

great EXPECTATIONS

VALUE THROUGH PLANNING



THE NEWSLETTER FOR MINING PROFESSIONALS

DECEMBER 2007



Tony Kinnane, Managing Director

The Runge Group - Editorial

We celebrated our 30th anniversary this year, with many new business initiatives and exciting opportunities realised. The companies that now form part of our global group

are all performing extremely well and contributing to our strategic goals. We are proud to now say we have 17 offices globally providing services and intellectual property to every mining related region.

Our 30th celebrations have been somewhat overshadowed by our day-to-day activities. However, we have still found time to celebrate (see article later this issue). We also took the opportunity to introduce our first ever employee "awards" recognising the extraordinary talent we have driving our business. The Runge Group employees are recognised leaders in the mining consultancy industry and we value the smart people that are working with us. Award recipients were nominated by their peers; it was good for me to see the respect and high esteem that employees have for each other.

We have taken the initiative to further connect face-to-face with our customers this year through the increased activities at trade events and establishment of new offices. Our new office in Jakarta was established in November providing a direct commitment to the mining companies in Indonesia (see picture). We have had to move our Perth office to a new location in order to fit all the employees in that region into one office (see picture) – stay tuned for the announcement of celebrations when we are settled in! Our Beijing operations also moved successfully



Bill Park - Jakarta Office Opening

into a new office set-up which will allow our continued growth in China.



Perth Office

We were especially proud to receive recognition locally in Queensland with the 2007 Export Award for Services being presented to The Runge Group. We were a finalist in the National awards and Minarco-MineConsult were a finalist in the New South Wales Export Awards. These awards provide us with an indication that others also see the hard work that is fuelling our business success.

Runge Welcomes GeoGAS Onboard

Gas and ventilation analysis are key inputs into the mine planning process and are integral to the design and operation of a safe and efficient underground coal business.

The acquisition of GeoGAS into The Runge Group provides a significant boost to our underground coal capabilities and takes us one more step along our strategy to build a premier provider of underground coal mine planning solutions.

Both Runge and GeoGAS are recognised for our innovations. Integrating the unique skills and tools developed by GeoGAS with those developed by Runge enables exciting opportunities to develop unique and high value technology solutions. Ray Williams, the founder of GeoGAS, will continue on with GeoGAS working with us on this vision.

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THE RUNGE GROUP



www.runge.com

www.pincock.com

www.mrms.co.za

www.minarco-mineconsult.com

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As well as being able to provide a more complete “one-stop-shop” consulting service for our clients, we will also be working to develop a range of unique software modules. Our goal is to model the effects of gas, ventilation and drainage within the dynamic mine design and production scheduling world of XPAC.

The feedback that we have received from a cross section of industry personnel has confirmed that these new software tools and combined consulting skills can provide a suite of high value services. It is Runge’s aim to develop these tools and services to become industry standard in processes and technology used as an integral part of the overall process of planning efficient, safe and profitable underground operations.

2008 will certainly be an exciting time for both Runge and GeoGAS so watch this space.

Runge Announce IPO

At the end of November we announced our intention to pursue an initial public offering (IPO) of Runge ordinary shares and listing on ASX in the first half of 2008.

Runge is currently preparing a prospectus, which will be available at the time of the public offering next year. Investors wishing to purchase Runge shares at the time of IPO need to complete the application form that will accompany or be included in the prospectus.

We are looking forward to 2008 – our 31st year in business.

Consulting Insights

by John Buffington

As we move into the holiday season we are seeing the usual acceleration of last minute project completions and start-ups culminating in a very hectic end to the year and a strong bank of work going into 2008.



Mine expansions, feasibility studies and due diligence projects continue to flow. Many of these projects are now in locations that have lain dormant for decades in both Australia and overseas. In addition to the more traditional mining consulting studies, we are continuing to see growth in work associated with business process standardisation and systems globalisation for our larger, global customers.

Our Runge and Fractal teams in Perth have taken new residence at 251 Adelaide Terrace. Still in construction and relocation mode, the team is looking forward to being set up more permanently in the new year. So when you’re in Perth in the new year, stop in and visit the team at their new lodgings.

A few of our politicians in Australia have also moved to new lodgings. The federal election on 23 November resulted in a change of government (in party name anyway) in Australia after more than a decade. The misrepresentations, name calling and muck raking between the major parties was at a level not previously seen or experienced during a federal election campaign. Many cynics before me have made very adept comments with respect to politics and governments so I thought I’d share a few:

Democracy is the recurrent suspicion that more than half of the people are right more than half the time.

