

# MINING IN MOZ

## Mining in Mozambique is an attractive investment opportunity, and will help to further develop the country

In early December 2010, chief operations officer Andre Bosch and associate at the Ekurhuleni office Deward Potgieter, both from GIBB – one of South Africa's leading consulting engineering companies – concluded a progressive rail, geotechnical and water management signing with Australian-based company, Talbot Group Investments (Pty) Ltd, in Mozambique.

Talbot (in conjunction with Nippon Steel and Posco), which holds an exploration and prospecting licence with the Mozambican government, intends constructing a world-class open-cast coal mine (Minas de Revuboe) in the coalfields of the Lete province, located in the northwest of Mozambique.

Talbot's goal is to eventually export up to 10 million tonnes of coal per annum over the 23-year lifespan of the mine.

"Mozambique is a flourishing African nation with GDP (gross domestic product) growth in excess of 6% in the last financial year," says Potgieter.

"This project will have a direct positive impact on Mozambique, and has the potential to increase growth and sustainability and foster necessary investment opportunities needed to further develop the country and its people."

**A team of consultants has been commissioned to work on the project, with GIBB appointed for the following packages:**

- De-mining – land-mine clearance was required as part of Talbot's safety requirements before the site could be accessed;



- Survey – an aerial light detection and ranging process was conducted, as well as a traditional ground survey;
- Geotechnical investigation;
- Water management;
- Water resource hydrology study;
- Flood hydrology study;
- Sedimentation study;
- Geohydrology study;
- Ground and surface water quality study;
- Water storage dam design;
- Sedimentation dam design;
- Bulk water conveyance system design;
- Flood water diversion canal design;
- Mine camp water infrastructure design;
- Railway infrastructure (20 kilometres);
- Train operations study;
- Rolling stock study;
- Bridges and culverts design;
- Geometric alignment design;
- Earthworks design (cuttings and embankments);
- Retaining structures;
- Railway superstructure design;
- Railway drainage design;

- Services relocation design;
- Signalling and telecommunications design; and
- Railway balloon and yard lighting design.

"This project characterises the remarkable effort and dedication that went into GIBB's initial bid – once again illustrating the huge potential our neighbours within the SADC (Southern African Development Community) region have for us and vice versa," says Potgieter.

"At GIBB, we will continue to align ourselves with projects that not only allow us the opportunity to demonstrate our huge services offering and technical ability, but also allow us to enhance the lives of ordinary people who will ultimately benefit from the development of their communities."

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