Mining Australia

Jeff Whittle Nominated

10 September 2007

Jeff Whittle has been selected as a finalist in the 4th Annual Australian Mining Prospect Awards.

Jeff has developed mining software that has changed the way the industry practices optimisation in mine design.

In 1983 Whittle wrote 'Three-D' as a private venture.

Whittle developed the software programs 'Four-D' and later 'Four-X' which has become an industry standard for open pit design, and is used by mining companies world-wide.

In 2002 the Four-X technology was sold to Gemcom, a Canadian mining software house.

From about 1998 onwards Jeff has developed software to optimise the schedules of very large mining complexes.

Whittle's software can produce optimal, or near-optimal, long-term schedules for complexes with hundreds of pits, multiple processing options, multiple products that have to be blended and multiple stockpiles.

He is involved with Whittle Consulting which is run by his son Gerald, and uses this software.

Over the past few years nearly 20 studies have been performed by the company for large mining companies in Australia and overseas on projects valued in the billions.

Net present value improvements of hundreds of millions of dollars are said to be common.

Australian Mining congratulates Jeff on his nomination.