E. B. White (1899 - 1985)

Elections are won by men and women chiefly because most people vote against somebody rather than for somebody.

Franklin P. Adams (1881 - 1960)

You will find that the State is the kind of organisation which, though it does big things badly, does small things badly, too.

John Kenneth Galbraith (1908 – 2006)

Sure there are dishonest men in local government. But there are dishonest men in national government too.

Richard M. Nixon (1913 - 1994)

The best that can be said after the voters have spoken is that we now have some change. Or put another way:

We are inclined to believe those whom we do not know, because they have yet to deceive us.

Unknown

Seasons Greetings

Although not many believe strongly in our politicians, Santa presents a much more honest and benevolent figure to believe in for many.

From all of us at Runge - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you and your families; please imbibe in moderation, drive safely, and enjoy time with your family and friends.





See How They Run (Project Cost and Schedule Overruns)

This article has been taken from the latest Pincock Perspectives newsletter (September 2007) and is an extract only. If you are interested in viewing the complete article, please visit www.pincock.com or contact Sandy Prebyski via email: sprebyski@pincock.com

*But Mouse, you are not alone,
In proving foresight may be vain:
The best laid plans of mice and men
gang aft agley,
And leave us nought but grief and
pain for promised joy!*
Robert Burns

At Pincock, Allen & Holt (PAH), we are occasionally asked to prognosticate on project cost and schedule overruns, to give our opinion on how much extra the projects might cost and how much longer they may take to complete than has been estimated.

One might presume that all of this has been thoroughly assessed by the project estimators and schedulers, and it probably has, but, alas, as most of us well know, Burns' famous words too frequently ring true.

Factors Contributing to Cost Overruns

We see numerous projects at PAH and there are probably fewer than 10 percent that are completed within budget and schedule. The other 90 percent run the spectrum from close to the projected values to an outside limit of about double the budget and double the schedule. Is this the result of incompetence on the part of the estimators and schedulers? Unequivocally, the answer is "No!" Why, then, does it happen? There are, of course, other factors affecting estimates and schedules, other than contemplative and rational deliberation, measurement, and calculation, and they are as follows:

1. Pressure from owners to minimize costs and schedules. This is not inappropriate: where money and time are limited, people can be very innovative and, conversely, where money and time are unrestricted, people have a tendency to be profligate.
2. Intentionally tight project budgets and schedules, designed to "pressurize" project management in hopes of minimizing project costs and schedules, often accompanied by financial incentives for the contractors. Assessing whether estimated costs and schedules are excessively tight can, to a large degree, be determined by comparison with other similar projects and by comparing the values with those in cost estimating handbooks. It might also seem that the larger the project, the more likely it will overrun, but, in reality, large projects are no more vulnerable than small projects; it is just that large projects are more visible, especially if they are massive civil projects such as bridges and tunnels.
3. Contractors that estimate and bid low are more likely to win work; accordingly they are so inclined. Still, this does put them under pressure to achieve the accepted values.

4. Lack of knowledge or insufficient knowledge. If a project incorporates a significant part or parts of it related to lack of knowledge, there is a tendency for things to go awry. When the level of knowledge is low, determining likely overruns is then primarily a matter of determining where knowledge is lacking and making allowances for it, recognizing that one unit of uncertainty equals about two units of vulnerability. The Three Blind Mice

Three Blind Mice

Is there any way to judge the vulnerability of a project to cost and schedule overrun and to quantify how much more it might cost and how much longer it will take to complete?

There certainly seems to be a relation between overruns and the following factors, all of them related to lack of knowledge or insufficient knowledge, what might be termed the three blind mice of projects:

- Remoteness. When projects are in remote locations the efficiency of logistics, the availability of services, and the efficiency of construction come into play.
- Unconventionality. While incorporating new processes and methods is sometimes essential to even make a project viable, it does increase vulnerability.
- Earthwork. Time and time again we see earthwork estimates being exceeded, with costs for this item often exceeding 100 percent of the estimated value.

Schedule overruns are usually closely related to cost overruns, but this is not always the case; it seems that schedule overruns occur even where cost overruns do not occur.

Conclusion

Cutting off the tails of the three blind mice does not seem to help. One must make allowances for them so that, when plans do go agley, we are not particularly surprised or disconsolate, as Burns suggests we often are, in the final verse of his famous ode to the mouse:

*Still you are blest, compared with me!
The present only touches thee:
But oh! I backward cast my eye on prospects drear!
And forward, though I cannot see, I guess and fear!*

While we may yet, at times, have reason to be fearful, healthy skepticism and anticipation of possible disaster can make us, perhaps, a little less so.

