

# Minds for Underwater Mines A ROYAL IHC PERSPECTIVE

H. Van Muijen IHC Mining

This document remains the property of Royal IHC. All rights reserved. This document or any part thereof may not be made public or disclosed, copied or otherwise reproduced or used in any form or by any means without prior permission in writing from Royal IHC.



## **About Royal IHC– Key figures**



Amounts in millions of euro	2014	2013	2012	2011
Revenue	1215	985	895	1,050
Order portfolio as at 31 December	1166	1,743	964	1,179
Profit	124	56	37	103
Average number of employees	3263	3,224	3,239	3,109



# Dredging









## **Dredging equipment**















## Offshore





## Systems, tools and components





# Mining





# **Dredging and Mining: Technology & services**





#### **Equipment requirements for mining**

- Mining for minerals
- Accuracy and selectivity
- Processing step involved
- Game of capacities
- Long term projects
- Mining life cycle







# A mining project is only viable when the resource is translated into a reserve !!!





## **Mining Life Cycle**

#### Exploration management focused on:

- Identification and assessment of mineral resource potential
- Coordination of site surveys, mapping and sampling programs
- Advice on regulatory and environmental reporting



Integrated dredge and marine mining solutions over total mining life cycle



## **Mining reference: Rio Nova - Brasil**





# Mining reference: Vale - Brazil





## **Flooded mines and new opportunities**







## Why does the world need deep sea mining?

Why is Royal IHC involved in deep sea mining?





#### Why deep sea mining?

Seventy percent of the earth's surface is covered by sea and ocean. Yet we seem to know less about ocean space than outer space.



#### Increased demand



#### Metal prices



#### Opportunity



The ocean is the last frontier for science and exploration on this planet. [James Cameron]



#### **Target minerals - types**



#### pipelagic Zone (0 – 200 m)

- Mineral sands (Ti-Zr)
- Gold
- Tin
- Diamonds
- Iron sands
  - Tailings

#### Mesopelagic Zone (200 m – 1 000 m)

- Phosphates
- Cobalt rich crusts Co, Mn & Ni

#### Bathypelagic Zone (1 000 m - 4 000 m)

- Polymetallic massive sulphides (SMS deposits) Cu, Au & Zn
- Cobalt rich crusts Co. Mn & Ni

#### Abyssopelagic Zone (4 000 m – 6 000 m)

 Polymetallic manganese nodules -Mn, Ni, Cu & Co (REE)



## **Target minerals – location on the sea floor**





## History of sea floor mining

#### **Diamond mining - 1960s**







Manganese nodule mining - 1974



#### **Discovery of Manganese Nodules – 1868**





### Mining reference: PT Timah - Indonesia

#### Locatior

Indonesia (Bangka and Karimun area)

#### Tin mining

- Wheel dredger
- Rebuil bucket ladder dredger
- Cassiterite

#### Operation

- Start 2012
- Dredging depth 60-70 m
- Production 1500 2500
  m3/hr

#### Equipment

1 IHC rebuild Wheel
 Suction Dredger





# Aggregate mining











# Already in 1982 FUTURE GROWTH: DEEPSEA MINING





#### **Red Sea Muds**

#### 156 Hydrothermal mineral deposits



Fig. 8.9 Locations of major hydrothermal occurrences in the Red Sea and their relationship to faulting (from Bignell, 1975).



Fig. 3-Mining of motalliforous addimentation by LO.



## Hopper for gold mining





## **Offshore diamond mining - technology development 1980's**



Subsea Crawler

**Vertical Drill System** 



## **Offshore diamond mining – vertical drill system**





## De Beers Marine Namibia -Crawler





## **Offshore diamond mining – subsea crawler system**













#### **IHC Marine Mining**

### Result of many years experience at IHC Merwede





## **Deep sea mining – technology development**





#### Deep sea mining - synergy with dredge mining





### Deep sea mining - synergy with offshore diamond mining





# IHC Mining – new constraints require new developments

New machines





#### **Royal IHC Track Record**



Diamond mining, 2010, working depth to 200 m.

Backfill & Pipeline (1 550 mm dia.) plough, 2009, working depth to 1 000 m.







Cable trenching, 2008, working depth to 1 500 m.

Diamond mining, 2000, working depth to 200m.



#### **Other sea bottom track records**











# **Deep sea mining technology developments**







## **Technology – VTS**









**Propulsion System** 



## **Product Development – IHC SWORD: TI Geo**





## **Develop the marine mining playing field**





## **Partnering and Financing Developments**

- (A) Internal IHC Merwede R&D Funding (since 2009), Partnering & Clients.
- (B) Member of EU Funded Environmental Project – Midas (2013 to 2016).
- (C) Leading role in EU Funded Project Blue Mining (2014 to 2017)





Dutch initiative; relation with larger European network





#### **Responsibilities in sphere of influence**

#### Assess to prevent

- Prediction tools
- Risk assessments

#### Engineer to mitigate

- Safety
- Reduce environmental impact

#### Monitor to optimize

- Optimize equipment performance
- Environment

#### **Collaborate to complete**

Community

The technology innovator.

#### Sustainable development





#### Encouraging external influences





#### **Market Development**

OceanfIORE makes offshore mining possible, profitable and sustainable

### **IHC Market Development**



OceanfIORE: A vehicle to develop the deep sea mining market



## Conclusions

- Approach the mining market with the right mind set
- Dredge mining : near to mid term
- Marine mining: mid term long term
- Resource scarcity
- Development of the mining playing field is necessary
- Dutch cluster can benefit
  - offshore based knowledge
  - knowledge is available
  - Dutch government has to play a role and develop legislation to become sponsor state
  - Geo-policy of other countries



#### **Contact details**



Smitweg 6, Kinderdijk

P.O. Box 9 2960 AA Kinderdijk The Netherlands

T +31 78 691 03 22 F +31 78 691 03 31

mining@ihcmerwede.com www.ihcmerwede.com/mining