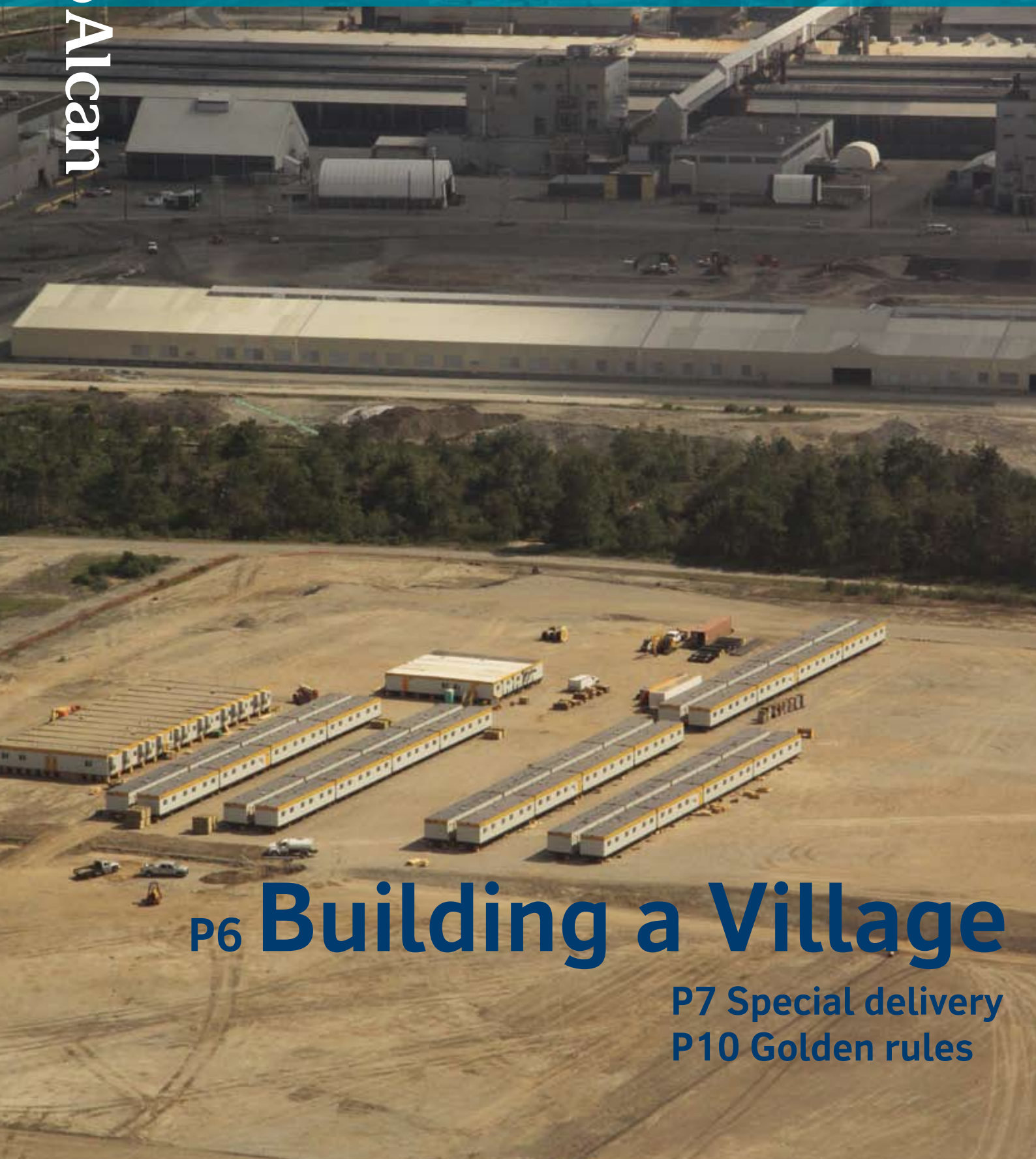
Rio Tinto Alcan

Blueprint

Kitimat Modernization Project

Issue 02 June 2011



Blueprint

Issue 2 June 2011

COVER PHOTO: An aerial view of the KMP Construction Village and the BC Operations Kitimat smelter in the background. For more photos of the Construction Village please see page 6.

PUBLISHER
Colleen Nyce
Member of International Association of Business Communicators

EDITOR
Sarah Zimmerman
Member of the Canadian Public Relations Society

CONTRIBUTORS
Dwight Magee
Member of Professional Photographers of Canada BC
Doug Thomson

DESIGN AND PRODUCTION
Northern Sentinel, Kitimat, BC

***Kitimat Modernization Project Blueprint* is published bi-monthly by Rio Tinto Alcan – BC Operations**

You can also visit us at www.riotintoalcaninbc.com, or www.kitimatworksmodernization.com

***Kitimat Modernization Project Blueprint* editor**
Tel: 01 250 639 8725
Email: sarah.zimmerman@riotinto.com

The submission deadline for the August 2011 issue is 7 July 2011.

Please note that photographs intended for publication must be at 300 dpi at the size they will be printed. Please set your camera for the highest possible resolution. Hard copy photos submitted via internal mail will be scanned and returned.

