

IMDEX Managed Services delivers 43% uplift in drilled footages

Objectives

- Streamline project operations, deliver increased footage and execute a best-in-class safety record
- Hit multiple targets at depths of 1300-3800 ft with definition and infill of the deposits
- Increase productivity with tighter management of the fluids program

Challenges

- The mine was transitioning between exploration and development into a production phases
- Complex drilling was required to hit multiple targets with definition and infill
- Constantly changing underground materials complicated the fluids management, already varying in technical approach with rotating crews

Project Details

Location: Southern Arizona, USA

Resource: Pb, Mn, Zn, Cu

Application: Metallurgical drill program

IMDEX Solution

IMDEX Managed Services (IMS)

The IMS project team was deployed to review current scope and build an effective execution plan for the revised model.

In a first for the company (the customer), IMDEX would be used as a single-source vendor to cover all aspects of downhole navigation, fluids, orientation tools, and geared rigs for solids removal & water management.



The ability to execute with data was a primary driver; allowing huge amounts of data to be accessible through centralised cloud-based applications.

Strategy & Solution

- A dedicated IMS Project Manager was assigned to be on-site, managing the overall program from drilling optimisation to rock knowledge and software needs, in line with the approved execution plan.
- Changes to the technical program were made in near real-time with performance benchmarks reported against on a pre-agreed cadence.
- IMDEX's global fluids experts continually reviewed project data to ensure optimal performance despite changes to drilling conditions.
- A revised process was deployed to quickly handle Daily Drill Reports (DDRs) and much more complex amounts of data.

Customer Statement

IMS was absolutely essential to our success, as we now come in exactly on-budget. It allows me predictability on costs like I've never had before.

Senior Geologist



Results



Deployment of the IMS project team, reduced project interfaces and a tripartite relationship between IMDEX, the resource company and the drilling contractor delivered significant time savings and efficiencies.



Executing with data was a primary driver; allowing huge amounts of data to be accessible through centralised cloud-based applications.



Data allowed focus on any number of aspects across any number of rigs, to produce actionable results always pointing to increased productivity and safety.



Real-time downhole navigation prevented time lost with incorrect or inefficient holes, allowing the company to restart quickly and accurately hit targets, all based on the DDRs being linked to IMDEXHUB-IQ and centralising data from which all important decisions could be based.