

OPERATIONAL PROFILE

2013



Tropicana is viewed as the most significant Australian gold discovery in more than a decade.

Tropicana, an unincorporated joint venture between AngloGold Ashanti Australia Ltd (70%), which manages the operation, and Independence Group (IGO) NL (30%), is located 200km east of Sunrise Dam and 330km east-northeast of Kalgoorlie.

Tropicana was discovered in 2005 after AngloGold Ashanti followed up on an unexplained gold-in-soil anomaly, recognised by IGO, in public domain regional data collected in the 1990s.

PERFORMANCE IN 2013

Tropicana poured first gold on 26 September 2013, ahead of schedule and on budget. In its first three years, Tropicana is forecast to produce an attributable 329,000oz to 343,000oz a year.

By year-end, the processing plant had achieved 90% availability and ramp-up was on schedule to achieve 95% availability within six months of commissioning. Mining started in mid-2012 and during 2013, a third excavator and truck fleet was mobilised to site, bringing the mining fleet to full capacity.

The Tropicana joint venture partners have engaged with the local community to provide employment as well as opportunities for local businesses. On-going support for Aboriginal contractors ensures that they are able to maintain and grow their contracts, further supporting the employment and up-skilling of indigenous people.

There were two significant environmental incidents during the year related to a diesel spill and a saline water spill, clean-up activities for which were undertaken immediately. Corrective action was taken to ensure that there was no reoccurrence of these incidents.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

- Production began in September 2013
- 468 employees achieved a productivity rate of 47.37oz/total employee costed (TEC)
- Tropicana's Mineral Resource of 5.41Moz (at 31 December 2013) accounts for 63% of the Australasia region's Mineral Resource
- Ramp-up to full production in 2014
- Costs below group average
- Community development programmes are in place

Tropicana – key statistics

		Units	2013	2012	2011
Operational performance					
Pay limit		oz/t	0.07	–	–
		g/t	2.22	–	–
Average recovered grade	– 70%	oz/t	0.070	–	–
		g/t	2.40	–	–
Tonnes treated/milled	– 70%	Mt	0.9	–	–
Gold production (attributable)	– 70%	000oz	66	–	–
Total cash costs	– 70%	\$/oz produced	568	–	–
All-in sustaining costs	– 70%	\$/oz sold	1,113	–	–
Capital expenditure (attributable)	– 70%	\$m	241	315	73
Productivity	– 70%	oz/TEC	47.37	–	–
Safety					
No. of fatalities			0	0	0
All injury frequency rate (AIFR)		per million hours worked	8.60	15.75	27.72
People					
Total average no. of employees			468	479	87
– Permanent			174	98	87
– Contractors			294	381	n/a
Environment					
Total water usage		ML	2,097 ⁽¹⁾	–	–
Total water usage per tonne treated		kL/t	1.71	–	–
Total energy usage		PJ	0.73	–	–
Total energy usage per tonne treated		GJ/t	0.60	–	–
Total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (CO ₂ e)		000t	51	–	–
Total GHG emissions per tonne treated		t CO ₂ e/t	0.04	–	–
Cyanide usage		t	0	–	–
No. of reportable environmental incidents			2	–	–
Total rehabilitation liabilities		\$m	24	–	–

⁽¹⁾ Excludes pre-production water usage at Tropicana.

For more detailed information from an operational and sustainability perspective, please see the Australia country fact sheet which is available at www.aga-reports.com.