Publications mail agreement No. 40052381

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to:
Rio Tinto Alcan - BC Operations
Internal Communications
1 Smeltersite Road
PO Box 1800
Kitimat BC V8C 2H2
Email: sarah.zimmerman@riotinto.com

Kitimat Modernization Project Blueprint uses 431kg of paper, which has a post-consumer recycled percentage of 10 per cent. The paper selection preserves one tree for the future, saves 1,284 litres of wastewater flow, and conserves 565,461 BTUs energy.

Kitimat Modernization Project Blueprint is printed on Fortune Elemental chlorine free paper with a 10 per cent post-consumer recycled fiber.

FSC
Mixed Sources
Product group from well-managed forests, controlled sources and recycled wood or fibre
Cert no. SGS-COC-004691
www.fsc.org
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

BRIEFS

Wendy Markowsky and Marie Oates (at right) were among several KMP team members from Bechtel and Rio Tinto Alcan who participated in the Terrace and District Chamber of Commerce trade show in May. It was a great opportunity to meet with local community members and provide information about the project.

Loryn Harling, 4, (left) was thrilled to receive a Kitimat Modernization Project balloon at the KMP booth at the Terrace and District Chamber of Commerce trade show in May.

SAFETY SHARE

It's that time of the year that bears have woken from hibernation and wildlife sightings become abundant in the Kitimat region.

While this bear may look docile, Grizzlies are known for being protective of their young and can be dangerous if approached, so always keep your distance.

Wildlife such as Grizzly bears, black bears, wolves, deer and moose are plentiful in the Kitimat area and tend to travel at dawn and dusk – always be vigilant while driving on area highways.


Lynn Gould

How do I apply for work on KMP?

As the Kitimat Modernization Project (KMP) ramps up, one of the most frequently received questions is, "how do I get a job working on the project?" Bechtel is the prime contractor for Rio Tinto Alcan and is responsible for the project's engineering, procurement and construction management of KMP. Hiring for the Kitimat Modernization Project is being done primarily through the contractors and unions.

The Bechtel Community Employment Coordinator, Lynn Gould, provides information sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2 and 3 pm at the Kitimat Modernization Project Community Office in the City Centre Mall in Kitimat where prospective employees can learn more about the process.

Another commonly asked question is whether or not employees must be union members. The language in the Project Labour Agreement with the Building Trades Unions endorses the employment of all qualified local personnel first. To be eligible to work on the KMP site, all contract employees performing work covered by the PLA will be cleared through the respective union halls.

Resumes also can be sent to:
Bechtel Canada
(Employment Coordinator)
PO Box 198
Kitimat BC V8C 2G7.

Lines 7 & 8 handed over


Richard Blais (left) and Paul Henning (right) sign off on the handover documents.

The Kitimat Modernization Project construction site got a little bigger 27 April as Rio Tinto Alcan's vice-president of BC Operations and strategic projects Western Canada Paul Henning officially handed over the area around the existing pot lines 7&8 to KMP's director of construction and engineering Richard Blais. The area is now segregated from the existing BC Operations smelter with fencing and is officially part of the KMP construction site.

Cleaning of lines 7&8 got under way in April in preparation for demolishing the massive buildings to make way for the new reduction services building that will be built where the pot lines are now. Roughly 100 workers specially trained to do the cleaning of the building have been hard at work for weeks ensuring that the steel in the building is cleaned of all residues that accumulated in the building after decades of use. Huge cutting machines will be used to dismantle the steel structure to make way for the demolition. The work is being done by Quantum Murray/NW Demolition Partnership and many local labourers are carrying out the work.

Cycling for a cause

A team of Rio Tinto Alcan employees, some of whom are working on the Kitimat Modernization Project, are taking part in a spectacular cycling marathon in an effort to raise money for an organization called the GO Foundation to support research on hereditary diseases and for projects that promote healthy lifestyles.

Le Grand Défie Pierre Lavoie challenges teams to participate in a 1,150km race in just 60 hours.

KMP project director Michel Lamarre is taking on the challenge and participating in the 1,150km 60-hour race in Quebec this June. He's no stranger to long cycling events – last year he also participated in the Ride to Conquer Cancer which saw him pedal between Quebec City and Montreal.

Michel is joined by Rio Tinto Alcan's Bruno Lapointe, Ghislain Chaput, Jean-Pierre Desmoulins and Jay Cuylits. They hope to raise $10,000.

For more information about Le Grand Défie Pierre Lavoie visit www.legdpl.com/en/

Underground utilities corridor contract awarded

A state-of-the art smelter such as the one planned for Kitimat requires many services such as water and sewage; fibre optic cables, high voltage cables and natural gas services. All of these essential services ensure that the smelter will run efficiently and smoothly once completed.

In the case of the Kitimat Modernization Project, these services will all be located in a giant 3-kilometre underground utilities corridor that will surround the footprint of the new smelter. This massive undertaking is one of the key early works construction activities on the schedule for 2011.

On 24 May the contract was officially signed between the project's prime contractor, Bechtel, and Prince George based company IDL Projects Inc.

At the contract signing ceremony Rio Tinto Alcan's director of construction and engineering for KMP, Richard Blais, explained that the company is committed to employing as many qualified local and regional contractors and suppliers as possible.

