

CRUNCH TIME

IRVINE ENGINEERING (WA) PTY LTD

www.rapidcrushing.com.au

CRUSHING & SCREENING CONTRACTOR NEWS UPDATE

Spring 2008



Rapid helps keep fire damaged brick plant running

Rapid Crushing was recently called on at short notice to help keep Midland Brick running following damage to production machinery as a result of a fire at the plant.

It was on the morning of Tuesday March 11, just hours after the midnight blaze, that Rapid Crushing was first asked whether it could assist the Middle Swan-based brick manufacturer in restoring production.

Rapid's people went out to the site at 10am that morning, priced the job and got the go-ahead to proceed the following day (Wednesday). The remainder of Wednesday and Thursday were spent in preparing the gear required to undertake the task. On Friday Rapid's team was on site setting it all up.

The machines were up and running on Saturday 15 and full production was achieved the following day (Sunday).

The equipment supplied by Rapid provided crushed feed material for kilns at the plant, using a mobile track impact crusher plus a mobile track screen and discharge conveyor.

Rapid also supplied equipment for transferring crushed material into a kiln feed bin using a mobile Hitonner screen, rapid mover screen and 15m conveyor.

The machinery provided an effective temporary solution until Midland Brick was able to obtain permanent replacement equipment from the Eastern States.

30 Year Anniversary

Doing it right for the next 30 years!



New conveyors recently constructed by Irvine Engineering.



This year at Rapid Crushing we are celebrating our 30th Anniversary.

It was in 1978 that Rapid Crushing & Screening Contractors was established by current Managing Director, Neil Irvine, and a partner to undertake welding and repair operations.

The early days were tough. Neil worked a seven-day week. He spent his weekends maintaining equipment in a Collie quarry. During the week he was back at his Church Rd, Maddington premises maintaining machinery in the Metro Area.

Over the years the company underwent name changes and Neil bought out his partner.

Whereas the initial focus had been on fabrication and repairs, Neil saw an opportunity to expand into the area of contract crushing in the early 1990s.

Today it operates as two entities - Rapid Crushing and Screening Contractors and Irvine Engineering (WA) Pty Ltd, which deals in the design, fabrication, construction and maintenance of mining equipment from

crushing and wet screening plants to the fabrication of explosives magazines.

Having its own fabrication workshop is the foundation of Rapid's business. It is a facility, which enables the company to provide tailor-made crushing solutions for each and every application.

It also gives the company the means to quickly identify and act on new equipment needs within the mining and construction sectors.

An industry innovator

The Rapid workshop occupies a central role in the company partially because founder, Neil Irvine is himself a qualified boilermaker. Over the years Rapid has come to be known as an innovator in the industries it serves. This has been made possible by the quality of the people employed in the workshop.

In this, its anniversary year, Rapid recently achieved an important milestone. In order to meet the rapid growth in demand for its services it completed a major expansion of its yard and opened additional offices and workshop facilities on its site in Maddington. See story on page 4.

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Could you crush rock to fit in this curve?

Rapid - assisting explorers in determining project feasibility

The recent Diggers & Dealers Conference in Kalgoorlie gave us a good opportunity to exchange ideas on crushing and screening processes.

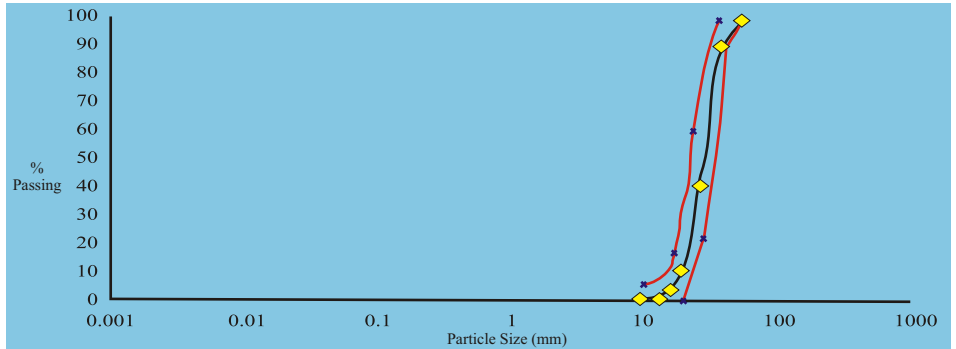
It also enabled us to ensure that we are up to date with your priorities when it comes to crushing.

In particular we were pleased to interact with exploration companies in order to get a better understanding of the needs of those involved in the early stages of the mine development process and to inform them of how our expertise in crushing and screening can assist them at the feasibility stage of a project.

Our thanks to all who found the time to meet with us.



Rapid Crushing on display at Diggers and Dealers



Sieve Aperture (mm)	Mass of sample passing (%)
53	100
37.5	90 to 100
26.5	20 to 55
19	0 to 15
9.5	0 to 5

Sieve Size (mm)	% Passing
53.0	100
37.5	91
26.5	41
19.0	11
16.0	4
13.2	1
9.5	1
6.7	--
4.75	--

Be it the crushing of ores or the production of aggregates, crushing is not just about the breaking of rocks.

There is, in fact, a great deal of expertise in meeting the often-stringent specifications set by the mining and construction industries. This is particularly so when producing aggregates.

In order to satisfy specs relating to sizes and grades there are many variables to consider when setting up and running a crushing plant.

