

Project Information:

Blackwell Role	Mining Services Contractor
Form of Contract	Bespoke
Contract Value	£85M

Blackwell Site Management:

Director:
Niall Fraser

Project Manager:
Jess Yates

Mining Services Manager:
Simon Holland



Services Include:

Civil Engineering **Earthworks** Geotechnical Remediation



Contract Summary:

The first metalliferous mine to open in the UK since the 1940s, the Hemerdon Tungsten Mine near Plymouth represents one of the largest new precious metal mining ventures in the UK in more than a generation. In 2013, Blackwell was appointed by Australian miner, Wolf Minerals as Mining Services Contractor on the Hemerdon project – with responsibility for the drilling and blasting of granite ore and waste. In this role, Blackwell is carrying out the excavation of nearly 20M cu.m of material over a 6 year period. This includes the excavation of 3 million tonnes per annum of granite ore and 4.5 million tonnes per annum of waste rock, known locally as 'killas'. In addition to mining infrastructure, Blackwell is constructing one of the largest and most unique tailings dams in Europe.



The Hemerdon project has seen an investment of £15M in a brand new Caterpillar equipment fleet, at the core of which are three 110t excavators and twelve 65t rigid dump trucks. Equipment is being operated by a locally recruited workforce, as part of the company's drive to provide employment opportunities in an area with a rich surface mining heritage.



Phase One comprised of the construction of the Mine Waste Management Facility, encompassing the creation of the tailings dam and associated structures as well as the construction of the primary haul road and site infrastructure. This phase was completed in 2015 and Phase Two commenced thereafter. Mining is undertaken around the clock, with Blackwell's trucks and 50t rehandling loading shovel feeding material into the Client's processing plant on a continuous choke-feed basis. Blackwell's project management team are co-located and fully integrated with the Client team.

The award of the Hemerdon project reinforced Blackwell's position as one of the leading operators of heavy mobile equipment in mines and quarries in the UK; sitting alongside loading and haulage contracts for L'hoist at Hindlow Quarry and Aggregate Industries at the Glensanda and Moorcroft Quarries.

