Rexx solves a niche haul-distance equation,” he said.

Rexx has sparked significant interest from major miners both internationally and within Australia and a series of demonstrations are now being staged with interested customers.

Bis’ Rexx has also been shortlisted for the Future of Mining Innovation Award, which recognises collaborative innovation that results in standout commercial outcomes. The award is set to be announced in Sydney on 24 March 2019.

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About Bis

Bis has been delivering every day for its resources customers since 1915.

Bis first started moving resources in 1915, as Brambles Industrial Services, and there has been no stopping us since. Today we haul, transport, process and handle millions of tonnes of raw materials and commodities for our customers every year.

As a leading provider of specialised services to the resources sector, Bis takes care of all of



their customers' haulage, site services and underground coal mining needs. Once their resources are extracted, Bis people, equipment and ingenuity see them moved efficiently and safely the length of the value chain to their final destination.

Bis has a culture of being inventive. We help our customers to identify bottlenecks in their value chain systems and then we design innovative solutions and new technologies to help them deliver larger volumes faster, and more safely, than ever before.

That's how we help our customers to Deliver Every Day.

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