These relate to the crushing equipment to be used and the material to be crushed. Decisions have to be made about crusher settings, fine-tuning of crushers, the location of screens and the choice of the right screen cloths for the job.

It is also necessary to analyse the material to be crushed to determine factors such as hardness and abrasiveness.

Failure to properly examine the rock can result in heavy dust loads or possibly in having to send the material through the crushing circuit a second time, at a major cost in terms of time and money.

As with most things, prior experience is invaluable in getting it right as quickly as possible.

When it comes to meeting the client's often-stringent specs it is important to appreciate that no two ores or rocks are exactly the same.

There are no easy settings to adhere to. Each material has to be treated differently in the way it is handled and crushed. And then of course the application has to be considered.

There is no need for precision crushing if the material to be crushed at a mine is merely intended for road maintenance purposes.

What sets us apart as crushing contractors is our ability to successfully take on the harder jobs.

In many instances we have demonstrated in the field our ability to satisfy stringent specifications, which could not be met by previous plant operators.

Often there are hard decisions to be taken. For example, it may even be necessary to discard some of the material in order to cost effectively satisfy the grade specification.

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Doing it right for the next 30 years!

With his considerable experience, Neil is destined to remain at the helm for some time yet.

However, he has put in place a responsible, motivated, go-ahead staff of over 100 including sons, Glenn, who is the operations manager and Dean who is a boilermaker /maintenance supervisor. The

overall goal is to always ensure that Rapid is 'doing it right'.

As he reflects on 30 years in the business, Neil is full of praise for the contribution of staff members over the years. Says Neil, "of course it wouldn't have been possible if all our clients hadn't placed their trust in us. For that we are grateful to them all!"



Irvine Engineering's tradesmen rebuild a crusher

Pluto crushing project in full swing



Work on producing class fill for Leighton Contractors at Woodside's Pluto LNG Site B Project is now in full swing.

The nine month contract requires Rapid Crushing to produce some 1.5Mt of crushed fill for Leighton which is undertaking the earthworks at the Burrup site.

To meet this output, Rapid is using three crushing plants and a workforce of 50 operating in day/night shifts.

Two of the plants are producing Class 75 material. The third plant is producing a Class 27 product.

The logistics of getting three crushing plants up and running were not inconsiderable given the short notice and having to screen the right personnel for the project.

Rapid utilised one of its recently established specialised set-up teams to get the plants operational and OH&S compliant in as short a time as possible.



Daniel heads for Phillip Island

A dream came true for 14 year-old Palmyra youngster, Daniel Watt recently when he was informed by MotoGP that he would be racing at the motorcyclist's holy grail, Phillip Island in October.

Daniel, who comes from a family involved in the sport for generations, will be racing his Honda CBR 150 in the new Kids Junior Class for 13 to 16 year-olds.

Rapid Crushing is proud to be one of Daniel's sponsors and wishes him the best of luck.

Helping meet the heavy demand for crushed stone in the Pilbara



The heavy demand for crushed stone in the Pilbara area has resulted in Rapid Crushing being commissioned by Hansen Construction Materials to assist in the crushing of road base and concrete aggregates at its Mt Regal Quarry.

The project involves producing material crushed in accordance with Main Roads Department and Australian standards.

Congratulations

Welcome to Libby Wood, who has joined our office staff, with responsibility for our payroll and assists with accounts.

Our congratulations go to Frazer Hayes, Area Manager Northwest and Philip Johns, ROM Pad Supervisor, Kambalda for completing five years of service with Rapid Crushing.

Congratulations too to the following newer members of our team who have just notched up one year of service: Douglas Kaehler, Operator; Roger Beaumont, Plant Co-ordinator; Sav Stefenek, Site Manager Kambalda Contract; Dinesh Koteeeswaran, Draftsman.

New crushing equipment rebuilding facility comes on stream

Our new premises is finally in full operation.

The expanded facility, which is a virtual duplication of our existing premises, features new offices and a spacious workshop equipped with a 30t crane. There is also a smaller additional workshop with a 5t crane.

The new building houses our crushing operations. With its 30t gantry crane it will considerably simplify and speed up the rebuilding and modification of our crushing equipment.

Our existing workshop is now a dedicated Irvine Engineering fabrication shop.

The opening of the new office and workshop facility has expanded our total facilities to 1100m² of workshop space, 500m² of offices and 1ha of yard area.



Quicker quotations

In order to make your life easier and ensure we can get your quote done without delay we at Rapid Crushing have introduced a form which, when completed, will give us the information we need to prepare a meaningful and informed quotation for you.

A loader in the process of being refurbished in our spacious new workshop.



Refurbishing helps keep our prices down

With today's low trade-in prices and the high prices charged for new loaders we are using our considerable equipment refurbishing expertise to get more hours out of many of our existing loaders, saving money without sacrificing reliability.

Refurbishing our own equipment means we can ensure the maintenance of the highest standards of repair while also improving our competitiveness in the market.

Neil's horse rocks the sceptics

Neil Irvine's racehorse, Rock My Pago proved the experts wrong by winning the recent Belmont Oaks.

Not expected to last the 2000m distance, the 8-1 filly was perfectly ridden by Troy Turner going into the lead before the turn.

Rock My Pago, which has had 10 starts for three wins and three placings, was bought by Neil Irvine and other syndicate members from the estate of the late John Roberts and is trained by Shane Edwards.



Neil and Annette Irvine with Rock My Pago in the winners ring.