

World Mining Congress set to shine a light on Australian resources industry

A strong united Team Australia has secured one of the world's biggest international mining events, helping to affirm Australia's leadership within the global mining community.

In a first for Australia, Brisbane will host the 26th World Mining Congress (WMC) at the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) in July 2021.

The Congress is expected to welcome 2,000 delegates from 40 member countries responsible for 80% of the world's mineral production.

The four day Congress will generate an estimated \$5 million in economic benefit for Queensland and will be a catalyst for showcasing Australia's innovation leadership and industry predominance in the mining sector.

The winning bid, led by the CSIRO in partnership with the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM) was supported by a consortium of convention partners, including Tourism and Events Queensland, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre and Brisbane Marketing who collaborated to bring the coveted congress to Queensland, one of Australia's richest mining regions.

Dr Hua Guo, CSIRO Energy Research Director for Coal Mining and Chair of the WMC National Organising Committee of Australia believes bringing the Congress to Brisbane will be an important milestone for the Australian mining sector. "With Australia among the top five producers in the world for every key major mineral, mining is part of our DNA," he said.

"As a great mining nation, Australia has a strong innovation agenda and this is a Congress that focuses on innovation, technology and research and development, areas where Australia leads the world."

Brisbane, he says is the ideal host city for the Congress as one of the country's key mining innovation hubs with CSIRO, universities and the home of the federal initiative METS Ignited.

AusIMM's Chief Executive Miriam Way said: "AusIMM members are the leading minerals professionals in the country and are key contributors to Australia's mining sector. The World Mining Congress presents our members with a fantastic opportunity to participate and contribute to one of the world's biggest mining conferences."

Tourism and Events Queensland CEO, Leanne Coddington, said the Congress would profile the State to an influential international audience.

"This is a significant event on our calendar which will bring visitors and profile Queensland amongst international mining and business leaders," Ms Coddington said. "Business events are an important part of our tourism economy and growing this portfolio is an integral component of TEQ's long term strategy for the State."

Brisbane Lord Mayor Graham Quirk said securing this premier mining event once again demonstrated Brisbane's ability to work strategically with its partners and stakeholders to attract major conferences.

"Brisbane Marketing's Convention Bureau was proud to help secure the World Mining Congress for the city, which will have a major economic impact by supporting our accommodation, hospitality and service providers," Cr Quirk said.

“The energy and resources industry has also been identified by the Brisbane 2022 New World City Action Plan as a key growth sector for Brisbane and the Congress will showcase our innovation and expertise in this field to experts from across the world.”

BCEC General Manager, Bob O’Keeffe said: “Being selected to host the World Mining Congress further endorsed the Centre’s unique capabilities and experience in working with local science organisations to attract meetings which showcase Queensland’s key industry sectors and world leading research.”

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L-R Dr Hua Guo, CSIRO; Prof Józef Dubiński, WMC Chair; Ms Miriam Way, AusIMM; Mr Jacek Skiba, WMC Secretary-General



L-R Mr Rob Nelson, Brisbane Marketing; Ms Miriam Way, AusIMM; Dr Hua Guo, CSIRO; Mr John Richardson, Australian Ambassador to Brazil; Ms Merrin McAuley, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

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Date published: November 2016

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