This month's article was provided by Dick Addison, P.E., and Principal Process Engineer who delights in trapping blind mice and is ever reluctant to set them free.

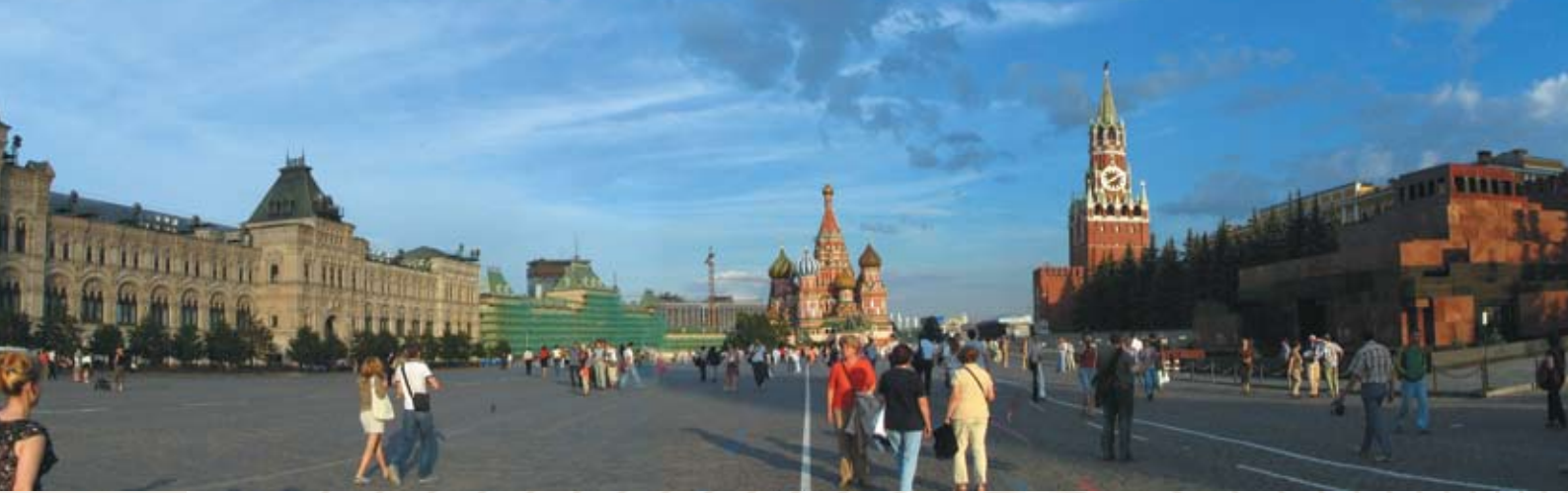
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Consultants for Mining and Financial Solutions



OnTheRussianFront...

Runge has announced that Siberian Coal Energy Company (Suek), the largest thermal coal producer in Russia, has gone live with Runge's XERAS forecast software and its XPAC mine scheduling solution.

Suek will use XERAS to provide financial forecasts throughout their underground and open pit coal operations. XERAS lets Suek strengthen its corporate governance by creating accurate and detailed forecasts. Being able to re-forecast when changes are made to the mining operating environment increases confidence in forecasting and the mine's credibility.

Suek chose XERAS and XPAC products because of their technical capabilities and global track record. Tight control of budget forecasting lets Suek amalgamate strategic planning processes with annual budgeting, putting them in a better position to make decisions that benefit the business now and in the future.

Suek has also purchased Runge's XPAC solution to improve its mine scheduling for forecasting, reserve evaluation and mine scheduling management. XPAC gives the power to deliver real value for all types of mineral deposits and mining methods.

Suek has chosen to implement an XERAS-XPAC solution as a standard across all operations. The standard solution ties financial modelling to the resource and therefore models the variability of each mine. The software promotes reconciliation of planned and actual in a systematic fashion, which leads to more accurate financial analysis of each coal mine.

Jon Scott of Runge said; "To communicate with confidence to internal audiences and stakeholders about mine site profitability is key to the success of today's mining organisations. The ability to compare planned financials against actual costs as the budget year unfolds is imperative to staying on target."

Severstal first Russian mining company to use Runge for Mining Economics training

Runge has recently expanded its global training footprint into Europe. Russian mining company Severstal is the first European company to undertake Runge's Mining Economics professional development course.

A core team of employees from Severstal's iron ore and coking coal business units has completed Runge's Mining Economics training course which focuses on cost efficiencies that can be implemented in each step of the mining process.

