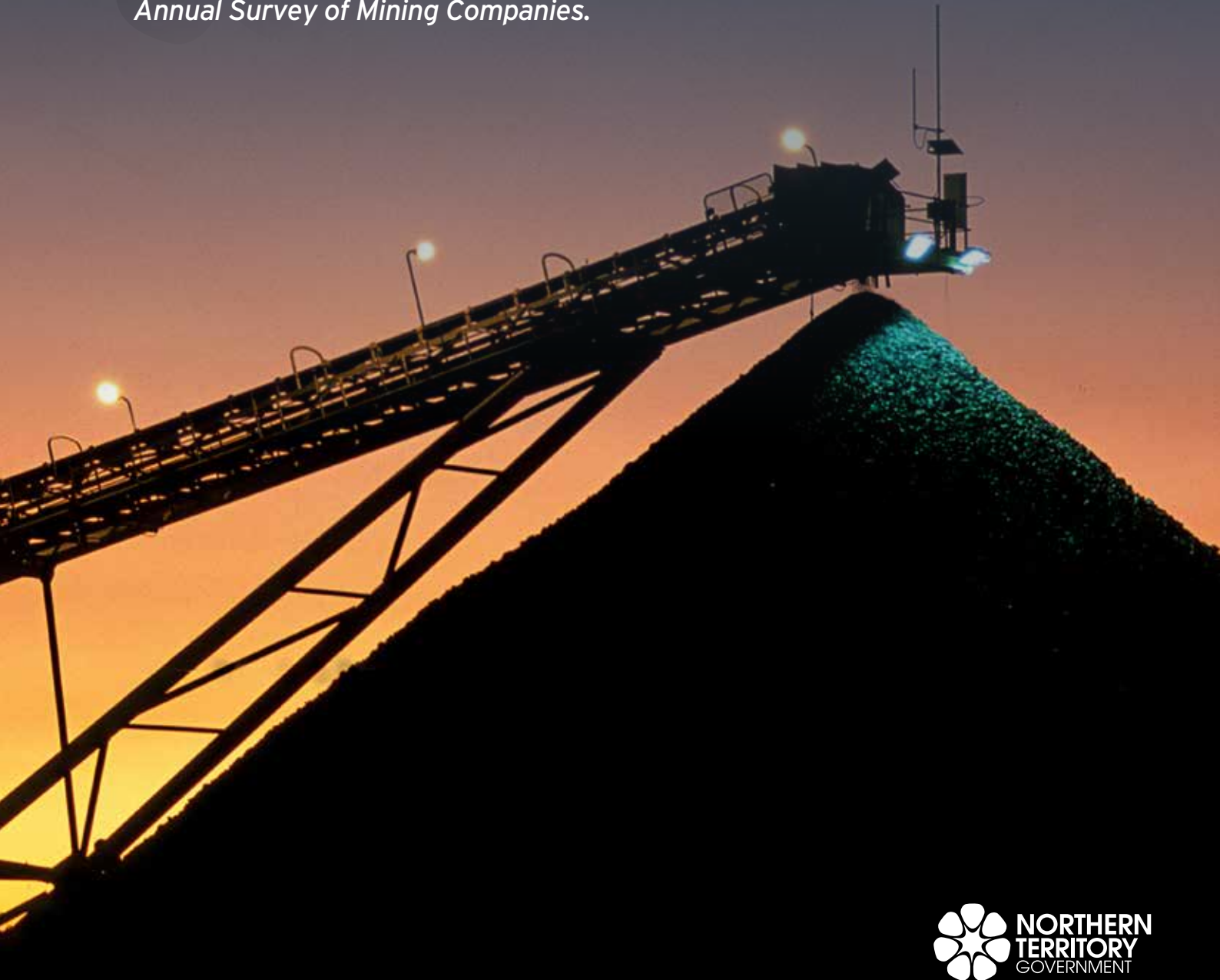


MINING

NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUSTRALIA

The Northern Territory (NT) is consistently ranked as one of the most attractive global destinations for investment in mineral exploration and development, according to the *Fraser Institute Annual Survey of Mining Companies*.



