

Stench Gas & Safety

At our Waihi operation, safety is and always will be paramount. As a result, we have a wide range of safety protocols and training, PPE requirements for anyone onsite, and various types of safety equipment; all designed to ensure that everyone goes home safe at the end of their shift.

One of the more interesting safety measures we have onsite is something called 'Stench Gas' (otherwise known as ethyl mercaptan). Stench Gas is about as pleasant as the name suggests, but it completes a very important safety function on site. A key aspect of our approach to Health and Safety is 'System Redundancy'. The concept of System Redundancy is to have multiple systems in place that all solve the same challenge or problem, so that if one system fails there are others already in place to take over. A Skydiver's backup parachute for example is an extreme instance of this approach.

Were an emergency situation to occur in our underground operations, multiple systems very quickly spring into action to alert staff. Radio contact is the primary means of making staff aware, with stench gas acting as a secondary method by targeting a person's sense of smell, should they not hear their radio in an emergency.

Politely described as smelling like "an extreme version of Rotorua" and by *Wikipedia* as "infamous", a very diluted form of stench gas is added to LPG and natural gas so it can be detected, as they are both naturally odourless. A small amount of this gas is released when inducting new staff to our underground mine, so that an individual can make an association with the smell and know what it means should they smell it again.



Canisters of Stench Gas are attached to our ventilation system at multiple locations, with the gas sitting ready to be rapidly deployed and circulated in the underground workings if needed.

"Trial evacuations" are held regularly, with part of those exercises involving testing the effectiveness of the gas release systems. The time it takes for the gas to travel to the different areas of the mine is measured and used to determine both the best release locations for the gas, and to confirm that the ventilation systems are able to transport the gas to even distant parts of the mine.

Summer Internship Programme Launched

We are excited to launch the next OceanaGold Summer Internship Programme for the 2022/23 period across both our Waihi and Macraes (Otago) operations. We're looking for people currently in their second or third year of a relevant Degree qualification who can commit to the programme from the end of December until mid-February.

In return, Interns will have the opportunity to utilise the knowledge they have gained from their tertiary studies within a practical mining environment, across Civil, Chemical, or Mine Engineering, Geology, Finance, Health & Safety, Purchasing & Logistics, Surveying, and Environmental fields, all while working with a team of experts who will mentor and coach you.

The internships are paid positions with the potential for a permanent, full-time position upon graduation.

Applications close Thursday, 30 September 2022, however shortlisting will commence immediately.

Find out more here: www.careers.oceanagold.com



IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CONTACT US.

Community Engagement Line: 0800 924 444 | Project Information Office: 86 Seddon St., Waihi.

Email us via our website: www.waihigold.co.nz

NOTE: WE ARE NOT CURRENTLY
BLASTING IN THE MARTHA OPEN PIT.
CHANGES TO THIS WILL BE NOTIFIED.