

New mining project for Holtfreters

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WEDGETAIL Exploration NL recently announced the appointment of Holtfreters Pty Ltd as the project manager and engineer for the Nullagine Gold Project treatment plant and infrastructure development in the northern Pilbara.

Wedgetail has announced plans to construct a one million tonne per annum treatment plant adjacent to the Golden Eagle orebody at Nullagine.

The new plant will reuse crushing and conveying equipment from the old Copperhead mine at Bullfinch and the concentrates carbon-in-leach circuit from the Mt Todd mine in the Northern Territory.

A new semi-autogenous mill was recently purchased from the Polysius division of ThyssenKrupp Engineering (Australia) Pty Ltd.

Holtfreters in Subiaco has already commenced preparation of design plans for the new plant and Holtfreters in Northam has commenced work recovering the equipment from Bullfinch in preparation for its overhaul.

The equipment recovered will be stripped for inspection and, provided it is economic to repair, rebuilt to a high standard of reliability ready for reinstallation at the Nullagine site.

Holtfreters in Northam has completed a number of successful projects for mines throughout Western Australia in the past two years.

In January this year it completed manufacture of 60 tonnes of steel for the Tom Price mine in the Pilbara and recently it completed manufacture in Northam of the structural steel and platework for the new regrind mill installation for Magellan Metals NL at its Wiluna lead mine. "This new project at Nullagine is ideally timed for us," said John Lalor, the general manager of Northam operations for Holtfreters.

"Refurbishment of the crushing and conveying equipment will involve structural steel and platework fabrication as well as painting and mechanical overhaul work, all of which Holtfreters specializes in at its Northam works."

Paul Thomas the project development manager for Wedgetail is familiar with Holtfreters' work. Paul was the general manager of the Kirkalocka gold mine last year when Holtfreters completed design and construction of a very successful pebble crusher building.

The building was fabricated in two modules in the Northam workshop and erected on site within two days of being delivered by Holtfreters.

According to Paul "Wedgetail is committed to building a quality plant at Nullagine that will maintain low operating costs throughout its life.

"I look forward to working again with Holtfreters to achieve this."