VAST MINERAL POTENTIAL

Across the NT's vast 1.35 million square kilometres, some of the world's largest and richest mineral deposits are found. In 2016, Territory mines produced AUD \$3.05 billion in production value, which is considered to be a fraction of the region's ultimate potential.

The NT is a world leader in manganese production. The off-shore location of Groote Eylandt in the Gulf of Carpentaria is home to a world-class deposit which makes it the centre of manganese mining activity in Australia. Deposits of zinc-lead, bauxite, gold and phosphate are also currently being mined across the NT, and commodities such as copper, rare earths, tungsten, mineral sands and potash are fast-emerging as opportunities for the mining sector in the NT.

The landmark **Mount Peake Project**, 230 kilometres north of Alice Springs, focusses on a significant deposit of high-grade vanadium, titanium and iron. Vanadium, known as the 'miracle metal', is used to manufacture titanium alloys in jet engines, airframes and other high-end specialty materials. The feasibility study for this project forecast a 20-year life of operation, with cash flow of AUD \$11.7 billion. Production is scheduled to start in 2018.

A proposed **Nolans rare earths project** is to be undertaken in the NT by Australian mineral exploration company Arafura Resources. It is expected to extract 20,000 tonnes of rare earth oxides from one of the world's largest and best-defined rare earth deposits. The fastest growing market for these oxides is rare earth magnets, which are stronger and smaller than conventional magnets and one of the reasons why everyday items have become smaller, lighter and more affordable. This NT operation, set to commence in 2019, could potentially supply up to 10% of the world's increasing demand.

The NT's appeal and its commercial viability for mining projects is enhanced by the ready availability of accurate geological data, a supportive Government and improvements to road, rail and port infrastructure.

An initiative led by the NT Government is the Creating Opportunities for Resource Exploration (CORE) program, an **exploration investment attraction program** designed to attract mineral and petroleum exploration, particularly in under-explored areas. The program focusses on acquiring new pre-competitive geoscience information to stimulate exploration, collaborative regional assessments of shale gas potential, industry grants for high-risk exploration and programs to attract investment into resources projects in the NT.

Highlighting this support, the Northern Territory plays host to the **Annual Geoscience Exploration Seminar**, a technical conference that showcases the latest in fresh exploration ideas and geoscientific data from the Territory. Delegates attending this NT conference have the opportunity to learn first-hand about CORE and the program's success at assisting with the launch of mining projects.



Geoscientific data supplied by the NT Government aided the decision by infrastructure development company, *Tellus Holdings Ltd* to choose a basin in the NT as a location to mine rock salt. Australia's first underground rock salt mine, to be known as the *Chandler Facility*, is approximately 120 kilometres south of Alice Springs. An initial mine life of 25 years is planned. However, with the underground deposit so huge and a production rate of 500,000 tonnes of salt per annum, the potential mine life may be limitless. This project has been awarded major project status by the NT Government and approvals are underway.



CONFERENCE FOCUS

The annual *NT Resources Week* sees the South East Asia Australia Offshore and Onshore Conference (SEAAOC) run alongside two other events, being the Mining the Territory and Building the Territory Conferences. Including an extensive combined exhibition, these events bring together more than 1500 attendees comprising captains of industry and leading personnel involved in mining, exploration, petroleum, oil and gas, engineering, construction and infrastructure. The events provide opportunity for meetings and discussions about the latest developments in northern Australia and South East Asia.

"Mining is the engine room of the NT economy, and the conference provides a great opportunity to stay up to date with developments and opportunities in the Top End's resource industry."

