



News release: For immediate release with accompanying photos.

Caption: *Vector Lifting has won orders for railway maintenance equipment like this from Rio Tinto, BHP Billiton and Fortescue Metals Group.*

Subject: Major Pilbara contracts awarded to Vector Lifting

Company involved: Vector Lifting, Jandakot, WA

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All three major iron ore miners in the Pilbara have awarded railway maintenance contracts to Jandakot (WA) based engineers, Vector Lifting.

Rio Tinto at Dampier has contracted Vector for the design and manufacture of 8 x 15 tonne SWL floor-mounted ore car lifting jacks. This gives a total combined lift of up to 120 tonnes. These types of jacks are able to lift complete ore cars for wheel set change out or the body of the ore cart for bogie change out. The jacks are easily operated by a remote pendant and all eight jacks lift in a synchronised manner.

A second order from Rio is for the design, manufacture and installation of a 10 tonne SWL locomotive wheel set drop table, which also includes the firm's 3.5 tonne traction motor positioner. With this unit the traction motor can be safely rotated and lowered from underneath the locomotive



For Port Hedland, BHP Billiton has also ordered the design and manufacture of a new 10 tonne SWL locomotive wheel set drop table complete with Vector Lifting's unique traction motor positioner.

When not in use the drop table is locked into position to allow locomotives up to 40 tonnes axle capacity to safely pass over.

Fortescue Metals Group (FMG) has also awarded rail maintenance equipment contracts to Vector for their South Hedland Locomotive Maintenance Workshop. This is for the design and manufacture of 4 x 1000kg SWL goods hoists.

Further opportunities for specialist rail maintenance equipment will likely continue, according to Vector's Sales Engineer Martin Tognala.

"We've learnt a great deal about developing smarter, quicker and better railway maintenance procedures from our overseas and local work" he said.

"Miners are very interested in lifting their overall productivity to capitalise on these buoyant times. What they don't want is a bottleneck somewhere in the process which prevents maximum output and therefore returns to shareholders" he added.

"We can help them avoid this in their rail cars and locomotives maintenance procedures, which might save them huge dollars in lost revenue" said Martin.

Vector Lifting has designed and built railway maintenance facilities and systems for many of Australia's freight and passenger rail services such as Queensland Railways (Willowburn, Acacia Ridge, Redbank and Townsville); Westrail (East Perth) and PTC Victoria (Spotswood).

It has also undertaken projects for overseas railway operators such as MTA (Hong Kong) and MTRC Kowloon Bay. More recently Vector won a large international tender for the supply of specialist maintenance equipment items for the Taiwan High Speed Rail Corporation.



This equipment ranged from simple bogie stands to a state-of-the-art underfloor lifting system and included a bogie drop table; bogie load test system; disassembly hoist; mobile jacks; bogie and wheel set turntables, and wheel set and axle rotating devices.

The underfloor lifting system (ULS) is located in the main maintenance depot at Yen Chao and is the centre-piece of the equipment supplied by Vector Lifting. It is capable of lifting a complete twelve-car, 300 metre long electric multiple unit (EMU) train set weighing over 700 tonnes.

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