The course recently held in Moscow, also provides an introduction to systematic mine planning and reinforces the importance of engineering decision-making based on economic analysis.

Severstal found the course practical in terms of applying economics to the day-to-day operation of its mine sites. As the course uses economic basis for mine equipment distribution in different production variants, trainees learnt how to apply calculation methods for effective selection and

use of mine equipment.

According to Vladimir Ulyanov, head of Long Term Planning Department, Severstal, "The presenters were very experienced in applying economic analysis to the overall improvement of the design and operation of a mine site and where and how various improvements could be implemented."

Although Runge also provides professional development courses in Australia, South America, South Africa, North America and Canada, the expansion into Russia provided additional challenges. The Mining Economics course had to be translated into Russian and content altered to encompass economic theory specific to the country.

Runge Training Manager, Gary Gibson, said, "I am sure with the successful delivery of this course to Severstal in Moscow, Runge can look forward to providing more of its Professional Development courses to other similar companies in this significant mining region of the world."



Latin America *Hugh Thompson*



So, have things been busy for Runge in Latin America lately? Our team has been supplying the full range of Runge services to a variety of clients. These have covered:

- Consulting on life-of-mine planning and financial modelling projects for gold, nickel, iron and bauxite in Argentina, Peru and Brazil. We have also completed works on strategic contracting versus equipment selection options for remote mining operations in Brazil.
- Helping clients to develop their life-of-mine and budget financial models in our XERAS software. In these models we have worked on copper and gold projects in Chile, Argentina, Peru and Uruguay. What has been great to see has been the development of confidence in our clients in "running" their own solutions.
- Helped new software users get the best possible start with Runge's software by providing our excellent and targeted software training services. This training has covered all our software products and been delivered in Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Peru.
- Delivery of Runge's Mining Economics courses in Brazil, Chile and Peru, and the Truck and Loader course in Brazil (twice) and Chile.

What we are seeing is that clients understand that now – with metal prices high – is the right time to invest in planning systems, strategic planning as an activity and seeing how they can specifically make the most of current market conditions.

All this uses the great knowledge and skills of the Runge team. This will help our clients to properly deal with the changes and challenges ahead as the coming years may be more turbulent in terms of revenues and retaining personnel.

Specifically we would like to welcome the following companies as Runge software users in recent months:

- Minera Lumina Copper - Chile; XERAS
- Minera Agua Rica- Argentina; XERAS
- Xstrata Copper - Chile; TALPAC
- CVRD Santa Luzia - Brazil; XPAC
- CVRD Carajas - Brazil; TALPAC
- Minera Yanacocha - Peru; XERAS
- Southern Peru Copper - Peru ;TALPAC
- Anglo Base Metals - Chile ; XERAS

There have been a few personnel changes in the Santiago office:

- Stuart Cottee is soon to be transferring to Australia; a new Santiago-based XPAC mining consultant will be appointed soon.
- Joaquin Harnecker is moving onto other challenges; a new manager for the Santiago office will be announced soon.

We are always looking for new staff in our Latin American offices so whether you're interested in experiencing a new culture and lifestyle, or ready for a new work challenge, please contact me (email hthompson@runge.com.au) if you want to be based in Santiago de Chile or Belo Horizonte, Brazil and be involved in the wide range of projects we have across Latin America.

Desejamo-lo um Natal Feliz, e tem um novo ano bom!
¡Nosotros le deseamos una Feliz Navidad, y que tengas un año nuevo bueno!

North America *Fraser Rowe*



As 2007 starts to wind down, our business is doing quite the opposite. Our Calgary, Denver and Gillette offices continue to be extremely busy in every aspect of our business; consulting, training and software support.

We have a number of interesting consulting projects currently on the go for some major clients including BHPBilliton, Rio Tinto, Shell and DeBeers, to name just a few, and our software client base continues to grow with sales of software, specifically TALPAC, XPAC, XERAS and Xact to both existing and new customers.

Our annual run of professional development courses was held in Calgary in November which was well attended and received; 11 attendees on the Mining Economics course; 18 attendees on the Mining for Non-Miners course.

We are receiving numerous requests to present the one-day Mining for Non-Miners course privately to organisations looking to provide their non-mining staff with a greater understanding of the minerals industry and have provided this service successfully for Diavik Diamond Mines, BHPBilliton Diamonds, Petro Canada, Department of Indian and Northern Development in Canada, North West Territories Land and Water Board Groups and Chevron Mining. Should your company be interested in running this course, contact the Calgary office for more information.

