



Precision Engineering

Case study

Location:	South Africa
Customer:	Mine shaft development company
Key benefit:	Safe and dependable stage operation



Robust stage jacks support shaft sinking operations

Requirement

A large mine shaft development company required a system to stabilize the work platform used for drilling blast holes. These stage jacks, six each on the top and bottom decks of the shaft sinking stage, have to hold the platform in place during drilling, then retract reliably so the platform can be hoisted out of the shaft during blasting. Then the platform is lowered again and the stage jacks extended to keep it stable during mucking and rock removal. With the safety of the operation depending on the reliable extension and retraction of these stage jacks, the shaft development company needed actuators that were robust, durable and dependable.

Solution

The heart of the stage jack system for this OEM is the IMI Norgren RM/900 12-inch bore actuator. This industry workhouse was selected for shaft sinking because of its robust construction and proven reliability under challenging conditions. A local distributor fit the RM/900 actuators with a special rounded piston rod nose to interface solidly with the shaft wall when the stage jack is extended. A ratchet system then locks the jack in position so it cannot be accidentally retracted. When the drilling or removal operation is complete, the actuators retract the stage jacks so the platform can be removed efficiently.

For more information go to:
www.norgren.com/us/mining

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