

Project:

Austar Coal Mine,
Hunter Valley,
Newcastle



MINEMESH reduces costs, improves OH&S and efficiency at Austar



REINFORCING SOLUTIONS

MINEMESH™

- Quality Australian Made MINEMESH™
- Extensive Applications Experience
- National Technical Support & Back-up
- Australia-Wide Service Network
- Specialist Authorised Suppliers



MINEMESH™ is a Trade Mark used exclusively by ONESTEEL.

The performance and productivity benefits of OneSteel Reinforcing's MINEMESH were highlighted recently at Austar Coal Mine in NSW.

Located south-west of Cessnock in the lower Hunter Valley, the Austar underground coal mine has a well documented past, however, looks to the future to position itself as Australia's first Longwall Top Coal Caving mine.

With more than 10km of underground roadways developed annually, strata control plays an important role in operations at the mine.

Designed for use in strata control applications in both coal and metalliferous mines, MINEMESH improves OH&S and reduces costs through improving installation efficiency, providing time, labour and material savings.

Used in conjunction with roof bolts, MINEMESH assists in the stabilisation of the underground mine strata and restricts the amount of broken roof or scat falling to the roadway.

Steve Chandler, Under Manager In Charge at Austar, said MINEMESH simplifies the roadway development processes and contributes to enhanced OH&S.

"Due to the complex logistics involved in transferring the MINEMESH from the surface to the underground working face 7km away, OneSteel bundles the mesh into suitable sizes required for transport and installation underground, improving the roadway development process," he said.

Efficiency was further improved at Austar with the addition of bolt position marking on the MINEMESH modules.

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For further information on OneSteel Reinforcing Strata Control Solutions and authorised MINEMESH™ suppliers in your area, please contact our National Mining Engineer, Kannan Thangaraj on (02) 9792 9026 or 0418 969 461.

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MINEMESH™ Service Network

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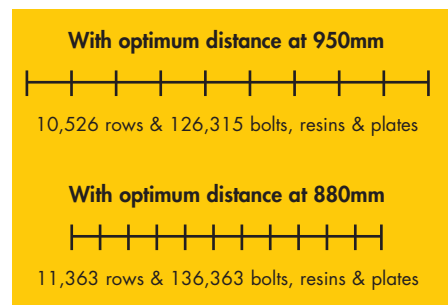
The use of bolt position marking in conjunction with a tailored module solution enabled Austar to limit the unnecessary use of roof bolts.

Austar was able to improve its installation of roof bolts efficiency in accordance with management's safety protocols. The mine now achieves a bolt spacing of 950mm as opposed to 880mm. A difference of 70mm may not seem significant, however, over 10km of roadways, large amounts of roof bolts, resins, drill bits, water, time, labour and machinery wear and tear are saved.

The calculations below clearly demonstrate the savings MINEMESH provides to Austar in its roadway development cycle. The mine completes approximately 10km of roadway development in a year and utilises a six bolt pattern every row in the roof, with another 6 bolts in the ribs.

On the basis that the optimum distance between rows is 950mm, that equates

to 10,526 rows and 126,315 bolts, resins and plates. However, if the optimum spacing of 950mm is not being achieved and is closer to 880mm, the number of rows increases to 11,363 requiring a total of 136,363 bolts, resins and plates. That's more than 10,000 unnecessary bolts, resins and plates.



Do the maths for your own mine, then let your manager know how much you can add to his bottom line by using MINEMESH.