



MEETING THE SURVEY CHALLENGE

OZ Minerals Prominent Hill operation has refined surveying techniques and improved accuracy of results with the I-Site™ laser scanning system.



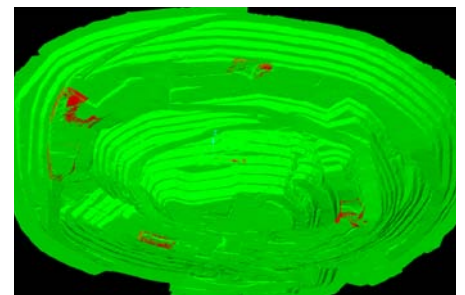
Introduced to site 4 years ago, the Maptek I-Site 4400LR laser scanner and vehicle mount are used with I-Site Studio at the large copper operation 650 km northwest of Adelaide, South Australia.

THE I-SITE SYSTEM HAS PROVED TO BE VERY EFFECTIVE AT DELIVERING ACCURATE END-OF-MONTH DATA FOR PIT SURFACES, ROM, CONCENTRATE AND COARSE STOCKPILE VOLUMES.

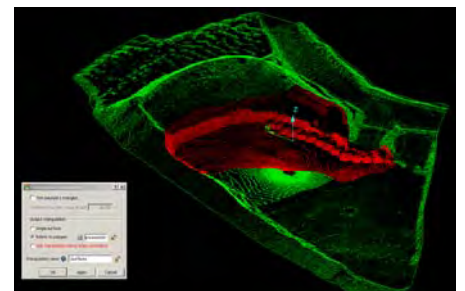
Active work areas are scanned daily. Scanning is completed within a couple of hours after each shift. The pit model is updated daily to ensure that the engineers have access to the latest data. By keeping the pit model updated daily, the end of month pit model is just another daily face update.

ROM volume reconciliations are critical at Prominent Hill. Since stockpiles are large, with up to 10-metre faces, surveying on foot would present a monumental undertaking each month.

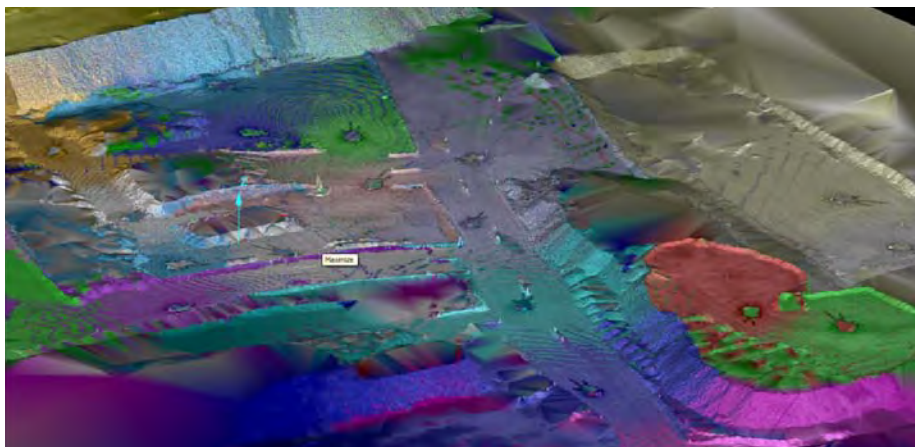
It would be possible to complete the entire ROM stockpile surveys in around 60 scans in a single day using the laser scanner and vehicle mount. This would not be possible on foot. However due to daily pit model updates, ROM surveys are captured over 2-3 days. The scanner also provides exceptional definition of paddock dumps.



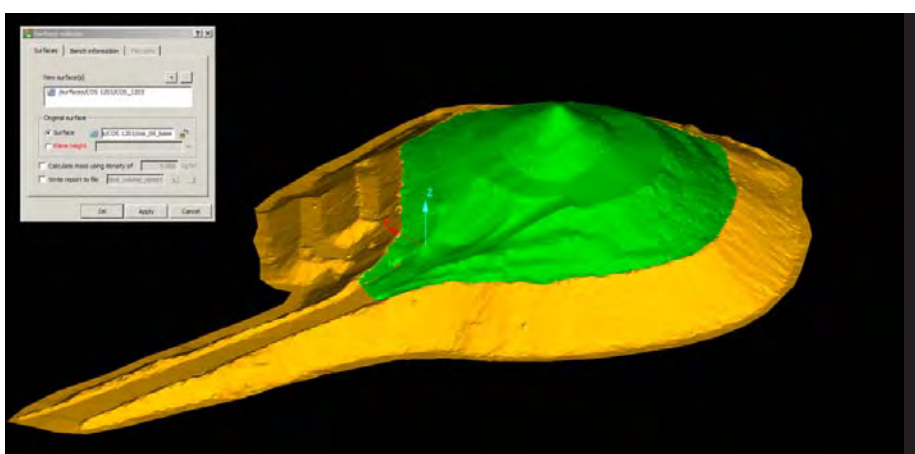
Daily pickups are used to update the pit model



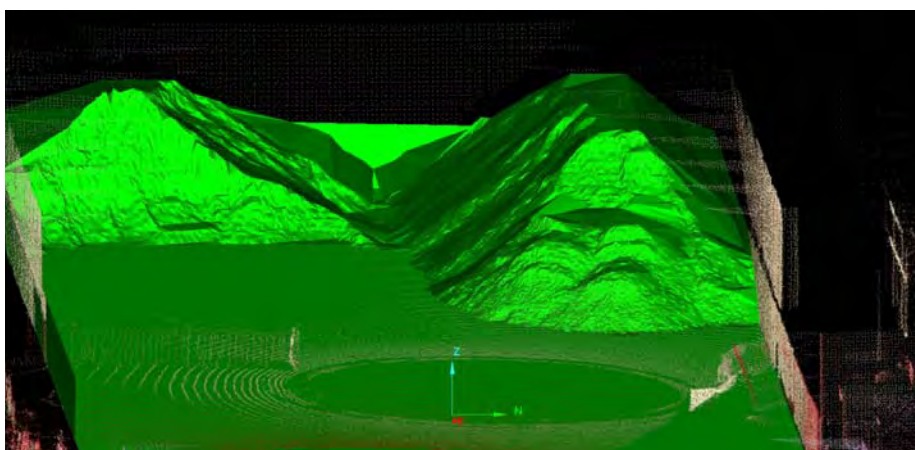
I-Site Studio tools follow the survey workflow



Overlaying the surface model confirms data is accurately geo-located



Crushed ore stockpiles can be safely surveyed



Concentrate stockpiles are surveyed with I-Site

GPS rovers are attached to the vehicle to orientate data when using the I-Site scanner on the vehicle mount.

I-Site Studio software then effectively corrects the final adjustment, using large dataset physical features to swing data into accurate orientation.

Fit for purpose tools in I-Site Studio mean processing time is also reduced. Large datasets are easily loaded, registered and modelled.

Crushed ore and concentrate stockpiles are also surveyed at Prominent Hill. The scan data is filtered, modelled and despiked, with volumes easily calculated by comparing the new surface model against a standard reference base.

Using the I-Site laser scanner has vastly improved end of month survey at Prominent Hill. Geology and engineering departments are benefitting from the accurate data and heavy equipment down-time has been reduced, as has the survey workload for end-of-month tasks.

Safety has been improved with access no longer needed to active working faces. Time in the field is reduced and processing in the office is quick and easy.

*Thanks to Ben Roberts
Mine Surveyor, OZ Minerals Ltd
Presented at AUSTRALIA 2012*