

European Mining CapEx

Feedback from our Mining Equipment call

Industry Overview

Brownfield>Greenfield. Automation the biggest key trend

Yesterday we hosted Mr Smith, ex-VP at Komatsu with >30 years of experience. His key views: 1) Brownfield expansion continues to be easier than greenfield, with permits almost impossible to obtain in certain markets; 2) Automation is the single biggest market trend currently, with payback periods for equipment often around 12-18 months; 3) The biggest 'hard' benefits from electrification comes from lower servicing costs and less fuel spend; and 4) The movement to electrification could disrupt the existing model of using a mixed fleet, increasing the potential of Mining OEMs to grow market share.

Greenfield permit approval continues to be difficult

It remains difficult to obtain new greenfield permits, but the degree of difficulty varies by geography. In the US it is very difficult, however in places such as Australia/South Africa a permit might come as part of a social license; if you contribute to the local community (e.g. by building schools, infrastructure), you are more likely to obtain a permit. Nonetheless, brownfield permits are easier to obtain, and hence we are more likely to see continued mine expansion over the creation of new mines, increasing mine complexity and driving more surface mines underground.

Biggest single market trend: Automation

Smith highlighted that he sees automation as the biggest key market trend, with the payback periods for equipment often around 12-18months. At more remote mines (e.g. those in Australia), the cost of an operator can be >\$200k pa after factoring in accommodation, transport, etc. Given there are c5/6 operators per machine, the operational savings per machines on staff alone can be >\$1m pa.

Second largest market trend: Electrification

Smith saw both 'soft' and 'hard' benefits from electrification. Soft benefits include improved company perception from lower emissions, which could help mines in obtaining new permits. Hard benefits include lower operating costs from lower fuel usage and servicing costs. Although this could impact earnings the Mining OEMs, Sandvik believes that they can generate 65% more revenue from a BEV vs a Diesel

Electrification could disrupt the mixed fleet model

Although Komatsu and Caterpillar have c90% market share on surface mining equipment, at larger mines the amount of equipment that Komatsu and Caterpillar actually compete on is small, with the majority of sales dictated by service agreements. Mines tend to operate with mixed fleets, with the trucks capabilities across competitors 'matched' to help prevent process bottlenecks. However, given BEV mechanisms/speeds vary so much vs ICEs and that the use of one provider vs two will likely be more efficient from the use of software, the movement to electrification has the capacity to disrupt the current fleet mix.

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> **BEV: Battery Electric Vehicles** ICE: Internal Combustion Engines **OEM: Original Equipment Manufacturer**

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