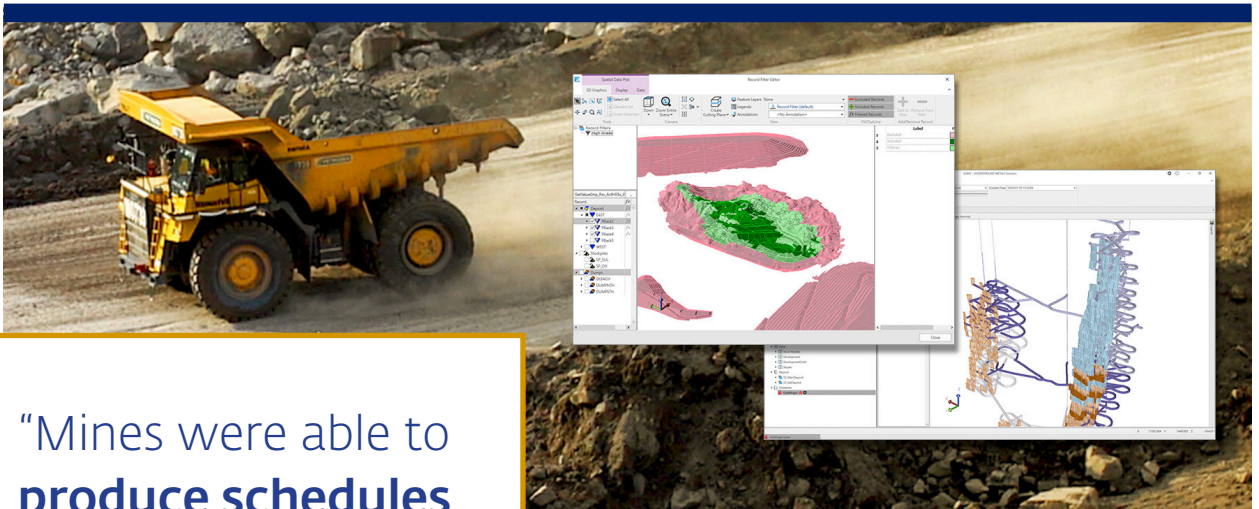


# Canadian mining company maximises planning value with XPAC Solutions

Diversified Canadian miner | Coal | XPAC Solutions | Multiple mine sites | North America



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## Overview

The focus is on a large, multi-operational resource company with operations spanning a number of geographies and commodities. The miner is committed to operating sustainably and also recognises the value technology plays to driving future growth. As the company continued on its growth trajectory in 2019-2020, it wanted to take steps to further strengthen its financial position, maximise efficiency and reduce operational costs.

## Challenge

Alongside the company's focus on growth to achieve value creation, the company is adopting cutting-edge technology and innovation to transform how mining is done. In line with its push to enhance sustainability and improve productivity, the company launched an initiative focusing on superior mining practices. The scheduling tool it had in place made it difficult to react to changes to the plan, as each change would require a lot of work to redo dump staging and haul routes. As a result, the company's dispersed mine planning teams required a leading software solution that was suited to changes being made easily, regularly and quickly to evaluate multiple scenarios.

“Highly suitable to multi-site operations, the parametric approach adopted by XPAC Solutions means **planners can easily change parameters** and have those changes automatically update throughout the schedule”.

There was also a requirement for ease of use to eliminate the need for costly specialist consultants to drive the set up and run life of mine (LOM) schedules.

In selecting a suitable scheduling solution, the company was looking to:

- Increase control of mine planning outcomes.
- Rapidly run multiple scenarios.
- Boost productivity and efficiency in the workflow requirements of budgets, forecasts, mid and long-term planning.
- Deploy a solution that could be implemented across multiple sites and planning horizons.
- Create consistency in mine planning processes across all of its operations to allow for better and quicker peer reviews, as well as well regional planning team approvals.
- Compute more in depth haulage calculations across longer timeframes to improve model accuracy and gain confidence in decision-making.

## Solutions

XPAC Solutions, RPMGlobal's leading planning and scheduling tool, was identified as the ideal solution to bolster planning productivity and efficiency across its business units. XPAC Solutions has a powerful scheduling engine that does all the heavy lifting without compromising sophistication and capabilities. Highly suitable to multi-site operations, the parametric approach adopted by XPAC Solutions means planners can easily change parameters and have those changes automatically update throughout the schedule. Specifically, XPAC Solutions underpinned the following immediate benefits:

- The ability to establish mid and long-term models consistently for all their sites, plus a long term model for a project.
- Have one, scalable solution for budgets, forecasts, mid-term and long-term schedules.
- Quick adoption of the solution, with training completed in a few weeks.

## Impact

As a dynamic, process-driven scheduling tool, XPAC Solutions has delivered significant value to the company's operations in the following ways:

- All forecast and 10 year plans are now run in XPAC Solutions.
- One site was able to go from 2-3 options to running out 30+ options for the forecast, providing key insights into impacts to performance metrics, or sequencing options.
- Mines were able to produce schedules with a higher level of detail, particularly around equipment estimation and waste placements.
- User community within company is large, active and collaborations has led to productivity improvements raising the competency bar for all engineers.
- Increased number of scenarios able to generate for evaluation.