In November we were joined by Mike Rowlands, Runge's Australian-based Underground Coal Manager. Mike made a number of presentations of Runge's underground coal scheduling and financial evaluation tools to producers in the USA. This visit has garnered considerable interest and we are now looking at commencing our first underground coal software implementation in North America.

In December we will have a booth at the Norwest Mining Association Conference in Spokane, Washington, as well as being represented at SME in Salt Lake City in February 2008, PDAC in Toronto in March 2008, and CIM in Edmonton in May 2008. Attendance is open and we encourage anyone interested to come along to any of the locations as convenient.

We wish everyone a very happy holiday season and look forward to a prosperous 2008.



The Calgary Mining Economics Course – November 2007

Pincock Allen & Holt

Raja Uphadyay

As we approach the end of another year, we reflect on what has been an exciting 12 months for PAH, during which time we have accomplished two main goals that were identified as opportunities a little over two years ago, being:



- To establish a PAH office in Australia.
- To develop software sales and service capabilities in Denver to sell to and support clients in the U.S.

As a result of these opportunities being identified we have teamed up completely with The Runge Group and established an office in Brisbane, Australia in 2006. Nelson King took on the role of Manager for Australia and relocated to Brisbane for two years. Nelson has hired two consultants: Steve Hinde in 2006 and Andrew Newell in 2007. Both Steve and Andrew bring a wealth of experience to PAH in their respective fields and they have been instrumental in helping to build the PAH business in Australia. These efforts supported by The Runge Group, through the assistance of John Buffington, Australasia General Manager, and his staff has meant that PAH is making inroads in capturing a market in Australia.

In 2006, we hired Paul Shattuck, a Software Sales Manager. We have also recruited Olaf Wyberneit and another engineer who will relocate to Denver early next year to assume the roles of XPAC and XERAS Consultants. Their addition to this region will be invaluable due to their immeasurable software experience. With Paul's hard work in software sales supported by Olaf, we will be well situated to meet or beat our budget for FY07/08.

The Fiscal Year 2006/2007 was a record profit year for us which is testament to the efforts and hard work that our personnel continue to apply day-in and day-out to ensure we continue to grow.

Our efforts to establish an office in Brazil are continuing with Darrel Buffington agreeing to relocate to Belo Horizonte in January 2008. Darrel will be responsible for establishing PAH in this region.

We have also expanded our personnel in Denver from 18 employees in 2005 to 27 currently, whilst also employing a fulltime person in Gillette, Wyoming. Having a person in the Gillette office gives us the capability of providing services to our utility clients who purchase millions of tons of coal from the Powder River Basin mines but do not have any representation there. We have also been 'sharing the load' in terms of

resources; Stefan Pieters—a consultant— from South Africa worked in PAH's office for one month; Nick Ogilvie—a consultant— from Calgary was part of the PAH project team for a Canada project; Malcolm Roper from Runge's Australian Consulting team, worked on projects in PAH's office for three months. PAH geologists are currently assisting Minarco on several metal projects in China.

As 2007 draws to a close, we wish you all a safe and happy Christmas with family and friends, and look forward to the exciting opportunities and challenges that 2008 will bring.

South Africa

Ian Perks



As 2007 draws to a close, we are gearing up for a very busy 2008.

South Africa is currently experiencing an acute energy crisis which has put coal in the spotlight as the solution to the crisis and has therefore created a buoyant coal market with many coal companies tasked with the job of searching for new reserves. Several new mines are planned and extensive work is ongoing in neighbouring countries such as Zimbabwe, Botswana and Mozambique.

