

## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

### MESSAGE FROM DOWNER BLASTING SERVICES (DBS)

This fact sheet has been prepared by Downer Blasting Services (DBS) to provide community members with easily accessible information about how we understand and manage the risks associated with our operations at Mt Thorley.

DBS value of “Zero Harm” underpins the company’s commitment to the safety, health and wellbeing of our people preserving the environment and surrounding communities.

In 2015, DBS Mt Thorley facility was granted a Major Hazard Facility licence after a review of our site safety case. DBS continues to engage with local emergency response authorities to plan for a successful response in the unlikely event of an incident.

DBS understands that excellence in safety and environmental performance is essential to both ongoing business success and community confidence in our operations. DBS Mt Thorley safety and environmental performance throughout 2015, to 17 has been commendable and we are pleased to have achieved the following:

- Implementation of site run-off containment and recycling of storm water at the facility to improve and manage significant rain events.
- Increased onsite water storage capacity to prevent discharge from site
- Implemented and upgrade of the ANSol storage system iso-container.
- Upgrade to site security and installation of security gate to storage shed.

DBS is committed to Zero Harm means sustaining a work environment that supports the health and safety of our people and minimises the impact our business has on the environment.

Our environmental sustainability policy goal is to minimise the short and long term impact of our activities on the environment and local communities through responsible environmental sustainable management within design, planning, delivery, construction, manufacturing and operation.

I hope you find this fact sheet informative. It’s important to us that our neighbours and the broader community understand what we do here at MT Thorley and have confidence in DBS operations at the Mt Thorley Industrial estate facility.

As always, we welcome feedback and questions on any site-related topic. Please feel free to contact me directly.

Yours faithfully,

**Chris Melmeth**

Mt Thorley Site Manager

Phone: 02 6574 2409

Mobile: 0429 477 674

## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

### Introduction

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This fact sheet contains important information for the local community about DBS operations at the Mt Thorley industrial estate facility which have been deemed to be a Major Hazard Facility.

The Mt Thorley facility has safely manufactured chemical products for over 17 years and comprehensive measures are in place to protect workers and the community from potential hazards. Whilst a major incident is very unlikely, it is important for you to know what you should do in an emergency.

#### **What is a Major Hazard Facility?**

A Major Hazard Facility (MHF) is an industrial facility that stores, handles or processes large quantities of scheduled material.

The NSW Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (WHS Regulation) includes a schedule, called Schedule 15 that lists relevant chemicals. Oxidizing agents are the primary Schedule 15 chemical that DBS has at Mt Thorley.

All MHFs must be registered and their operations are regulated under the WHS Regulation.

#### **What is a Safety Case?**

A safety case is a written presentation of the technical, management and operational information about the hazards and risks that could lead to a major incident and the control measures in place to ensure the safe operation of the facility.

To obtain a licence to operate a MHF, and in line with NSW SafeWork requirements, DBS has prepared and submitted a Safety Case which has been assessed by SafeWork NSW.

A copy of DBS's MHF licence is included at the back of this Fact Sheet.

#### **What is a major incident?**

A major incident at a major hazard facility is an occurrence that:

- (a) results from an uncontrolled event at the Major Hazard Facility involving, or potentially involving, Schedule 15 chemicals, and
- (b) exposes a person to a serious risk to health or safety emanating from an immediate or imminent exposure to the occurrence.

### DBS at Mt Thorley

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Downer EDI Mining Pty Ltd, through its wholly owned subsidiary Downer EDI Mining – Blasting Services Pty Ltd (trading as DBS), offers a complete range of drill and blast services, and has successfully developed a unique range of explosives products. DBS operates five explosives manufacturing and ammonium nitrate handling and distribution facilities within Australia.

DBS current operations at Mt Thorley (NSW) include the manufacture of emulsion products for the mining industry.

## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

DBS operations at the Mt Thorley facility have been deemed to be a MHF and, as such, DBS is required to satisfy the requirements of the NSW WHS Regulation, 2011.

DBS has submitted a safety case and implemented a Zero Harm Management System Framework, along with processes, procedures and practices that are fit for purpose and verified by external parties such as WorkSafe.

Downer EDI Mining's safety philosophy is grounded in the belief that all injuries, occupational illnesses, and diseases are preventable. Care for our people is paramount and an integral part of the way we do business. We are therefore committed to providing a safe workplace in which our employees can perform their tasks safely and efficiently. The Integrated Management System is used to address hazard control and accident prevention and to ensure our people are trained and involved in the system.

In operating this Major Hazard Facility at Mt Thorley (NSW), Downer EDI Mining Pty Ltd and its wholly owned subsidiary Downer EDI Mining – Blasting Services Pty Ltd are committed to working towards our goal of Zero Harm. This safety case represents our current practices and approaches to achieve this, and our commitment to do so.

### Emulsion Manufacturing

DBS has been producing emulsion for over 15 years at the Mt Thorley facility. Since 1998 DBS has been successfully operating a double salt manufacturing plant. The plant has seen significant improvements in relation to safety, environmental performance and energy efficiency through ongoing implementation of best practice design and technology.

The Mt Thorley manufacturing facility is a batch process for manufacturing DBS HEAT emulsion. The plant operates 4 days per week 10 hours a day.



