



Research and Industry Excellence Awards 2015 - 2022

ACARP

The ACARP program selects projects and people to receive Research and Industry Excellence Awards. The awards are selected on the recommendation of the research committee and the technical committees that oversee the program. Recipients of these awards will have achieved a considerable advance in an area of priority to the Australian coal industry. An important criteria is the likelihood of the results from projects being applied on mines.

2022	Underground	Winton Gale, SCT Operations	Exceptional work undertaken in the coal burst area
		Tim Procter - C25076 – Scholarship Environmental Noise Assessment and Management	Determined the most appropriate ‘best practice’ approach for the predictive noise modelling of mining operations.
		Ian Gray, Sigra	Exceptional work across many areas, using a committed, professional and structured approach in engineering, theoretical rock mechanics and gas drainage. The researcher has completed 16 projects, with a further 2 recently supported in the areas of drilling in complex and challenging areas.
	Open Cut	Alison McQuillan - C25078: Scholarship Guidelines to Estimate the Rock Mass Strength and Probabilistic Design Approaches for Open Cut Coal Mine Slopes	Using case study histories of wall descriptors and performance developed a simple new free practical risk assessment methodology that enables minimally qualified persons with limited support of geotechnical engineers to categorise and obtain the risk rating of an excavated coal mine slope.
		Mike Cole and Carmen Castor, CSER Research - C27009 Tailings Revegetation through the Vegetative Water Pump and C29041 Preconditioning Plants to Withstand Flood on a Tailings Dam	Creation of a novel methodology using plants to accelerate the rehabilitation of tailing dams. Improved safety management on dams and through preconditioning has facilitated this approach to withstand cyclic flooding within the dam.
	Coal Preparation	Yongjun Peng’s team, University of Queensland	Over a variety of projects have consistently proven to be very receptive to industry’s needs and through true collaboration have produced exceptional targeted research
Liguang Wang, University of Queensland - C27004 Improving Coal Flotation with Oscillatory Air Supply		Outcomes produced of an exceptionally high standard, delivering a measured increase in coal recovery and lower energy consumption of existing installed equipment without the need for extensive capital or additional operating spend.	

2022

Health and Safety	Katrina Newbigin, Rhianna McBean, Katrina Kidley, I-MED Radiology Network - C27010 Occupational Assessment and Centralised Repository for Coal Mine Dust Lung Disease	medical excellence to enable the creation of a centralised repository of coal mine mixed dust lung disease cases to be used as a resource. By developing the robust study group, based on radiological analysis by clinical diagnosis, this information now exists to enable improved understanding of the spectrum of diagnosis.
	Graeme Zosky, University of Tasmania and Basil Beamish, B3 Mining - C27007 Assessment of Pyritic Coal Dust Induced Pneumoconiosis and C29035 Effect of Rock Dust and Pre-Existing Lung Disease on the Risk of "Mixed Dust Lung Disease	Outstanding collaboration by experts in different fields resulting in ground breaking research leading to novel understanding of the effects of different minerals and dust material on the human lung.
Industry	Peter Morris, Minerals Council of Australia: Long term ACARP supporter displaying exceptional commitment during several renewal processes and engagement on the Mine Site Greenhous Gas Mitigation Committee.	
	Trevor Stay, Anglo American: Industry champion in the area of greenhouse gas mitigation and gas utilisation, creating an enabling environment for projects to gain site access and industry acceptance. An active Underground, Mine Site Greenhouse Gas Mitigation, Research Committee and Board member for many years.	

