



# CRUNCH TIME



**W**elcome to another edition of **Crunch Time**, one in which we would really like to emphasise the importance of weighing up the quotes of crushing & screening contract services carefully before embarking on a contract.

The reason we make this point is that time and again we encounter scenarios where a company is in difficulties in reaching delivery targets because of taking on the cheapest contractor – often offering standard spec equipment bought off the shelf and simply not capable of meeting the contract if the slightest thing goes wrong.

What's more, we've seen contract quotes

being weighed up before taking into account the number of shifts that a contractor has to perform to meet delivery requirements.

We had a quote weighed up with another contractor and were told that we were too expensive. It was partially true, our set up costs were more expensive than the competitors. We have to tell you that this is quite often the case.

However, the client's contract department hadn't taken into account that our higher output equipment that was going to be configured specifically to the client's site, required just one shift whereas the other

contractors required two shifts.

When you weighed up fuel, air flight costs, costs of personnel on the site etc etc we were able to deliver more efficiently, more reliably at a more cost effective price with far less risk for the client of targets not being met.

**So, it really does pay to weigh up quotes carefully because as 'apples aint apples' nor are quotes.**

**Neil Constantine,**  
Business Development Manager

## Something important you should know about crushing and screening productivity...

### More \$ spent on site set up = Lower Project costs & Higher Productivity

**I**f you want to maximise site productivity, the key to success is to take the long term view.

When it comes to crushing, screening and conveying, the site set up and equipment commissioning can make all the difference between a so-so operation and one that gives maximum efficiency.

It can mean higher initial set-up costs, but when it comes to production, reliability and cost savings - in the long run, this method finishes up being a mile in front.

With 15 plants around Australia and 37 years of experience in providing contract crushing and screening services, we have learnt a thing or two about designing and building plant and delivering tonnage to meet client requirements at the lowest possible tonnage cost and to the highest possible production targets and standards.



Continued on page 2

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## Something important you should know about crushing and screening productivity

The process of coming to realise this came through our engineering division, Irvine Engineering (WA) Pty Ltd that our Principal, Neil Irvine had established prior to beginning a one plant crushing and screening operation.

He began as most crushing and screening contracting services do - by purchasing off-the-shelf equipment and competing with others to win contracts.

When it was realised that better

productivity could be achieved in some instances by redesigning the equipment, our unique engineering works came into its own.

Nowadays when we win a contract we look seriously at client requirements and the configuration of the site to select the machinery best suited and whether it needs changes to its configuration.

It means we never have to make something fit that's not quite right for a project. It

enables us to take on the more difficult projects, satisfying the most stringent specifications that often cannot be met by other crushing plant operators because they're limited to the capabilities of their machinery and reliance on third party contractors for repair and maintenance work.

Without our engineering works this would have been more costly and difficult to achieve.

# PROOF! THAT THE RIGHT GEAR MAKES A DIFFERENCE TO SITE PRODUCTIVITY!



**Just last year we proved to a major mining company how much more efficient we can be than our competitors.**

The client had a pressing need to produce a major amount of tonnage in a short period of time and had several contractors working the site.

When they realised the required production deadline was unlikely to be met, they called us in.

Our machinery, completely out - produced what was on site with the final result being that the target was achieved.

### Moly Metals unique design

A great example of creating a unique design was at the Moly Metals Spinifex Ridge DSO Mine in the Pilbara.

Rapid commissioned a large 3 stage fixed crushing and screening circuit to process 1 million tonne pa of ore with a capacity to ramp up production if required.

This plant was uniquely designed and constructed to fit the contours of an elevated escarpment with about 12metres difference between the ROM feed point to the toe of the product stockpile to achieve a stockpiling facility of around 80,000 tonnes.

### FMG's Cloud Break Site

The plant pictured in early morning light, at FMG's Cloud Break mine has a unique cone screen combination that we have found gives us a greater level of throughput.

In addition to a better level of efficiency, an aspect that particularly appeals to us is that this unique design took less time to assemble on site.

Essentially, Rapid Crushing is one of the rare companies with the know-how to build and modify plant ourselves - making it superior to the plant you can buy 'off the shelf'. While that doesn't sound significant to someone simply examining quotes, it does become significant with respect to a project's outcome.



This particular contract follows on from previous work that Rapid undertook for FMG at the Christmas Creek site where Rapid produced nearly 4 million tonnes of iron ore for shipment in a particularly tight time frame.

In fact we can prove that a more expensive quote is often a cheaper quote in the long run.

So, if you're thinking of calling for a site contractor, why not ask us how we would tackle your project?

# CLOSE MONITORING OF A CRUSHING CYCLE: ESSENTIAL FOR PRODUCT CONSISTENCY

**F**ailing to monitor on a daily basis, the end product of a crushing cycle can run the risk of producing crushed material that is out of specification.

Furthermore, if incorrectly sized material is mixed in with product that meets the required specifications, you may not even become aware of the problem until much later when it could cost a packet to rectify the problem.