Figure 1: Emulsion Manufacturing at DBS' Mt Thorley Facility

## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

### Downer Mining (DM) Zero Harm Framework

Continuous safe operation of the DBS facility is ensured by the DM Zero Harm Integrated Management System (IMS). The DM Zero Harm IMS sets clear performance expectations required for project delivery. The framework is designed to:

- Integrate with and directly support DBS work;
- Set clear measurable expectations for leadership at all levels, especially for those supervising others;
- Ensure workplace critical risk controls are implemented and remain effective and reliable;
- Engage and consult with the people that do the work;
- Support the wellbeing of DBS people;
- Provide appropriate business consistency, allowing for efficient knowledge sharing and improvement across DBS varied operations; and
- Maintain efficient assurance processes that verify and improve how DBS operate as a business.

This provides a comprehensive and integrated management system for all aspects of control measures and is based on the DBS Zero Harm HSE Standards and Procedures. The Safety Management System is subject to ongoing assessment and external auditing to ensure the safe operation of the MHF

### Hazard Identification and Control Measures

Hazards are things that could go wrong and cause or contribute to a major incident. A hazard is an inherent physical or chemical characteristic that has the potential for causing harm.

Control measures are the procedures, systems and equipment that are in place to eliminate or minimise the risk of a hazard leading to a major incident.

Although unlikely, potential pathways for a major incident to be realised, (i.e. scenarios) have been identified through a comprehensive hazard identification and risk assessment process. Safety assessments were performed for each of the potential incidents identified. This involved an analysis of the consequences and likelihood of each incident occurring.

Potential major incidents at the Mt Thorley facility manufacturing plant include fire and explosion of emulsion, oxidizing solution or oxidizing agent in storage.

Identified hazards that could lead to a potential incident include a failure of equipment or a security breach. Identified control measures that have been implemented by DBS at MT Thorley include:

- Emergency Shutdown System
- Fire Water System and fire-fighting equipment
- Automatic trips and alarms
- Security systems and procedures including on site security and CCTV
- Inherent design features – important static features of the plant design that will control the hazards.

## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

To ensure the risk of an incident occurring is minimised or eliminated, all hazards have one or more control measure in place, depending on the nature of the hazard. The control measures have been assessed to be effective and appropriate for controlling the hazards.

It is important to note that no major incidents have occurred at the current manufacturing facility since the plant began operation in June 2002 and no major incidents have occurred at the Legacy Projects since commencement of operations.

### Emergency Response Plans (ERPs)

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DBS has developed ERPs in consultation with regulators and emergency services. The ERPs detail how DBS will respond in the unlikely event of an emergency and assists in managing an emergency situation to limit the impact to people and the environment.

The ERPs include information on the procedures to be implemented, resources and equipment for use during the incident, emergency command structure, roles of personnel, and training undertaken to prepare personnel to respond to an emergency.

All personnel on site are familiar with the ERPs and are fully trained in emergency response procedures. The procedures outlined in the ERPs are tested with simulations throughout the year.

### Major Incident

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At a major hazard facility is an occurrence that:

- results from an uncontrolled event at the major hazard facility involving, or potentially involving, Schedule 15 chemicals or
- exposes a person to a serious risk to health or safety emanating from an immediate or imminent exposure to the occurrence.

## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

# WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

**ALWAYS FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY POLICE,  
FIRE SERVICE OR OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES.**

It is unlikely an emergency will arise at a Downer Blasting Services Major Hazard Facility (MHF). But if it does, our first response is to immediately call in Emergency Services to protect the community.

#### What will emergency services do?

Advise you what action to take – either in person or through radio or TV broadcasts.

Work with our expert team to define the hazardous zone and, if you're inside this zone, advise you to evacuate or stay indoors.

If evacuation is required, advise you the direction to travel and where to assemble

### IF YOU'RE ASKED TO EVACUATE:

GET AWAY



Evacuate immediately and safely



Emergency Services will tell you where to go to be safe.

STAY AWAY



Respect roadblocks and exclusion zones –  
these are in place for your safety.



Stay at the assembly point and wait for Emergency Services instructions.

#### Find out more...

For more information on Downer Blasting Services MHF operations,  
contact us on 07 3026 6666, or visit [www.downerblasting.com](http://www.downerblasting.com)

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## MT THORLEY MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY

LOCK DOWN

### IF YOU'RE ASKED TO 'SHELTER IN PLACE':



Go indoors immediately.



Close all doors and windows.



Turn off the air-conditioning.



Follow Emergency Services  
directions if asked to evacuate.

TUNE IN



Listen for radio and  
television broadcasts.



Always follow Emergency  
Services instructions.

Whether  
evacuating  
or sheltering,  
follow  
Emergency  
Services  
directions  
until you're  
given the  
'all clear'

### IF YOU DETECT A STRONG SMELL OF AMMONIA...



Call our emergency services hotline on 1800 680 402



Remain indoors until you're given instructions from  
Emergency Services.



Do not open doors and windows until Emergency  
Services tell you it is safe to do so.

**Ammonia has a  
strong odour, similar to  
a strong domestic cleaning  
product. It is easy to detect in  
harmless concentrations.  
Do you have streaming eyes,  
nasal irritation or other  
worrying reactions?  
If you believe you are being  
affected by ammonia,  
take action!**

#### Find out more...

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