"Many of the contracts that will be awarded in the coming years will require a high level of expertise and this contract is no different," said Richard. "That's why we are exceptionally pleased to announce that this contract has been awarded to a northern BC company."

Todd Patterson, chief financial officer for IDL Projects Inc. said his company is very excited to be part of "this historic construction project in British Columbia."

Bechtel's Stephen Cleary signs off on the contract for the underground utilities corridor contract

IDL prides itself on its safety record (its total recordable incident rate to date for 2011 is 0) and has unique programs in place to encourage and reward safe work practices and interventions when an unsafe situation or practice is observed. The company also has a unique mentoring program designed to have seasoned workers train new and young workers in conjunction with the company's formal safety program.

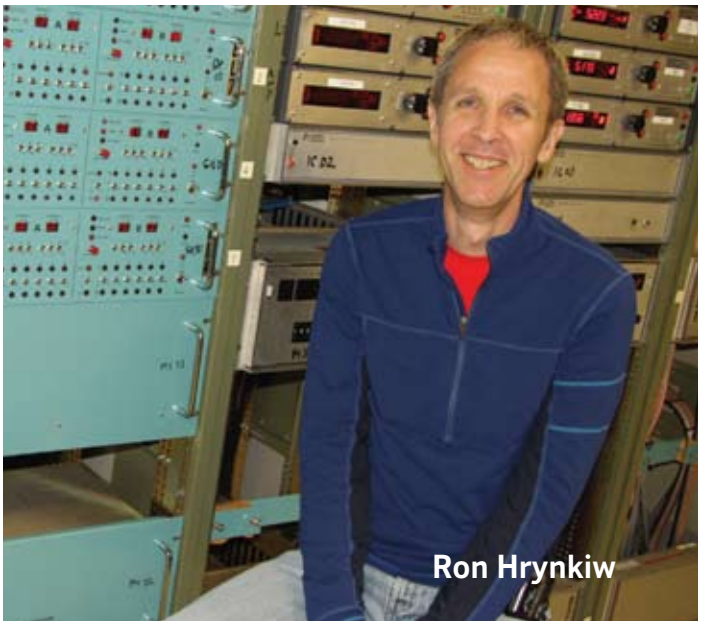
Coming on to a project such as the Kitimat Modernization Project, where the safety ethos is Zero Harm by Choice, IDL's approach to safety in the workplace will be an excellent fit.

Work has already begun on the underground utilities corridor. At left are IDL employees Jonathan Burkholder and Robert MacIsaac. Pictured in the centre is equipment operator Robert Allen. At right is IDL's project manager Wayne Denluck.

New operations director joins the team


Kerry Moran

The new operations director for the Kitimat Modernization Project team is Kerry Moran. He joined the group on 9 May and he's starting to settle in to his new position comfortably.
Kerry is no stranger to aluminium smelting business. He comes to KMP via the Boyne smelter in Queensland, Australia – a joint venture managed by Rio Tinto Alcan.
His job there was to oversee the operations of the smelter that uses a combination of AP30 technology and a Japanese pre-bake technology. Coming to Kitimat, where the construction of a new AP40 plant is under way, is a welcome career move.
"It's a very large, very important project for the business and it's a wonderful opportunity," says Kerry, adding he's up to the challenge involved with coordinating with the existing operations team and planning for the needs of the future plant.
"One of the real attractions with this project is that I've spent a lot of time in operations as a customer of many different projects," says Kerry. "This time it's great to get in on the ground floor as part of the project team."
He sees his role as working closely with the current BC Operations team to ensure that the new smelter being built is functional and a pleasure to operate. Kerry describes his management style as people focused, with a real interest in safety and leadership development.
One of the aspects of KMP he's most looking forward to will come in a few short years, when the community of Kitimat will see the positive changes that will come with a smelter that reduces its carbon footprint by up to 50 per cent and dramatically reduces emissions.
"It'll be nice to build a plant that will be virtually invisible to its neighbours as far as emissions are concerned," he says.
Kerry has been working for Rio Tinto Alcan for more than 15 years having started his career with the New Zealand Aluminium Smelter. While he worked in Australia most recently, Kerry is a born and raised New Zealander and is excited about the opportunities living in Kitimat presents.
A keen, but rusty, snowboarder, he's looking forward to spending some time on the slopes with his family this coming winter and exploring the outdoors during the summer. Kerry comes to Kitimat with his wife, Ngaire and their four children aged 19 months, three, eight and 13.


Ron Hrynkiw

Pot Control System modernized

As the footprint for the Kitimat Modernization Project begins to overlap the existing smelter, many buildings will have to be relocated in the coming year. One of those buildings is the computer centre for the existing smelter. The people working in that building will move to a new location by the end of 2011 and the old building is set to be demolished in the first quarter of 2012.

One of the functions in this building is a system that controls the pots – the Pot Control System (PCS). The existing system has been in place since the early 1980s and is housed within large pieces of hardware that physically take up a lot of space and are extremely difficult to maintain. Since the anticipated relocation of the building requires moving all the old infrastructure within, a team of plant professionals has developed ways of emulating the existing pot control system with new hardware and software, the result of which recreates the existing functionality on a computer the size of an average PC.
"The primary reason we are upgrading it is to minimize the risk of moving the old (i.e. fragile) equipment to the new temporary building," says Ron Hrynkiw, Project Manager Industrial Systems IS&T Western Canada. "The new equipment will also be much easier to maintain."

