

MEDIA RELEASE

Bucyrus to show new Australian staple retainer at QME

Bucyrus will launch a major breakthrough in mine safety technology on **Stand 9175** during the 2008 Queensland Mining and Engineering (QME) exhibition at the Mackay Showground from July 22-24.

The USA-headquartered company will be displaying its Australian-developed staple retainers for enhanced longwall safety.

The retainers are designed to secure staples, which are used in fittings for high-pressure fluid power systems of longwall mining equipment, thus preventing both staple walk-out and fitting movement in the event of a staple leg failure.

The failure of a staple can cause a hose or fitting to fail or break loose, with the potential to cause serious injury and even death.

The retainers fit DN10, DN12, DN19 and DN25 staples and both square and round connectors.

The staple retainers are an inexpensive, easy-to-use device that can be retrofitted and which substantially enhance safety in longwalls.

The retainers will comprise an impressive line-up of Bucyrus mining equipment at QME. There will be scale models of draglines, shovels and drills as well as maintenance and repair kits for surface mining equipment, longwall automation equipment and power chains.

For example, the Bucyrus stand will feature:

- walking draglines for surface mining excavation. These operate 24/7 over an average life of 40 years, reach depths of 65 m, have bucket capacities up to 168 cubic meters and lift loads of up to 340 tonnes. More than 15 dragline specifications are available and all can be tailored to specific needs.
- electric mining shovels for maximum productivity during overburden removal and ore mining.
- rotary blasthole drills which include programmed drill control, rack and pinion pull-down and hydrostatic propel drives.
- Performance Engineered Aftermarket Kits (PEAK) for many common maintenance and repair projects.
- new controllers designed to meet the control needs of a whole range of applications in underground mining and explosion-hazard areas which integrate fully with Bucyrus longwall equipment such as longwall roof support applications.
- A power chain designed to have a significantly longer chain and drive sprocket service life than conventional systems.

Further information:

Bucyrus ph +49 (0) 709 2306 709-1183, email guido.schawohl@de.bucyrus.com, website www.bucyrus.com.

Exhibitors & Visitors: Reed Exhibitions, Soren Norgaard, ph (02) 9422 2563, email soren.norgaard@reedexhibitions.com.au, website www.qme.reedexhibitions.com.au.

Media: Spitfire Communications, Mark Cherrington, ph 0419 236 704, email mark.cherrington@spitfirecommunications.com.au.

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