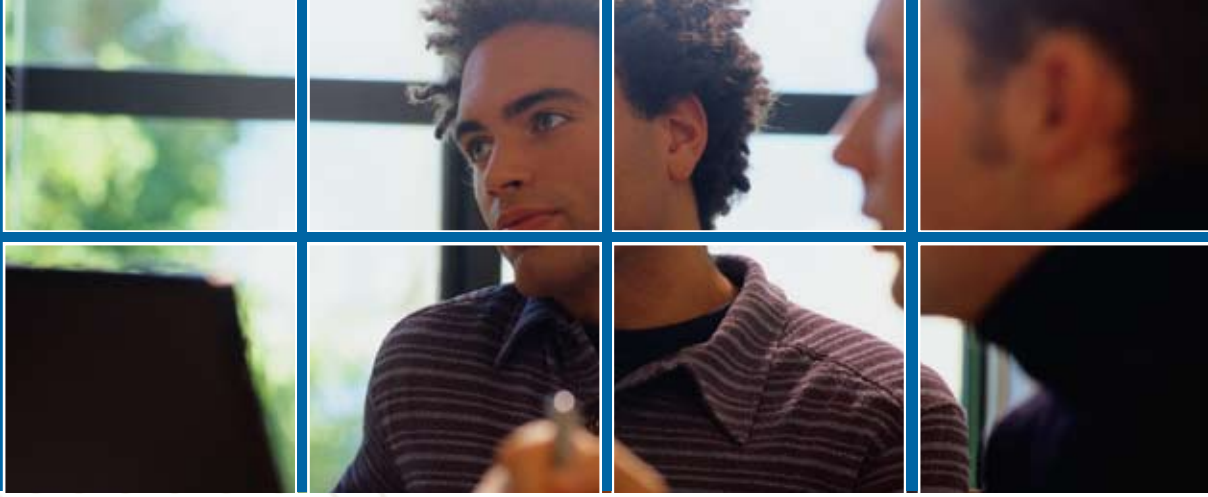
The ongoing exploration of these new mines will generate numerous bankable feasibility studies of which Runge / MRM will be involved. The need for these feasibility studies is immediate; the availability of coal is a serious problem and the need for new reserves and operational mines is urgent.

Due to the immediate requirement of this work, we will be very busy in 2008 and into the foreseeable future and look forward to working with our customers and uniting in the challenges that lay ahead to meet this urgent need.

On another note, we'd like to congratulate South Africa for their triumphant win over England in the Rugby World Cup in France in October. A convincing 15-6 defeat saw the Webb Ellis Cup returned to South Africa for the first time since 1995. Congratulations Springboks.

Finally, we'd like to wish everybody a safe and happy Christmas with family and friends this festive season.





Professional Developments

Runge's objective is to provide a high quality and professional service in the planning and operation of mines and resource projects. Training is a key element in fulfilling that objective. The knowledge and challenges Runge deals with daily in our consulting work and software implementations is captured

and is reflected in the high quality of training courses we provide worldwide. In addition to courses offered to any interested parties, Runge provides customised courses that can be tailored to client's specific needs and held on site.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING CALENDAR

FEBRUARY – JULY, 2008

MINING FOR NON MINERS (COAL)

Feb 13 - Brisbane, Australia
 Apr 16 - Brisbane, Australia
 July 16 - Brisbane, Australia

MINING FOR NON MINERS (METALS)

Jun 18 - Perth, Australia

TRUCK & LOADER COURSE

No public courses scheduled in Australia. Offered on "as requested" basis.

MINING ECONOMICS

Feb 19-20 – Brisbane, Australia
 May 13-14 - Brisbane, Australia
 Jun 19-20 - Perth, Australia
 July 22-23 - Brisbane, Australia

INTEGRATED OPEN PIT COAL MINE PLANNING

Mar 10-14 - Brisbane, Australia

DRAGLINE COURSE

Mar 4-5 - Brisbane, Australia

FOR FURTHER DETAILS ::: PLEASE CONTACT

Australia: Margaret Calder (mcalder@runge.com.au)
 South Africa: Linelle van Antwerpen (lvanantwerpen@runge.com.au)
 North America: Paul Shattuck (pshattuck@runge.com.au)
 South America: Islanda Neira (ineira@runge.com.au)
 Europe: Jon Scott (jscott@runge.com.au)
 or Gary Gibson - Training Manager (ggibson@runge.com.au)



Note: Runge reserves the right to make changes to the above schedule depending on demand for courses.



TestingTimes by Peter Brackstone

Here at The Runge Group we are committed to delivering a quality product to our clients, both internal and external. To this end, the Software Testing Team, based in Brisbane but with resources also in Kuala Lumpur, verifies that the software delivered facilitates the features and functions requested, rectifies identified defects, and performs within the parameters stated for the application. The Team addresses software testing for both Runge and Mining Dynamics software applications and may, in the future, provide formal testing for internal infrastructure projects.

Currently a team of nine, Software Testing aims to deliver testing solutions that are at least industry standard and not only “best practice” but aiming toward industry “next practice”. The Team is actively involved in local and national Australian testing organisations to better facilitate the development of its skills and experience and to leverage the knowledge and experience of other professionals involved in software testing. With members of the ACS¹, AIPM² and APTN³ on board, holding a variety of internationally recognised testing certificates (ISTQB⁴, CSTP⁵, ISEB⁶), the Test Team approaches its work in a professional, competent and increasingly efficient manner to better support the delivery of quality applications into the market and to complement the work of the software developers and mining consultants. The Team seeks to improve its throughput, coverage and auditability at every iteration and has established a test suite which has currently in excess of 4,000 testing assets – a figure growing by the day!