The pot control system scans the pot voltage and line amperage then calculates and controls the resistance within each pot by moving the pot's anode up and down. The new system will emulate the existing one but will modernize it so it doesn't require as much of the bulky infrastructure in place now.
"It's like a beefed up PC – it's got more than what you would see on a normal desktop computer, but inside there is a software program that emulates the PDP computer that is in use today," says Ron, adding that the PDP computer is the brains of the system that controls the resistance within the pot.

"I think we are just looking at common sense solutions for the next few years," says Ron, adding the rest of the team working on the various deliverables of the PCS upgrade program include Guy Simard and Eric Grenon.

David Frazer, the IS&T manager for Western Canada says he's proud of the innovation of the team in finding an interim pot control system that not only emulates what the existing system does, but accomplishes that using more compact hardware while being extremely financially efficient.

Building a village

Over the last several months convoys of ATCO trailers have been arriving by truck at the KMP Construction Village site. Every week, the home away from home for up to 440 workers grows and begins to look more and more like a small village.

The construction site is a hive of activity. The ground is being graded and prepared for the installation of utilities to service the camp. The camp's recreational facility and kitchen has arrived on site and trailers are being moved into their final positions. In August, the first phase of the camp will welcome its new residents.

At left, ATCO field safety representative Danny Barbosa with Taylor Cross, KMP safety intern on the KMP Construction Village site. Above, Machinery is staged for ground works. At right, Bechtel's Tom Hermsen oversees work being done on the village.

Special delivery

When the first ATCO trailers arrived on the KMP Construction Village site 19 April, it was a special occasion. Not just because it was the first visible sign of the 2011 early works construction season, but because it held special significance for ATCO employees and the trucking company hired to transport the first trailers from Alberta to Kitimat.

Behind the wheel of a huge Mack truck was Trevor Cameron, President of Attacc Ventures Ltd. a company whose drivers has been supplying lease hold trucking services to ATCO for more than 40 years. Trevor grew up in a trucking family – his dad Gerald, was also a trucker and spent most of his career hauling trailers for ATCO.

"My dad was really excited that ATCO was going to bid on this contract," says Trevor about the Kitimat Modernization Project. Prior to the global economic recession in 2008, his dad would pester ATCO officials regularly hoping the KMP contract would be given to the company. He knew it was a big job and he wanted to be a part of it.

But in 2009 Gerald Cameron passed away after battling cancer. He never did come to learn that a few years after his death, ATCO was indeed awarded the contract to supply the KMP Construction Village.

So it was fitting, that on the day the first trailers arrived, Gerald's son Trevor – who followed in his dad's footsteps, would drive the first trailer on to the site.

"Dad could hardly wait to get on this project," Trevor recalls. "Today I feel great. It's a tribute to dad, that's why it was so important to me to have dad's truck here. He'd be proud of that, I know."

Fellow truck driver Rick Tucker has known the Camerons for 18 years.

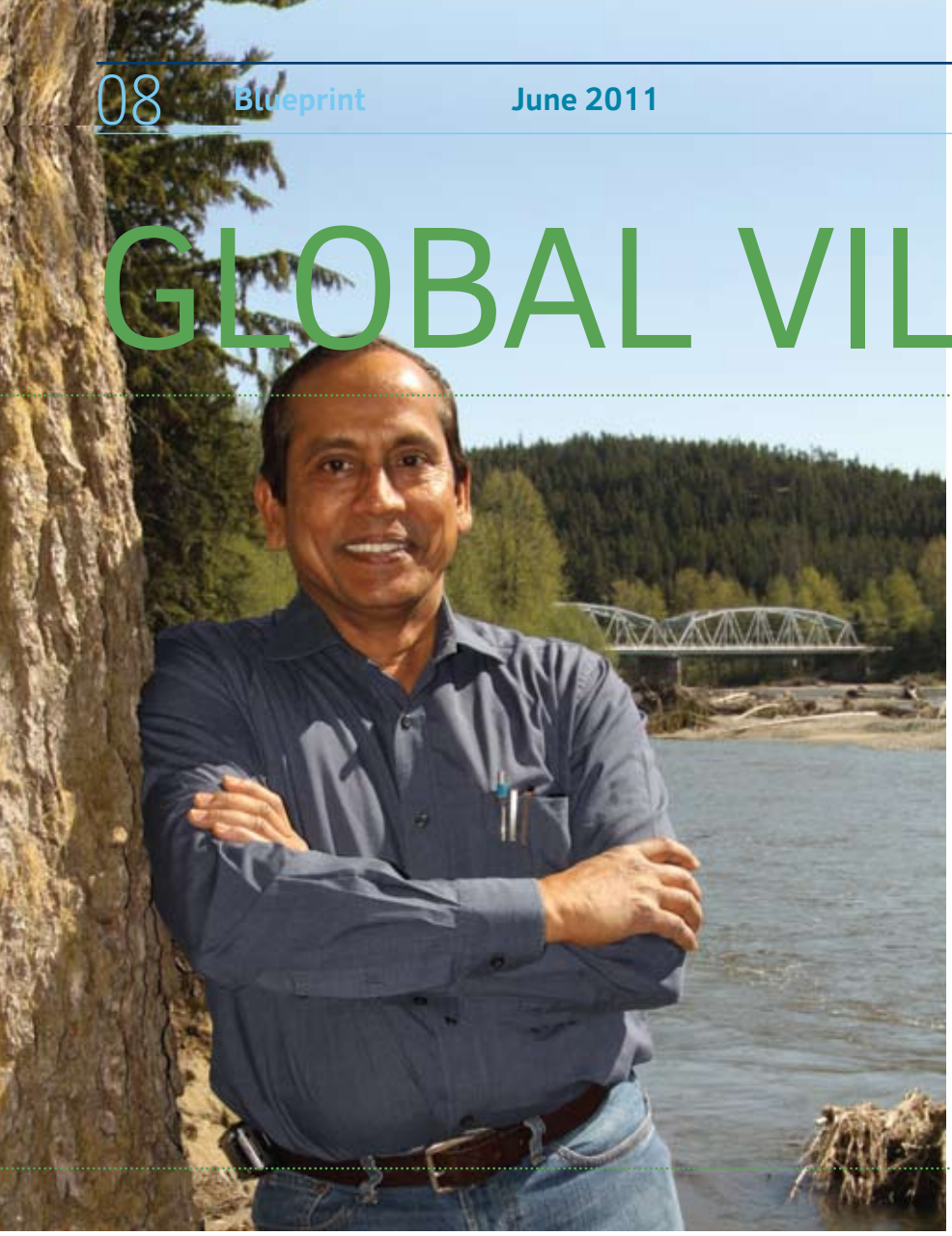
"Gerald was waiting for this for a long time," Rick says. "He's here with us today, I half expect to look at these photos and see him sitting right in that truck."

