From Mine to Metal

Where Teck Trail Operations Sources Our Feed

Teck Trail Operations

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Teck's Red Dog Operations, Kotzebue, Alaska

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Teck Trail Operations sources mine concentrates from many parts of the world. Trail Operations is a high-quality asset for Teck Resources and an integrated part of Teck's broader business as the primary refiner for zinc from our Red Dog mine.

Teck's Red Dog Operations is one of the world's largest open pit zinc mines, located about 170 kilometres north of the Arctic Circle in northwest Alaska, near Kotzebue. In 1989, Red Dog Operations was developed through an innovative operating agreement between the operator Teck and the land-owner NANA, a Regional Alaska Native corporation owned by the Iñupiat people of northwest Alaska.

The majority of Trail Operations' concentrates come from the Red Dog Mine, which comprises approximately one third of Red Dog's annual output. Integration between mine and smelter provides a secure, long-term source of feed for Trail Operations and provides a secure, long-term customer for Red Dog. The mine life is expected to continue to 2031, and we are taking steps to improve production and identify future development opportunities to continue production for decades to come.

In addition to Red Dog, Trail Operations also receives concentrates from all over the world, including Canada, the USA, Mexico, Central and South America, and Australia.

Beyond mining concentrates, Trail Operations also sources 'urban ore' – post consumer waste that can be recycled back into pure metal. This includes lead vehicle batteries, zinc alkaline batteries (AA, AAA, D, etc.), and CRT (cathode ray tube) glass found in computer and television monitors. Trail's integrated metallurgical processes allow us to combine these concentrates and produce metals such as zinc, lead, silver, indium and germanium. These metals are integral to the homes we live in, the cars we drive, and the electronics that power our lives.