2018

Coal Preparation	Bruce Atkinson, Basacon and Graham O'Brien, Karryn Warren, Priyanthi Hapugodo, CSIRO	This exceptional Coal Grain Analysis leading edge research is something industry has become accustomed to over the many years with this team, whose dedication in progressing this work to meet the industry need was commended. This research has placed Australia in the driving seat internationally.
Underground	Andre De Kock, Simtars	Exceptional work undertake in the Intrinsically Safe space, using a committed, professional and structured approach to establish a repeatable process to ensure equipment can be tested in a systematic way, ensuring its safety. This work has made great improvements in IS across the Australian coal industry.
Open Cut	Joan Esterle, University of Queensland	Many years of continuous excellent research on numerous projects, across a variety of areas within the coal industry. This award is also for recognition of years of dedication mentoring students and youth within the industry; these individuals who are guided and mentored to become the foundations of the coal industry.
Maritime Regulation	Ash Goodwin, Goodwin Port Solutions; Kim Hockings, BHP and Graeme Harris, Kestrel Coal	For the delivery of an international standard for shipping under the ACARP banner, this world class work has succeeded because of this group's professionalism, dedication and trustworthiness in dealing with many national and international collaborators.
Technical Market Support	Brian Monaghan, University of Wollongong	For years of professional approach to applied research in the area of high temperature processing. This work was undertaken to examine the effect of mineralogy on coke reactivity which was undertaken along with a clear vision. All this was combined with the focus of the practicalities of how it can be used to optimise coke-in-use in processing.
Environment	Cathy Offord, Cathy Offord, Nathan Emery, Mark Viler, Daniella Pasqualini, Royal Botanic Gardens and Domains Trust, Sydney	For work in the area of inclusion of high interest native plants in mine site restoration. This exceptionally successful research will have a positive impact on many operations. The outcomes of this project have greatly improved mine site rehabilitation quality as a result of this research and field trials.

2015

Underground	Jim Galvin, Jim Galvin & Associates - C22004 Ground Engineering - Principles and Practices for Underground Coal Mining	The “Ground Engineering and Management of Coal Mining” textbook which is specifically targeted to the underground coal geotechnical community is expected to become something of a touch stone and provide support for the current geotechnical specialists and the next generation of geotechnical engineers working within our industry.
	Rajiv Shekhar, Enver Bajram, CRCMining - C20006 and C24066 Alternative Electronic Spark Test Apparatus	In working towards an alternate technique to the flawed existing spark test methodology, this group has helped the industry step forward towards more certainty in this space. Excellence of the work has been recognised all in collaboration with PBT in Germany and should lead to an international change of both testing and eventually standards.
Open Cut	John Keir, Stephen Williams, Bill Dunn, Terry Brown, Connec - C20030 Powerlinkoz High Voltage Electrical Connection System (PLO)	The new CONNEC high voltage connector system represents the combination of the foresight to clearly identify the fundamental challenges industry faced with the evolved connections systems and the dogged approach to exploring new and innovative ways to address the challenges. The result is a step change in the installation, maintenance, management and performance of HV connection systems.
	Galina Mirzaeva, University of Newcastle - C16030 DC Motor Duty Meter	Long term investigation of major AC and DC motors and their maintenance performance within the mining industry. Some of the innovative motor monitoring techniques developed are excellent and will result in better management of electrical motors.
Coal Preparation/Industry	The Bloomfield Group: Greg Hurney, William Cant, Robert Booth - Major industry support for site based research efforts.	Long term support and hosting of numerous ACARP projects at Bloomfield. Site support is critical for the success of research. Recognition of expense and site delays that have been contended with for the benefit of the whole industry.
	New Hope Group: Rob Rashliegh, Enrico Balismo, Greg King, Kristof McDonald - Major industry support for site based research efforts.	Long term support and hosting of numerous ACARP projects at New Ackland. Such site support is critical for the success of research and requires management both of expense and plant delays.
Technical Market Support	Merrick Mahoney, University of Newcastle - Provision of excellence in “building the story of coal to coke”	Long term commitment to what has been described as “building the story of coal and coke”. Merrick’s efforts have provided real financial benefit to the Australian coal industry.
Mine Site Greenhouse Gas Mitigation	Shi Su, CSIRO - Compilation of VAM projects	The advancement of science in the area of ventilation air methane and in recognition of strong team management and particularly mentoring other researchers.
Health and Safety	RISKGATE Team, University of Queensland – C20003 RISKGATE	Development of a unique facility that provides a collective body of knowledge for controlling key industry health and safety exposures. This work has an innovative approach to collecting, validating and publishing in an interactive format which is a clear step change in enhancing effective and meaningful risk related activities.