It was also an important day for Judi Nordstrom, ATCO's Project Manager for KMP. She knew Gerald for more than 20 years and says Gerald was one of the best drivers ATCO has had.

"He mentored a good majority of ATCO driver's during his tenure and the end result is we have had the best driver's in the industry because of his mentoring," Judi says. "I have a lot of respect for Gerald and if he was with us now, he would have been the first load into this project."

In commemoration of the contribution that Gerald Cameron made to ATCO and a generation of drivers, the KMP team will dedicate the first trailer to arrive on site after Gerald. He may not have lived to see KMP come to fruition, but if you ask his son and his co-workers, he is here in spirit.

GLOBAL VILLAGE



Kitimat, BC couldn't be located in an area more difference than Visakhapatnam, India, but for Bechtel's Lead Mechanical Field Engineer Ramakrishna "Rama" Gorapalli, that's all part of this community's allure.

Rama, who has worked in countries such as the Kingdom of Bahrain, has been with the Kitimat Modernization Project since May 2008 and moved from Montreal to Kitimat in 2009. He supports the construction site on engineering matters relating to items such as work quality, quantity, progress and interfacing between the engineering office in Montreal and what is happening on the ground in Kitimat.

Rama works out of a building called the Brownfield office along with many other KMP team members who have moved to Kitimat to work on the massive project. With colleagues from all over Canada, the US, Hong Kong, Australia and other parts of the world, it truly is an international team and it's one aspect of the job Rama enjoys.

"It is a great experience and so interesting to learn about different cultures," he says.

Living in Kitimat has been a big cultural shift but one he has embraced. Having spent a lot of his time in the humid, lush, tropical environment of India, Kitimat has awakened Rama's interest in the flora and fauna of the area. An avid photographer, Rama spends much of his spare time exploring the hiking and walking trails in the area and is always searching for that perfect shot.

"I have grown to appreciate the art of photography and the time and effort that goes into getting the composition of a photograph just right," he says, adding he enjoys the challenge of shooting landscape and nature photos in the different light and seasons that the region offers.

Rama lives in Kitimat with his wife, Vijaya, who has a bachelor's degree in Arts as well as in Education. When they are not out hiking and walking together, they enjoy spending time in the outdoors gardening.

As for the rest of his family? His three children seem to take after their father – all three of them pursued careers in engineering and each of his children attended the University of Toronto, earning their post-secondary degrees in Canada.

Their eldest daughter, Deepthi, earned her masters degree in Biomedical Engineering as is currently working as a research and development engineer. Rama also has a set of fraternal twins. His daughter Preeti works as an environmental engineer while his son Praneeth is as a design engineer.

Rama and Vijaya both enjoy living in Kitimat, but he admits that sometimes he misses certain things about India. He misses the vast array of seasonal fruits from mango, papaya and guava to the delectable Sita-phal. He also misses the pageantry and excitement of traditional festivals and celebrations that define Indian culture. But celebrating his birthday in Canada has taken on a new meaning – he was born on Christmas day, December 25.

