



This fact sheet provides the answers to frequently-asked questions about mining operations in Waihi.

General

- Area of mining licence is just under 400 ha. This includes open pit, conveyor, mill, water treatment plant and waste rock embankments.
- Licence granted in 1987. Pit operations on south wall stability cutback will finish in 2010. Work programme continues with east layback to 2014. Currently Favona u/ground operating until 2011.
- 2009 revenue was over \$4 million each week.

Approximate production figures:	2006	2007	2008	2009
Gold Poured	129,654 oz	84,815 oz	144,428 oz	133,554 oz
Silver Poured	847,019 oz	276,709 oz	567,990 oz	448,886 oz
Gold Revenue	\$111M	\$88M	\$176M	\$184M
Silver Revenue	\$15M	\$6M	\$12M	\$10M
Total Revenue(NZD)	\$126M	\$94M	\$188M	\$194M

Average grades from Martha open pit – 3.4gm/tonne gold, 30gm/tonne silver.

Average grades from Favona underground – 10gm/tonne gold, 30gm/tonne silver.

Approximately 350 direct employees – Newmont, Macmahons, HWE.

Approximately 370 employed indirectly (full time equivalent) in downstream occupations).

Environmental monitoring carried out for noise, dust, vibration, water quality and quantity, rehabilitation, stability, etc.

Regulatory authorities are primarily Hauraki District Council and Environment Waikato.

Gold is a malleable metal, won't chip, flake, rust, tarnish or corrode, and is a good conductor of heat and electricity. One troy ounce of gold can be stretched into a thread 0.1mm thick and up to 80km long. A troy ounce can be beaten so thin that it will cover 10 square metres in area.

Other uses for gold are outlined In Waihi's Gold brochure and on the web site www.marthamine.co.nz .

Newmont is the world's second largest gold producer with significant assets or operations on 5 continents. The corporate office is in Denver, Colorado, USA. For more info visit the web site:

www.newmont.com

Guided tours are available through Vision Waihi Trust throughout the year. Prior bookings are essential. In addition, the Newmont Waihi Gold Education Centre provides a NZ curriculum linked educational programme for students of all ages.

History

The historic underground Martha Mine operated between the 1880s and 1952. It employed an average of 600 men at any one time. Seven vertical shafts were sunk. The deepest, No 4 Shaft, was 600 metres deep.

175 kilometres of horizontal tunnels or drives radiated from the shafts on 15 levels.

The mine was named "Martha" after the niece of early prospector, William Nicholl.

Gold and silver were deposited here by geothermal activity 7 – 12 million years ago. The precious metals are locked within quartz reefs and veins. See www.marthamine.co.nz for detail about Waihi's geological and historical past.

The Cornish Pumphouse was moved to its present site in 2006.

Martha Open Pit and Conveyor

The open pit operates up to 12 hours/day, 5 and ½ days/week.

The open pit will become a recreational lake with adjacent parklands after mining is completed. The lake will be 195m deep at the centre.

Conveyor belt is 1.3m wide, made of rubber and has strands of reinforced steel running through the length. Run by three 250kw motors. Has a capacity of around 30,000 – 50,000 tonnes/day. The conveyor belt is 2.7 km in length in total from open pit to waste rock embankment. Ore travels 1.7km to the processing plant stockpile. The conveyor travels through a tunnel in Union Hill.

Trucks use 60 litres / hr diesel.

The explosive used in the open pit is ANFO.

Dewatering from open pit up to 15,000m³ / day.

Only gold and silver are mined. Waste rock contains some amethyst.

Processing Plant and Water Treatment Plant (WTP)

Mill processes approx 1.3 million tonnes ore per annum. Alternates between treating Martha and Favona ore.

Mill and WTP operate 24 hours/day, 7 days/week.

Steel balls are 600 Brunell hardness.

Lime is added to ore on conveyor to mill at 3kg / tonne.

Water treatment plant treats an average of 10,500m³ / day. This is made up of 7000 m³ / day from the mine and 3500 m³ / day from dam return.

The furnace is heated to 1200 degrees Celsius. The gold pour produces 20 kg doré bullion bars. They are 10% – 25% gold and the rest is silver. They are further refined at the Western Australian Mint to separate the gold and silver before transfer to the world market.

Favona and the Future – Exploration

Favona decline (gradient 1:7) is currently (March 2010) about 4,500 metres long and 332 metres below the surface. More than 16,500 metres of drives have been completed. The portal (underground entrance) was officially opened in November 2004.

The Favona operation has a footprint amounting to 5 hectares.

Visit Waihi's Gold Story in the Waihi Visitor Centre, upper Seddon St, opposite the Cornish Pumphouse for further information about exploration.

Exploration drilling is taking place in and around Waihi and further afield around the Hauraki Goldfields. Diamond drills extract core samples for analysis.

Newmont's interest is in high grade deposits in low-value conservation localities that can be mined by small footprint underground methods. Ore would be transported to Waihi for processing using the existing facilities.

The RMA consultation process is rigorous and transparent and will be in place for any consent applications.

For further information contact us on Waihi.info@newmont.com