

Software essentials for exploration

Geosoft and Metech technologies support exploration companies from initial target identification through to resource development

In exploration, knowledge and data are your two greatest assets. Geologists depend on data to provide direction on where to explore and drill. Investors, analysts and partners use data to assess the value and integrity of an exploration company's results.

Therefore it's not surprising that industry use of technology has focused on maximizing the value of the data asset; through better access, manipulation and visualization of the data for day-to-day exploration and drilling decisions, and through better organization and data management for improved reporting and resource development.

Essential software for exploration

Geospatial mapping and visualization applications, like Geosoft's Target software, have proven to be essential for improving exploration efficiency, and for showing drilling program results to investors, analysts and potential partners.

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*-Mark Le Grange
Project Geologist
African Minerals*

African Minerals (formerly Platreef Resources), a South African-based exploration company working on the Platreef (Northern limb of the Bushveld Complex) began using Target three months ago, and the company has already seen a difference in the way in which geological information is used and disseminated.

"We selected Target because we needed tools that could assist us in planning and visualizing our sections and drilling program," said Mark Le Grange, Project Geologist for African Minerals. "The difference it's made has been fantastic. We no longer have to wait for our mine modeling geologists to give us sections. We can update them on a daily basis and are able to look at a section immediately at our desktop. It's made our lives as geologists that much easier."

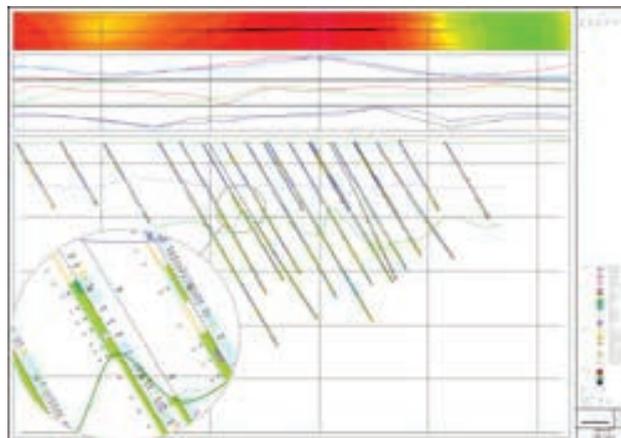
Professional mapping software has given African Minerals geologists the tools to show their results, to company executives as well as investors. "Target has given us superior visualization capabilities for seeing, and showing, what we do as geologists," said Le Grange. "We found Target's strip log function to be a very effective tool for giving potential investors a drill holes data and perspective on one page."



The Target mapping software has also been used to support other areas of mining exploration and project feasibility, such as environmental assessment and advanced 3D modeling. "We were able to use many of our Target cross sections, as well as our strip log, in our environmental baseline study," said Le Grange. "Our contractors found it helpful in deciding on which sections to use for their samples."

Platreef's modeling geologists found the Target sections easier to work with, when identifying intersections and lithologies, and they were able to transfer them back into their 3-D modeling package for further use.

Having the right technology can help to improve exploration productivity and increase prospecting capabilities. Taking an integrated approach towards your exploration technology can yield the greatest benefit, providing a solid data foundation for resource development as well as active exploration projects.



African Minerals Limited
90 Long Acre
London
WC2E 9RA

Phone: +44 (0) 20 7849 3002
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7849 3259

www.african-minerals.com



Geosoft Inc.
+1 (416) 369-0111
www.geosoft.com

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