It really is important to ensure crushed rock falls within specified product curve of an order.

In doing this, a lookout needs to be made for the possible effects of machine wear and changing rock feed on end-product consistency.

In order to satisfy specs relating to size and grades, especially when producing aggregate there are many variables to consider when setting up and running a crushing plant. These include the choice of crushing equipment to be used and the nature of the material to be crushed.

Decisions have to be made about crusher settings, fine tuning of crushers, the location of screens and the choice of the right screen-cloths for the job.

It is also necessary to analyse the material to be crushed to determine factors such as hardness and abrasiveness.

Failure to properly examine the rock can result in heavy dust



Willy, Willies – apart from the dust they raise, they bring to mind how important it is to retain control of product quality and not let it blow away...

And further to that they bring to mind the following quote...

- May the wind at your back- not be the result of the corned beef and cabbage you had for lunch...

loads or possibly in having to send the material through the crushing circuit a second time at a major cost in terms of time and money.

Unlike some operators, we do not have to send our samples away for analysis – a process that can take days.

Where required, Rapid Crushing sets up a fully equipped mobile laboratory on-site to analyse crushed rock samples right away to give daily reports. This allows us to make immediate adjustments to crushers or screens.

Our specialist lab technicians can produce sample results that give clients the comfort of knowing that the end product is in spec - critical for blast-hole stemming, road base, road sealing, rail ballast or concrete aggregates.

## PLANT TO SUIT YOUR PROJECT

**Over the 37 years that Rapid Crushing has been in operation we've seen innumerable crushing and screening services come and go.**

Rapid Crushing has created a wide range of high production crushing, screening and conveying circuits ranging from mobile & modular plants crushing up to 600 tph and fixed plants able to crush 1,000 tph.

Rapid is currently operating the following fleet:

- Seven Track Jaw / Cone & Screen Circuits
- Six Modular Jaw / Cone & Screen Circuits
- Two Fixed Jaw / Cone & Screen Circuits

Each has been configured to suit the specific site in which it is operating.

Rapid crushes and screens all types of mineral ores including iron ore, gold and nickel as well as construction materials such as concrete and road aggregates, specialty fill materials, rail ballast, road



base, blast stemming, rip rap and armour rock so the need for a varied range of equipment is considerable.

**Why not give us a try.... Be assured, we won't disappoint you.**

# RAPID DAMS SHOWS ITS CAPABILITIES IN THE WA GOLDFIELDS



**R**apid Dams, launched in 2015 as a specialist in building tailings storage facilities, has been kicking goals with several major projects having been completed in the W.A. goldfields.

Recently finished projects in the goldfields region include Raised Wet lift TSFs for Saracen Minerals and Goldfields Australia while a Drylift TSF project was successfully undertaken for Evolution Mining.

Rapid Dams has rapidly become a significant player in the building of tailings storage facilities, dam extensions and the building of Clay and HDPE and PVC lined ponds for the mining industry.

The team is also able to undertake road construction, drainage and rehabilitation earthworks.

Rapid Dams is led by a highly competent, well experienced trio in Martin Fowler, Mark Bowman and Mark Tyler, the former GM of Cape Crushing.

Martin Fowler and Mark Bowman take responsibility for all project supervision while Mark Tyler takes the role of marketing and the handling of contracts.

One of the strengths of the team is that there is simply no more experience likely to be available in this type of work than what they offer.

They worked extensively through the goldfields and other mining areas across Australia for many years before joining Rapid. What's more, they're equipped with the best plant

available for the type of work they're undertaking.

We're excited by the capabilities of what Rapid Dams has to offer.

One of the really strong features of the team is that the work is supervised on-site by the company leaders, Martin and Mark. The buck stops with them in the quality of workmanship delivered.

They're highly experienced, among the very best in their field, so clients can have absolute confidence in Rapid Dams delivering quality workmanship that is second to none.

If you have a project that could use the attention of Rapid Dams – no matter how large or small, Mark Tyler can be contacted on [mark.tyler@rapidcrushing.com.au](mailto:mark.tyler@rapidcrushing.com.au)



## Ronald McDonald House receives our support

**A**s a means of giving back to the W.A. outback community, Rapid is again donating to the Ronald McDonald House.

Rapid is expanding its donation in 2017 from sponsoring one room at \$10,000 a room, to two rooms.

The Ronald McDonald House room sponsorship program aims to raise in the region of \$500,000 annually for the

House which since it relocated from the 18 room site in Subiaco to the 47 room property in Nedlands has given 7,907 nights of accommodation to 736 families (as at September 30).

The accommodation is provided to families who have seriously ill children in hospital.

Regional area families are provided with

free accommodation while their children are in hospital. The accommodation includes activities and education for siblings of the sick children while the families need to be in Perth.

The house costs \$4.4million per annum to run, so room sponsorship is an important part of contributing towards its operation.

*"Doing it Right"*

[www.rapidcrushing.com.au](http://www.rapidcrushing.com.au)

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