

MEDIA RELEASE



CITIC PACIFIC
MINING

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World's most powerful grinding mills reach Australia.

Two of the world's biggest and most powerful grinding mills have arrived in Australia at CITIC Pacific Mining's (CPM) Sino Iron project.

The Autogenous Grinding mill (AG mill) and Ball Mill reached CPM's Cape Preston port facility, about 100 kilometres south west of Karratha, at the weekend and are currently being unloaded.

The mills, which departed the Chinese port of Changshu several weeks ago, are the first of six AG mills and six ball mills that will form six mill lines responsible for grinding millions of tonnes of magnetite iron ore into a fine concentrate.

The mills were built in Luoyang, China by CITIC Heavy Industries. The AG mill has a diameter of 12.2 metres and a length of 10.3 metres and is equipped with a 26 Megawatt gearless drive. The ball mill has a diameter of 7.9m and is 13.6m long (15.6 Megawatt twin pinion drives).

CITIC Pacific Mining CEO Barry Fitzgerald said delivery of the mills was an historic milestone for the Sino Iron project.

"These mills have been developed by Chinese and Australian engineering and design teams and have seen the transfer from China to Australia of valuable magnetite mining knowledge," Mr Fitzgerald said.

"Arrival of these mills also heralds the dawning of a new area in large scale downstream processing of iron ore in Western Australia. This equipment will process the magnetite ore into a value added iron ore product and paves the way for the emerging magnetite industry in WA.

"This downstream processing is why we're making a significant infrastructure investment including a 450 Megawatt combined cycle gas fired power station, 51-gigalitre desalination plant and new port facility."

Mr Fitzgerald said the mills would now make the journey aboard special self-propelled transporters to the project's concentrator area, where they will be raised onto big concrete foundations.

The US\$4 billion Sino Iron Project is a partnership between CITIC Pacific (80%) and MCC – China Metallurgical Group Corporation (20%). CPM is an Australian subsidiary of CITIC Pacific.



Once complete the project will be Australia's largest magnetite mining and processing operation. It features a significant infrastructure investment including state-of-the-art magnetite concentrator, 450 Megawatt combined cycle gas fired power station, 51-gigalitre desalination plant and new port facility.

Ore will be processed into magnetite products and at full production about 28 million tonnes will be exported annually.

The project's construction workforce will ramp up to about 4,500 people this year. About 800 full time employees will be required once operating and CPM is currently recruiting for a variety of roles.

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