



Brenton Smith

Director - Risk Engineering

Brenton joined IMIU during its early days, in 1997. He has been instrumental in developing our internal processes for collecting accurate risk data. Through his knowledge and efforts, IMIU, was able to create a database application, Mining Risk Assessment Model (MinRAM), that has been designed exclusively for measuring large property risk exposures. It can be applied to every aspect of a mining company's operation regardless of size or complexity. This system is core to our business and is recognised worldwide in the industry. Brenton's versatile background has supported and enabled him to conduct risk surveys at more than 165 different operations around the globe, many of which have been surveyed several times as part of ongoing programmes to manage the risks at these locations.

Brenton is based in Australia. His career started at BHP where he initially worked as a 'Trainee Metallurgist' in 1972 and then moved into other roles specific to the production of iron ore in a medium sized open cut mining operation. He progressed to Production Superintendent, a role with a variety of duties including staffing, costs, safety management, ore quality and management of ore supply production schedules.

Brenton then took a career break in order to study for four years for a BEng in Mechanical Engineering. He graduated from the University of South Australia in 1985.

His first engineering position was as an Engineering Consultant at Kinhill Stearns in Adelaide, South Australia (1985 - 1987). During this time, he worked on projects that involved detailed design and analytical work for clients in light manufacturing, mineral processing, government, energy management, fire design for buildings, defence projects and vehicle manufacturing.

In 1987, Brenton became Chief Engineer at Australian Development Ltd in the Northern Territory which was part of the Normandy group of operations. He was responsible for all design, construction and maintenance during the development and operation of a small underground gold mine and mineral processing operation at Tennant Creek. After a brief stint as Group Engineer for Normandy Poseidon he became Engineering Superintendent in 1990 at Mt. Leyshon Gold Mines in Queensland. His responsibilities included all design, construction and maintenance for a series of major modifications to the mineral processing plant that milled the ore from a 3.5Mtpa open cut mine. Water management during a major flood followed by water supply during a severe drought were part of the challenges.



In 1993, Brenton successfully applied for the newly created position of Chief Engineer at the famous Kalgoorlie Consolidated Gold Mines in Western Australia. He was the leader of an engineering team in Australia's largest open cut and underground gold mining operation. He was also a member of the Executive Committee. This was an extremely demanding role which included design and construction of plant modifications and upgrades, power supply negotiations, risk management programmes, managing water supplies from an extensive array of well-fields extending over 100km. He also conducted investigations into two large loss events associated with the 36ft SAG Mill.

Brenton came across IMIU during his time at Kalgoorlie and saw an opportunity for a career change that was based in the UK, but that still strongly linked with the mining industry. He started employment with IMIU in 1997 and was a major contributor to the development of the business. His engineering knowledge and experience was crucial to the creation of the Min RAM risk assessment model. This assessment data is used by many risk managers as a valuable component of their underwriting submission to the international insurance markets. Brenton carries out 30-35 risk assessments of mining operations each year.

Brenton has a strong interest in developments within the Mining Industry and has attended a number of industry conferences. Brenton researched and developed guidelines for fire prevention and fire protection in Solvent Extraction plants.

In 2005, he presented a paper on 'Fire in SX Plants, an Insurer's perspective' at the **Hydrometallurgical Operators Conference, Perth, Australia**. In 2009, he was asked by the same conference to present a paper on 'Fires in SX plants - recent trends in fire prevention and fire protection'.

Brenton's significant contribution to IMIU's development was formally recognised in 2008 when he became a director of the Company.

Awards & Qualifications

- Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering, University of South Australia
- Master of Business and Technology, University of New South Wales
- Institution of Engineers Award for Academic Excellence
- Institution of Production Engineers Award
- Quarry Manager's Certificate of Competency
- Bronze Medal, University of South Australia

Professional Memberships

- The Institution of Engineers Australia
- Fire Protection Association of Australia

Brenton is married with three adult children. His passion is a sailing yacht that he races and cruises at every opportunity.