A tale of two technologies

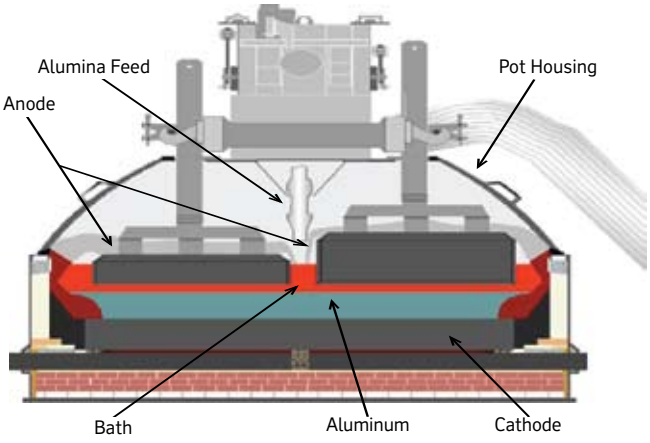
In the April issue we discussed the aluminium smelting process. The Kitimat Modernization project will build a new plant that will use the same Hall-Héroult process we described there, but will implement that process with a state of the art technology, called AP40. This technology will improve efficiencies and output; provide a clean, modern working environment; and result in a dramatically reduced environmental impact.

The principal difference between the old technology (Söderberg) and the new AP40 is found at the pot anode. Söderberg pots use a single large anode that is made of coke and pitch that is continuously fed into the pot and is baked into carbon by the heat generated in the pot itself. On the other hand, AP technology™ process, uses multiple anodes in each pot. Each anode is baked in the Anode Baking Furnace (ABF), then two anode blocks are sealed with an aluminum stem prior to being mounted on the pot. This simple difference has some rather profound results.

First, the anode blocks can be made in a controlled environment where carbon quality can be better managed. Consistent high quality anodes result in better process controls. Pre-baking the anodes in a separate facility (ABF) also makes it much easier to collect and scrub the emissions produced by the process than it is when the carbon is baked in a Söderberg pot.

Second, because there are multiple anodes in each pot it is easier to control the pot (better efficiency) and maintain the anode itself. The ability to selectively isolate and replace individual smaller anodes in the pot results in a 95 per cent reduction of anode problems (anodic effects). Because anodic effects produce undesirable emissions, this further reduces the plant's environmental footprint. Improved process controls also result in production efficiencies and less waste. In fact, the AP40 process will result in a 25 per cent reduction in energy consumption of energy per tonne of aluminium produced.

Third, because of the design of the pots, they can be completely enclosed. The enclosures dramatically improve the collection of the emissions from the pot. The pot housing also contains the dust from alumina that is now added automatically to the post as needed. The result is a very much improved health and safety environment for workers, and better environmental performance in general.



The AP40 will result in a host of other design changes. The existing pots in Kitimat operate at about 136,000 amperes (the typical circuit in your house operates at 15 amperes). The new pots will be significantly larger and will operate at more than 400,000 amperes – this means that each pot will be three times more productive than now. These new pots will be much different in shell design as well. Existing pots distribute the current from end to end, while the AP technology™ installation will turn the pots 90 degrees and distribute the current from side to side, thus improving the distribution of current to the pots. This also controls the magnetic field created by the pot operation more precisely. Power supply systems will be significantly different as well.

While the modification in anode technology sounds simple in itself, it results in a cascade of changes that together will make BC Operations environmentally greener, will significantly improve the working conditions for employees, increase efficiencies, and improve the bottom line for BC Operations.

KMP *Dictionary*

DID YOU KNOW?

The new smelter will be built overlapping the existing footprint of Kitimat's BC Operations smelter. That means that there is a lot of co-activity between the construction project and the existing operations.

A tie-in is a connection between old and new equipment and/or systems for the operations plant or a brownfield area. A tie-in includes coupling, integration and extensions to existing systems or facilities. A tie-in also includes the installation of machinery and utility services. It can be civil (road), mechanical, electrical, control or automation. The definition of tie-in also includes diversions, demolition or construction adjacent to existing facilities which may impinge upon or interfere with existing operations.

Simple lock out device creates safer work environment

Jack Oviatt and Don Anderson pose with the signage and lock box that helps ensure that machines are not able to start while maintenance is being performed.

Jack Oviatt and mechanic Don Anderson of J. Oviatt Contracting, Inc., stand in front of a sparklingly clean excavator that they are modifying to meet Rio Tinto Alcan and Bechtel safety standards. Keeping his machinery clean is an important facet of the Oviatt maintenance program, and is indicative of Jack's attitude toward quality and detail.

"We always want to be ahead of the game," says Jack "The safety changes we are making are part of the future of our business."

Rio Tinto Alcan and Bechtel have high safety standards and Jack suggests that some contractors must raise the bar to work on the project.

"We have made allowances for the changes we need to make," says Jack, explaining how the company anticipated the safety requirements necessary for work on the Kitimat Modernization Project (KMP).

> We always want to be ahead of the game.

The work Oviatt is doing on the excavator demonstrates the range of safety concerns that they are addressing. The solutions to those concerns include a small metal box with a lock, a set of in-house designed and manufactured railings, and a pair of $6,000 rupture valves are installing on the excavator's boom.

The metal box addresses the need for lockout protection and is particularly important to Don.

"I am the only one with a key to the box," says Don. "And when I'm working on a machine the keys to the machine are locked in the box."

This simple tool prevents a machine that is under maintenance from being started.

"We always had signs on the machine telling operators not to start the machine," says Jack. "But this lockout method is much more secure."

Don also points out the railings that they built and installed on the machine. Those railings allow Don and operators to service the machine safely without the need to wear a fall protection harnesses. It is a simple solution that addresses the issue of working at height.

