

CASE STUDY MINE SITE COMMUNICATIONS & IT INFRASTRUCTURE. DE GREY MINING



About De Grey Mining

It is fair to say that just over 5 years ago when Qbit signed De Grey Mining as a Managed Services customer, neither De Grey nor Qbit fully understood the journey we were about to embark on.

Successful growth requires a well thought out, flexible and scalable, IT strategy. Qbit recognised and factored in De Grey's ambitions from the start and was dynamic enough to bend and flex with the rapid changes happening in the organisation. Staff growth from 8-100 over a short period of time is going to be challenging for any organization. Throw in a global pandemic just as you are starting to ramp up, and you have a bunch of challenges to overcome that nobody could have seen coming

What has evolved over the last 5 years, is a very strong and successful partnership between our two companies.



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Solutions



ICT Support

What started as a requirement for basic onsite connectivity for exploration, rapidly grew to incorporate multiple solutions for one of the fastest growing gold mining operations in the Pilbara. The rapid expansion of infrastructure to facilitate the needs of many staff & contractors required deployment of multiple technologies at the different stages of De Grey's evolution. This included:

3G/4G Boosters - Supply and installation of Cel-Fi mobile boosters to assist with 3G calls and 4G data were implemented.

SD-WAN - SD-WAN solutions were supplied to bond Internet connections and also provided a failover in the event one type failed.

VOIP - A VOIP phone system allowed for internal calls to be routed to staff where mobile coverage was poor, but internet connectivity was available.

Microwave links to Telstra Fibre back haul - Qbit researched and advised De Grey management on the available options for more robust and permanent communications to site. This ultimately involved the supply and installation of Aerial towers to provide microwave links from the Telstra Fibre 20km's away from the site by a third party.

Extensive camp Wi-Fi Solution - A scalable wireless solution providing data, entertainment, and security camera coverage to all parts of the Administration and accommodation areas.

Qbit are a smart and friendly bunch of IT professionals that we know have our back. Our growth has been rapid, and as a result, we have needed an IT company that can move quickly and knows their stuff. As well as providing a well maintained, secure, and scalable network for our corporate operations in Perth, Qbit has gone the extra mile in sending technical staff out to assess our remote sites of operation. Giving them a thorough understanding of the landscape, so they can provide us with the best available communications, connectivity, and infrastructure solutions to address our specific needs.

Craig Nelmes
Company Secretary
De Grey Mining



Mining clients generally have 2 very disparate environments, incorporating different technologies, which need to come together to form one solution. The Head Office in Perth was originally setup with scaleable infrastructure, which had to grow rapidly over the last few years to incorporate more advanced technologies and solutions. These solutions then had to meld with solutions being provided to the remote sites, some of which are listed below:

- Full managed services, IT support of servers, workstations and other IT infrastructure
- Microsoft 365 & SharePoint management
- Advanced Cybersecurity Protocols
- VOIP telephony for all staff
- On premise & cloud solutions
- SDWAN Technology for internet management, including seamless failovers at each site, and secure
- tunneling between networks.
- Business continuity Solution



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