

WEST ANGELAS MINE - PILBARA, WA

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Austrak was awarded the contract to manufacture 560,000 sleepers over 18 months during 2000/2001 for the new West Angelas mine in the Pilbara. The scope of the project was reduced during its later stages when the owner, Norths Ltd, was taken over by Rio Tinto.

PRODUCTS:

- one sleeper type only, heavy duty Pandrol eClip. Nominal 37 tonne axle load 80 kph, 68kg rail (sleeper was specified identical to previous sleepers supplied to Robe River Mines)
- total of 33 turnout bearer sets including 1:10, 1:15 and 1:20
- catchpoints

FACTORY:

- a new five bed factory was constructed at Wedgefield, Port Hedland, WA.

BENEFITS:

Robe River operates an iron ore mine at Pannowonica and rails the ore to Cape Lambert. Robe's new mine at West Angelas is located between Tom Price and Mt Newman. A new rail line 342km long was needed to be constructed from the mine to join with existing Robe River line in order to transport the ore Cape Lambert. For much of its length the rail line follows the same route as the Hamersley Iron line.

