

WEIR MINERALS

KALGOORLIE, WESTERN AUSTRALIA



COMPANY PROFILE

Weir Minerals is a global leader in the provision of mill circuit technology and services, as well as the market leader in slurry handling equipment and associated aftermarket support for abrasive high wear applications. Specifically, supplying or the service and repair of Warman Pumps and equipment out of their Kalgoorlie complex.

A MANUFACTURER'S NIGHTMARE

In Weir's manufacturing space in Kalgoorlie, WA, a team blasts new and used components in a blastroom within proximity of 5-6 fabricators and welders. After a recent OH&S Study on noise pollution, the abrasive blasting in their blastroom facility was classified as being above the maximum allowed safety limits.

Weir had effectively been forced to decommission their blast facility due to the noise. This left Weir with only two options, either relocate the blast facility to another location at an estimated cost of \$500,000 or sub-contract out all their blasting to a third-party blasting company, which would be more costly, incurring additional transport times and costs.

WHY WEIR MINERALS CHOSE SNAKEBITE XQ

The impact of implementing the new OH&S Study meant that Weir Minerals either had to relocate its blast facility or sub-contract out blasting to a third-party. Either option would negatively impact profit margins, estimating over \$500,000 in costs.

SnakeBite XQ is the world's safest and quietest blast nozzle. Equivalent to up to 75% quieter than standard nozzles, SnakeBite XQ reduces noise by up to 16 dBA.



"Thank you for coming down and overseeing it all. For your record here is a snip of the comparison of noise. We are all so impressed!"

Site Manager

RESULTS

After BlastOne presented the Snakebite XQ, Weir Minerals conducted a third party, independent study to determine whether the Snakebite would reduce the blasting noise enough to allow the blastroom to stay inside the production facility.

Jack Hart was on-site to conduct the trial for BlastOne and these observations were from a third party OH&S contractor brought in to be an impartial observer.

Test Results						
Item No.	Noise Source (Make, Model & Description)	Operating Conditions & Process	Measurement Location	LAeq,T db(A)	Peak Noise Level dB(C)	Extent of Affected Area
1	Sandblasting unit operating w/o silencer	Bay door open	Outside sandblast bay	113.7	139.5	Entirety of W/S
2		Bay door closed	Outside sandblast bay	105.7	120.2	Entirety of W/S
3		Bay door closed	Main rear access door	102.3	120.1	Entirety of W/S
4		Bay door closed	Paint Booth	96.1	112.5	Entire Booth
5		Bay door closed	Operator ear	125.8	149.8	Entire Booth
6	Sandblasting unit operating w/ silencer	Bay door open	Outside sandblast bay	92.7	108.5	7 m
7		Bay door closed	Outside sandblast bay	85.1	101.1	3 m
8		Bay door closed	Main rear access door	77.4	93.1	-
9		Bay door closed	Paint Booth	84.3	100.8	Entire Booth
10		Bay door closed	Operator ear	105.2	127.9	Entire Booth

Weir Minerals was able to recommence in-house blasting, saving money on third-party blasting and transport costs. They were no longer required to relocate their blastroom and they can continue operations normally. Thanks to Snakebite XQ, Weir Minerals saved \$500,000!