Testing automation is a major aim of the Team at present with a view to automating around 50% of its current testing assets within the next 12 months to better facilitate more rapid testing of applications. “RATS” – Rapid Application

Testing Suite – is currently under development and should be available within the next few months and widely in use by the end of 2008. Application Project Managers will be able to take advantage of a more rapid throughput for minor enhancements and changes to applications as a result.

Runge has an established testing methodology and process set which allows it to respond quickly to increased and changed demands for testing services. The process set is currently being transferred from a paper-based system to one established within Microsoft’s “Team System” product which should allow for a more seamless integration with other software development processes and reduce the reliance on manual asset preparation within the Team. This will also allow for more in-depth analysis and asset development, giving greater scope and scale of testing coverage. The “Test Management System”, a customised solution within Team System, is currently under development in Kuala Lumpur and should be ready for pilot later this year, bringing a number of immediate efficiencies and economies to the testing function.

As with all software testing, the quality of the outcomes relies heavily on the commitment and attention of the testers performing the task. At Runge, we are fortunate to have established such a group of professionals who are committed to meeting the challenges of those ‘testing times’ and to delivering what our clients want!

¹ Australian Computer Society

² Australian Institute of Project Management

³ Australian Professional Testers Network

⁴ International Software Testing Qualifications Board

⁵ Certified Software Testing Professional

⁶ International Software Examinations Board

Fractal

As you will know from our previous issue of Great XPActations in July of this year, Runge expanded its operations through the acquisition of Fractal Technologies in Perth, Australia.

Fractal brings Runge expertise in the development of three-dimensional data management and visualisation software for the geosciences. Its longest running commercial product, FracSIS, combines an object-oriented database specifically designed to store geological, geochemical, and geophysical data with an interactive 3D visualisation environment.



Fractal also enhances the technological capability of Runge’s Mining Dynamics, which is the industry’s first visual enterprise-wide software.

Fractal has recently moved offices; they have joined the Runge Perth office team at their new residence which is at Level 3, 251 Adelaide Terrace, Perth, Australia.



What's New In XPAC 7.8?

For those who are current customers using XPAC, you will soon receive a copy of the latest version of XPAC. The main focus of the next release of XPAC is to provide significant enhancements in reporting and data validation. Some of the features included in this release are mentioned below, however please visit our website (www.runge.com) for comprehensive demonstrations of this new functionality – it is sure to impress you!

- New functionality has been created to enable you to group multiple reports. This feature now allows you to quickly generate groups of reports from multiple scenarios from the one screen.
- Functionality has been added which allows you to quickly verify the integrity of your database and identify incorrect values, thus alleviating the time consuming task of locating errors in very large databases.
- Enhancements in scheduling, database, graphics, reporting and scripting have also been included.
- A number of Russian language-specific issues have also been addressed.

We encourage you to visit our website to see the latest in scheduling innovation.

Please Note:

XPAC 7.8 does not officially support the Microsoft Windows Vista operating system. XPAC 7.8 may run on Windows Vista if the User Account Control (UAC) functionality is disabled, but Runge does not recommend this for operating models. Full support for Windows Vista is planned for the next version of XPAC.



Launch of Runge Software News

This month Runge has launched a technology update newsletter which will give our current software customers the latest updates and information. We plan on keeping it a simple, easy-to-read newsletter that provides information on how to get the most out of Runge's technology

solutions. In our first issue we introduce FracSIS and provide details on what is happening with XPAC and Xact. We invite you to provide feedback and information on how to best interact with you! This newsletter will be distributed via email to all our current software customers.



Movember

During the month of November each year, males throughout the world are encouraged to grow a moustache to raise awareness and money for male health issues, particularly prostate cancer, the fifth most commonly diagnosed cancer in the world.

Movember usually encourages some rather outrageous moustaches and other related wacky behaviour and this year was no exception. Runge's Brisbane office had no less than 10 participants, including one participant who rose to the challenge of shaving off half the hair on his head to raise some last minute funds. Congratulations to Darren Ryan, who's willingness to take on this challenge assisted in raising the tally of funds for Movember to \$1,480.

Congratulations also to Andrew Paul, Greg Lister, Jeremy Drice, Luke Bagnall, Robe Mo, Shyamal Raju, Tim Jaja, Michael Johnson, Adam Arnold and Arash Imani who all partook in such a worthy cause.



