

## **Abstract**

This is an Abstract for a potential paper to be produced for the Iron Ore 2019 Conference as organized by the AusIMM.

The lead author of the paper will be Richard Price, MAusIMM.

### **Autonomous Technologies in Iron Ore**

The iron ore industry has seen a rapid adoption of autonomous technologies during the last decade. Although autonomous trucks have been an industry concept since the early 1990's (the author was witness to them trialled in 1993), it wasn't until 2008 that Rio Tinto Iron Ore first implemented a commercial scale trial of them.

Currently, the three major iron ore miners in Rio Tinto, BHP, and Fortescue each have autonomous trucks. The paper will discuss the current numbers of autonomous trucks (currently Rio Tinto – 150, BHP – 35, and Fortescue – 160) and drills, and the perceived and actual benefits that the vehicles enjoy onsite.

Lastly the paper will seek to provide some reflection on the Mine of the Future including how such operations might be controlled.

Richard Price

MAusIMM

[richard@mtga.com.au](mailto:richard@mtga.com.au)

Manager – Projects

Mining Technicians Group Australia