David Moss Group

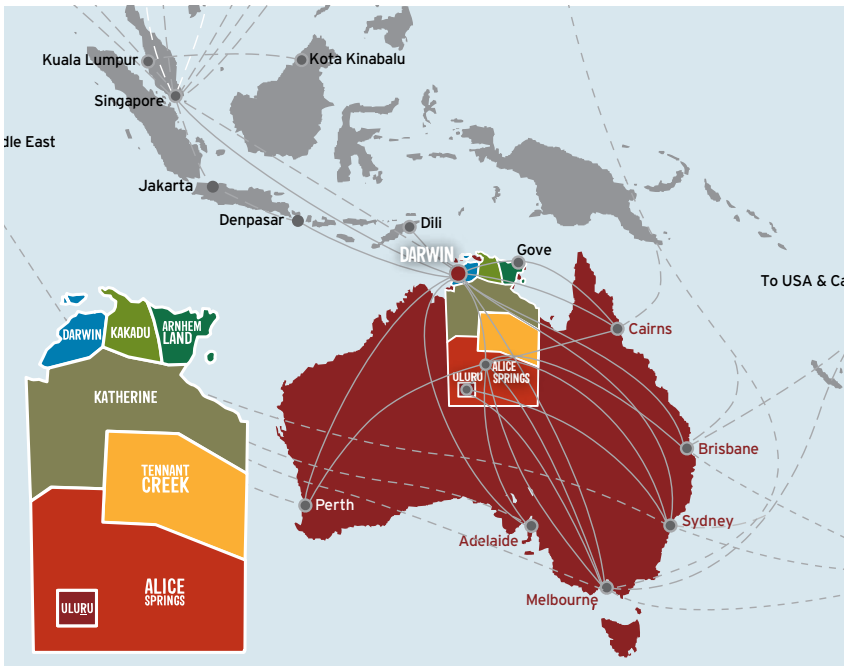


The **AustralAsia Trade Route** enables minerals freight to be shipped between Australia and Asia quickly and reliably. Darwin's extensive logistics infrastructure across its East Arm Port, Darwin Business Park, Marine Supply Base and rail link provides significant competitive advantages for manufacturers, exporters, importers, distributors and producers seeking to access Asian markets. This reinforces the NT's emerging status as a world leader in mineral exploration. As an indication of the NT's relevance to logistics infrastructure, Darwin was the host destination for the **2016 International Conference on Bulk Materials Storage, Handling and Transportation**.

WHY MEET IN THE NT?

Australia's Northern Territory has a proven track record at boosting delegate attendance due to its strong destination appeal, as well as its direct relevance to the mining sector. The destination provides a depth of local expertise from individuals and community organisations who can enhance an NT event with potential guest speakers, delegates, sponsors and exhibitors. NT not-for-profit organisations can also benefit reciprocally from socially responsible or legacy activities that Business Events can generate. There is further opportunity to facilitate connections with local experts and organisations through technical tours and off-site visits to local facilities to meet with like-minded industry colleagues.

The Northern Territory is just two hours flying time from its nearest Asian neighbour. It is accessible from all major airports throughout Australia, as well as intra-Territory flights between the key business event destinations of Darwin, Alice Springs and Uluru.



EXTRAORDINARY REGIONS

The NT has seven regions, each with distinct climates and amazingly different terrain and attractions, as well as an ancient and rich Indigenous culture. The lush and tropical "Top End" region at the northernmost tip of Australia includes the cosmopolitan harbour-front city of Darwin, plus the World Heritage-listed Kakadu, Australia's largest national park. With a natural harbour, river estuaries and a coastline more than 5,000 kilometres long, the Top End is a fishing, sailing and cruising paradise. Further south, lies the stunning desert landscape of the "Red Centre", which is home to icons such as Uluru (Ayers Rock), Kata Tjuta (the Olgas) and Alice Springs, the quintessential Australian outback town. Iconic activities include camel rides across the desert, dot-painting workshops and magical outback dinners under the stars.



NORTHERN TERRITORY CONVENTION BUREAU (NTCB)

The NTCB is the business events division of Tourism NT, which sits within the NT Government's Department of Tourism and Culture. The bureau's role is to market and promote the Northern Territory as a distinctive and effective business events destination. With strong local knowledge, experience and extensive links to business and government networks, the bureau provides free expert advice and assistance to business event planners. The NTCB team can assist with bid preparation, destination information and supplier liaison to deliver an inspiring and memorable NT event.

FIND OUT MORE

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