The hose rupture valves installed on the machine represent a costly addition that uses factory parts that prevent the boom from dropping if there is a failure in the hydraulic system. Normally the boom is held up by hydraulic pressure applied to the hydraulic ram. Should the hydraulic hose fail, the boom will drop.

The risk to persons and equipment are obvious. With the addition of the hose rupture valves, the boom mechanism is fundamentally changed, and cannot fall if a hose ruptures and hydraulic pressure is lost. In, fact with the valves installed, hydraulic pressure must be applied to push the boom down.

GOLDEN RULES GUIDE WORKERS

When workers arrive on the Kitimat Modernization Project construction site, safety is always at the forefront.

As such, the project has established a set of Golden Rules – rules that establish the minimum Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) expectations agreed upon by Rio Tinto Alcan and its prime contractor, Bechtel.

"These rules address activities that have the potential for critical consequences or fatalities whether performed once in a lifetime or four times a day," says Bechtel's project ES&H manager, Steve Fletcher.

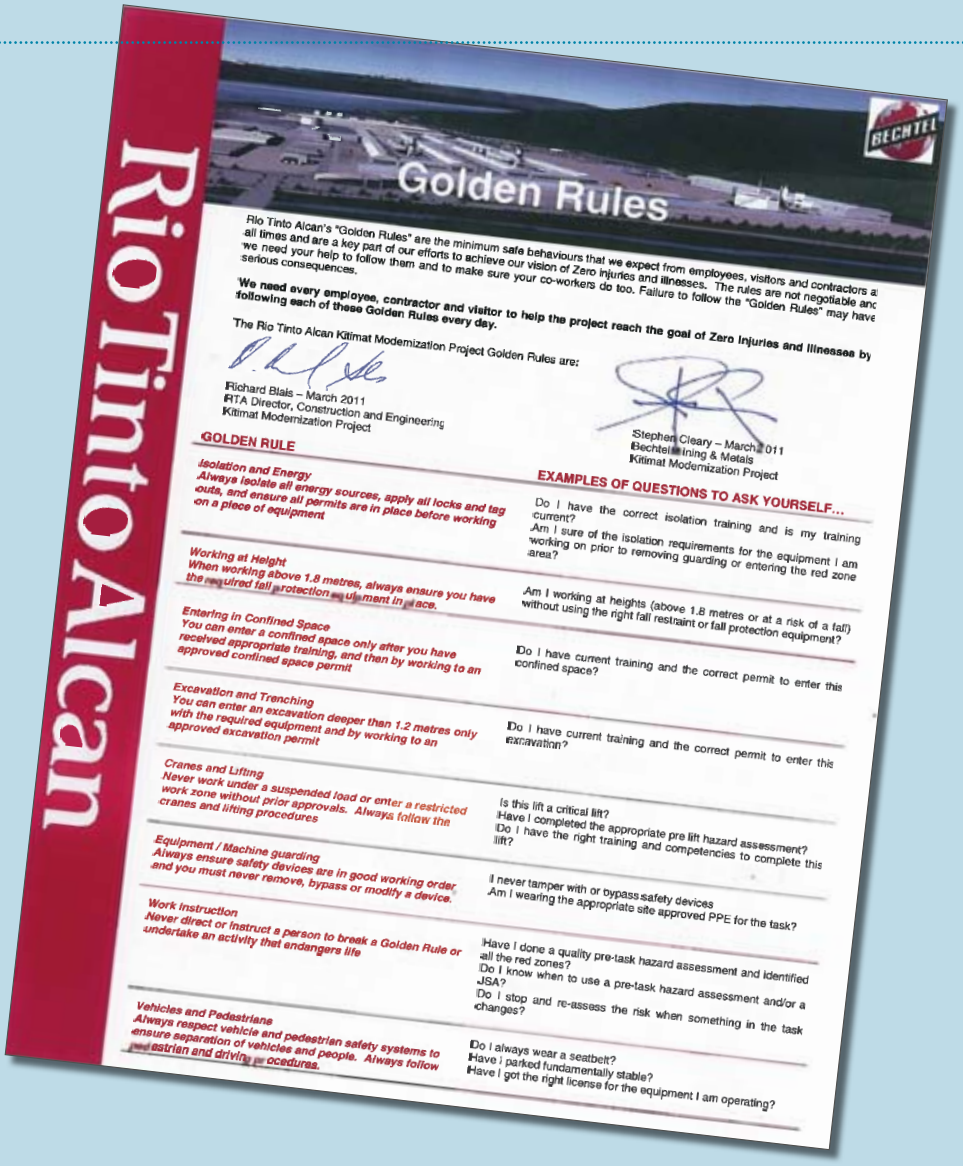
The rules include guidelines pertaining to isolation and energy, working at height, entering confined spaces and using equipment guarding and dealing with vehicles and pedestrians on site.

The Golden Rules document also features examples of questions workers should ask themselves when performing their duties on site.

For example, am I wearing the correct personal protective equipment for the task at hand? Do I always wear a seat belt? Do I have the current training and the correct permit to enter this confined space?

Simply put, violating these rules could be life threatening, says Mike Simons, Rio Tinto Alcan's HSE manager for the project.