Jeremy Drice starts his new career as a barber. Darren Ryan is his first customer.

Beach Ultimate Frisbee

Australia will be competing in the Beach Ultimate Frisbee World Championships in Maceio, Brazil in December and our very own Kristen Nott (Mining Consultant in the Brisbane office) will be taking part, both as a team player for the Australian Women's Team and as one of the team managers for both the men's and women's squads. Kristen also recently brought back a gold medal from the Australian Mixed Ultimate Championships which was held in Sydney in October, making her team, Bootus Maximus, the top mixed team in Australia.

Beach teams consist of five players and the aim of the game is catch a Frisbee in the end-zone of the opposing team. Players are not allowed to run with

the Frisbee in hand but establish a pivot foot (like basketball) and throw the Frisbee to a teammate. Defence is also like basketball; defenders attempt to stay close to attackers and block the Frisbee and if the Frisbee is intercepted or touches the ground, the teams switch from defence to offence and visa versa. Ultimate Frisbee is a fast-paced, strategic sport which plays out like a non-contact version of Australian Rules Football.

If you want to find out more about Frisbee and the upcoming competition in Brazil, take a look at the Beach Ultimate Frisbee website at www.afda.com.

Good luck in Brazil, Kristen!





Lorian's Achievements

Lorian Graham, our resident Australian Cycling Champion (and Graphic Designer) competed in the World Cycling Championships in Stuttgart, Germany in September 2007. Taking part in this competition was a true testament to Lorian's physical and mental abilities after having experienced countless operations since the 2005 road accident in Germany that left Lorian and four of her fellow riders with some serious injuries and tragically took the life of her other team rider Amy Gillett.

Lorian has overcome many obstacles and challenges to compete in the Championships and as a result of her dedication to the sport, finished in 39th place overall and was the second Australian to complete the race, a remarkable feat for her comeback to professional competition. Her feat was made even more remarkable for the efforts she provided in assisting a fellow Australian cyclist to achieve an 8th place finish by sacrificing her energy to push her team rider

up a climb until she regained control of a dropped chain.

Lorian's perseverance and persistence has paid dividends; she will be competing professionally next year as part of the Dutch Women's Cycling Team, based in Italy, to further enhance her opportunity to represent Australia in the Beijing Olympics in 2008. A big congratulations, Lorian, we are all very proud of you.



Collahuasi Football Championship

Runge's XERAS-sponsored football team recently competed at the Collahuasi Mines' Internal Football Championship, held in northern Chile. They were triumphant in many of their games and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Well done boys.



Runge's XERAS-sponsored football team

Calgary Kookaburras Celebrate First Victory

The Calgary Kookaburras, Canada's first women's Australian Rules Football team, competed in the 10th Annual US National Championships in Louisville, Kentucky in October this year. Rebecca Jones, a Mining Consultant in our Calgary office, is a member of this inaugural team.

The Kookaburras teamed up with the Washington First Lady Eagles who are also in their first season, in order to field a full team for the competition. The combined efforts of the two teams proved successful, providing strong competition against the well-established clubs from Arizona and Milwaukee and testing the resolve of the reigning champions from Atlanta. In the last game of the weekend the Kookaburras challenged their Washington counterparts to a match and recorded their first ever victory.

For more information about Australian Rules Football in Canada, take a look at www.aflcanada.com.

Congratulations Kookaburras, good luck for next season.





Runge30thCelebrations



Supporting the future of Engineers in Mining.

How time flies by! We have recently passed another milestone, being our 30th birthday and we celebrated with our clients in style. We used this celebration to also raise awareness and funds for The Engineering Link Group (TELG).

On 22nd October 2007 we held a cocktail reception in the Brisbane Town Hall which was well attended by over 200 guests. We had the pleasure of being entertained by both the Australian Chamber Orchestra and Tim Freedman (of The Whitlams fame) which turned out to be a real crowd pleaser.

We also raffled off an original painting titled "Bunches on Brown" by Dean Vella which also

raised funds for TELG - a not-for-profit organisation who, since their inception in 1994, has grown to be the exemplar in Queensland and Australia for introducing secondary school students to the discipline of engineering. (See www.telg.com.au.)

Thank you to those who were able to come along on the night and help us to support such an important group. We are proud that we were able to raise \$10,000 for this charity. And thank you again to all our clients who attended and to those who provided us with great feedback of a very enjoyable evening. We look forward to celebrating future birthdays with you.



Selina Nalatu, Cath Halpin and Ada Milos get up close to Tim Freedman.

*Wishing you a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year
from everyone at*

