

# RESOURCES 2022: Minerals Sector Awards winners announced

Colin Willisroft - Tue, 18 Oct 2022

OceanaGold, Bathurst Resources, Federation Mining and Isaac Construction southern quarry manager Nathan Perring were all winners at the Resources 2022 Minerals Sector Awards, announced at the Komatsu gala dinner in Greymouth last night.

Perring won the Rising Star Award for being the standout person defined by their achievements in the sector during the past two years.

Federation Mining won the ESG Award – a new award that recognises the strongest demonstration of an environmental, social and governance programme – for its model at its Snowy River Mine in Reefton.

Bathurst won the Health and Safety Award for managing occupational hygiene, while OceanaGold picked up the Innovation Award for its post mine closure freshwater management at the Global Progress Mine near Reefton.

Awards judging panel chair Bernie Napp says there was a great set of entries for the awards and all entrants, finalists and winners can be proud of what they have achieved.

He says the awards, which have been running since 2018, showcase good practice and excellence in the minerals sector.

## Rising star

This year was the first time there was a Rising Star Award and Perring's drive to learn and excel impressed his employers.

He was appointed manager of the company's newly acquired Saddle Hill operations in May 2021.

Perring rapidly addressed a range of issues, bringing the quarry's operations into line with both Isaac's internal standards and legislative requirements.

New Zealand's youngest active quarry manager, Perring used the 2020 Covid lockdown as an opportunity to focus on study to gain industry qualifications.

Isaac Group industries general manager Jeff Collins says Perring's "hunger for knowledge surprised us to the point we needed to hold him back.

"It is amazing that this young man wanted to study during the first lockdown while his mates relaxed and enjoyed their time away from work; to hear he worked at times late into the night shows his absolute dedication to improving himself."

Read more about Perring [here](#).

The other finalists were Holcim assistant quarry manager Harriet Wilson, Road Metals mobile plant manager Dylan Kelcher and Federation Mining geologist Alex Mayhead.

## ESG

Sydney-based Federation Mining developed a detailed integrated management system to sustainably manage risk, safety, health, environment, community and stakeholder engagement at the mine.

It expects Snowy River's emissions per ounce of gold produced will sit in the lowest industry quartile.

It is further minimising Snowy River's environmental impact by using low emission machines, prioritising renewable energy, recycling and reusing water, and progressive rehabilitation to return the land to its natural state following mining operations.

Its engagement plan began with a heat map identifying more than 1000 stakeholders within a 30-kilometre radius, including applicable Government and non-Government organisations.

The map informs its communication strategy when engaging with the local community through regular community meetings, monthly newsletters, social media, sustainability reporting and face-to-face meetings.

Read more about its system [here](#).

The other finalists were OceanaGold for its Jumpstart Navigator Programme, which provides driver training for local rural and at-risk youth in Waihi, and Bathurst Resources for its proactive and predictive approach to identify and minimise acid and metalliferous drainage and improve water quality since acquiring the Canterbury Coal Mine in 2013.

## Innovation

OceanaGold won the Innovation Award for its adaptive water management and passive treatment system at its Globe Progress restoration project.

The restoration of the former Globe Progress Mine has trialled several innovative measures to ensure the water discharge from the site meets all quality standards.

OceanaGold designed full-scale, passive treatment systems for its pit lake and under drain seepages post closure.

Ferric dosing trials proved so effective that the Globe lake meets relevant water quality requirements and is now discharging offsite.

It has also installed a vertical flow reactor for treating underdrain seepages after assessing that it is an efficient and effective method of removing contaminants.

Read more about the entry [here](#).

The other finalist was Bathurst Resources for its Covid response programme.

## Health and safety

There was only one entrant in the Health and Safety Award category, so Bathurst Resources won for its managing occupational hygiene programme.

That said, in presenting the award judging panel member and Minex chief executive Wayne Scott said the judges thought the programme was "sensational".

The programme, which began in 2019, seeks to improve health and safety interventions higher up the hierarchy of controls to reduce reliance on PPE and improve worker health.

Bathurst engaged a qualified occupational hygienist with more than 10 years of mining experience to work as company coach.

The hygienist worked in a capacity building role for site management teams explaining technical results, coaching investigation techniques for every exceedance, challenging proposed controls and fostering development of actions targeted for each work area.

The capacity of site personnel has significantly improved since, with a dramatic increase in occupational health hazards reports. Workers are actively engaged in the monitoring and want to know not only the result but what it means and how controls protect them in their day-to-day activities.

Read more about the programme [here](#).

**Find out more...****Factfile information**

<b>Organisation</b>	<a href="#">OceanaGold</a> <a href="#">Bathurst Resources</a> <a href="#">Federation Mining</a> <a href="#">Isaac Construction</a>
---------------------	---