And for that reason, the Golden Rules provide clear guidelines for establishing expectations for safety and to help reach the goal of Zero Harm by Choice.


Rio Tinto Alcan

Golden Rules

Rio Tinto Alcan's "Golden Rules" are the minimum safe behaviours that we expect from employees, visitors and contractors a all times and are a key part of our efforts to achieve our vision of Zero injuries and illnesses. The rules are not negotiable anc we need your help to follow them and to make sure your co-workers do too. Failure to follow the "Golden Rules" may have serious consequences.

We need every employee, contractor and visitor to help the project reach the goal of Zero Injuries and Illnesses by following each of these Golden Rules every day.

The Rio Tinto Alcan Kitimat Modernization Project Golden Rules are:

Richard Blais – March 2011
RTA Director, Construction and Engineering
Kitimat Modernization Project

Stephen Cleary – March 2011
Bechtel Mining & Metals
Kitimat Modernization Project

GOLDEN RULE	EXAMPLES OF QUESTIONS TO ASK YOURSELF...
Isolation and Energy Always isolate all energy sources, apply all locks and tag outs, and ensure all permits are in place before working on a piece of equipment	Do I have the correct isolation training and is my training current? Am I sure of the isolation requirements for the equipment I am working on prior to removing guarding or entering the red zone area?
Working at Height When working above 1.8 metres, always ensure you have the required fall protection equipment in place.	Am I working at heights (above 1.8 metres or at a risk of a fall) without using the right fall restraint or fall protection equipment?
Entering in Confined Space You can enter a confined space only after you have received appropriate training, and then by working to an approved confined space permit	Do I have current training and the correct permit to enter this confined space?
Excavation and Trenching You can enter an excavation deeper than 1.2 metres only with the required equipment and by working to an approved excavation permit	Do I have current training and the correct permit to enter this excavation?
Cranes and Lifting Never work under a suspended load or enter a restricted work zone without prior approvals. Always follow the cranes and lifting procedures	Is this lift a critical lift? Have I completed the appropriate pre lift hazard assessment? Do I have the right training and competencies to complete this lift?
Equipment / Machine guarding Always ensure safety devices are in good working order and you must never remove, bypass or modify a device.	I never tamper with or bypass safety devices Am I wearing the appropriate site approved PPE for the task?
Work Instruction Never direct or instruct a person to break a Golden Rule or undertake an activity that endangers life	Have I done a quality pre-task hazard assessment and identified all the red zones? Do I know when to use a pre-task hazard assessment and/or a JSA? Do I stop and re-assess the risk when something in the task changes?
Vehicles and Pedestrians Always respect vehicle and pedestrian safety systems to ensure separation of vehicles and people. Always follow pedestrian and driving procedures.	Do I always wear a seatbelt? Have I parked fundamentally stable? Have I got the right license for the equipment I am operating?

"We have never had a hose rupture that resulted in a dropped boom, but somewhere it has happened," says Jack.

Being proactive ensures that J. Oviatt Contracting will not be one of those statistics.

Jack and Don at J. Oviatt Contracting are fine examples of individuals who are working hard to make the Kitimat Modernization Project a Zero Harm by Choice working environment.

Keeping workers safe is an important goal for all concerned and J. Oviatt Contracting is one of those companies readily meeting the standards.

Summer fun

Children race at Hospital Beach on 29 May, 1981

An unidentified family enjoys a day at the beach in 1957

Bowling alley fun 4 February 1957

Employees ham it up in an undated photo

Ah those warm summer days. It is always great when summer finally arrives in the pacific northwest of our great province after a long cold winter. Summer is also the time when we typically take a respite from being a couch potato and participate in fun physical activities to shed those kilograms that have mysteriously attached themselves to our bodies.

BC Operations has always been in the forefront of encouraging employees to stay fit. Shortly after the original opening of the smelter, a group of health-minded employees formed the Kitimat Works Sports Association. In its heyday the association was a broad reaching presence in the community, offering something for everyone. In the 1960s, the association even organized charter flights to Europe for employees and their families.

Fitness, although a significant benefit, was not the driving force behind participation. In the early days, the focus on sports was more a way to collectively socialize and have fun. It was an all too common sight, to see players sitting on the sidelines smoking a cigarette during a break from their turn on the field or on the ice.

All this changed in the late 1970s when the trend moved towards personal fitness and an increase in the number of people seen jogging on the streets was evidence of this new trend. Smoking tobacco also became a target at this time. Gone were the days when the medical establishment actually recommended specific brands of tobacco for your “smoking pleasure.”

During this time, the company was also a leader in engaging employees to become more physically fit. A succession of fitness coordinators joined the company whose only role was to motivate our employees to shed pounds. The ever popular daily keep fit classes held at local schools led by these coordinators and their cadre of volunteers attracted hundreds of regular employees.

Today, the trend of personal fitness continues but more on a self-directed level with the company providing fitness subsidies to a wider selection of venues offering employees personal choice and control over their fitness regimen. The company also continues to sponsor programs such as the Be Active Challenge organized world-wide by Rio Tinto.

On the KMP Construction site every day starts off early in the morning with a group stretch. Contractors, Bechtel employees and KMP workers come together for a short stretch to invigorate the mind and body at the beginning of the day.

PM40052381

PRINTED IN CANADA