

# Red Dog - Suvisi

2011, Q4

## Congratulations on Another Great Year!



On October 15th, Red Dog completed another successful shipping season in the last quarter of the year.

The operation was done safely and efficiently by Teck regular and seasonal employees, contract support, and marine and transportation groups.

Shipping commenced on June 28, which is the earliest shipping date since Red Dog's first shipping season in 1990. A total of 23 ships were loaded and a total volume of approximately 1,109,290 wet metric tonnes of zinc concentrate and 155,873 wet metric tonnes of lead concentrate were shipped.

The port experienced very low mechanical downtime, which is a testament to the support work performed throughout the year by maintenance and operational employees.

Thank you for a job well done and ensuring "Everyone Going Home Safe and Healthy Every Day."



## Message from the General Manager

Mike Bonneau

Looking back on 2011, I want to thank all of our Red Dog employees for working safely throughout the year. We worked 1.5 million man hours without a lost time incident, and achieved our lowest ever injury frequency rate. Our goal is still to be injury-free for 2012.



Between projects of tailings dam, water management, the IsaMill in its different phases and starting up our exploration projects, as you will read in this edition, our number of people employed at Red Dog was noteworthy for 2011.

We were 100.2% of total metal production plan for 2011. Thank you and congratulations to everyone who worked hard to achieve this target.

We completed renegotiation of the payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) agreement with the Northwest Arctic Borough in 2011. With Teck's focus on education, we want to ensure local schools are adequately funded. The agreement now includes a direct payment annually to the school district of \$2.4 million.

We look forward to 2012 as an opportunity to continue to work towards keeping our employees safe and healthy while conducting our business and contributing to the economies of our local and statewide communities as well as globally.

Happy New Year!

**Teck**

## Arctic Hurricane

James Hoyt



*Surge bin during "arctic hurricane" at the port*

On November 8 and 9, the Red Dog port site was caught in the middle of what was termed by national and statewide news as an "arctic hurricane." At full strength, the wind speed was approximately 70 knots, which is more than 100 miles per hour!

In the previous twenty-four hours, we experienced the deepest low-pressure system in at least ten years. This meant we would be getting a lot of snow. In preparation for the event, port site personnel went into consolidation mode. Material was brought indoors and what could not be moved was tightly battened down.

We secured the entire facility from all doors and windows and all possible weak points within all structures. We prepared ourselves to be properly equipped for a possible intense wind chill factor and zero visibility.

The first signs of the storm came with sudden ferocity as the wind socks strained straight out. The buildings rocked with a freight train whistling sound. Huge waves slammed the dock, causing overflow to reach beyond the well house area.

As it turned out, there were very few disruptions. Damage was minimal. The transport of ore from the mine to the port halted. Our big, beautiful "Courageous Safety Leadership" banner outside the shop wall is now gone. The tent covering the 800-foot long conveyor has large vertical tears. Probably the biggest disappointment for those who were scheduled to leave for their time off from work was that "fly-day" was cancelled.

We were safe and healthy to fly home the next morning. We are thankful for the Lord's blessing and great preparation by the port site crew, making this "arctic hurricane," oh, just another day in paradise!

## Port Road Status 2011



Port Road was in Green Status for 273.7 days, Yellow for 44.9 days and Red for 1.1 days. 45 days of data were not obtained. Green means open. Yellow means open to emergency and road maintenance and may or may not shut down concentrate hauls. Red status means a complete shut down.

NANA Lynden trucking company, which delivers zinc and lead concentrate from the mine to the port, was not running for 597 hours, equating to 24.8 days.

## How Do We Ensure Pit Wall Safety?

**Brent Bauman**

Our Mine Operations department continually monitors pit walls for possible geotechnical events. Golder & Associates provides on-site expertise in evaluating pit wall stability to predict and prevent all types of geotechnical events where one or more of the mine benches may fail due to weak rock, faults, water infiltration or other reasons.

Vigilant monitoring of prism data by mine operations personnel in advance of a geotechnical event has allowed for evacuation of the pit for safety of employees. In addition to this monitoring, strict safety protocols were put in place for the safety of all personnel working in the main pit.

*(continued on page 3)*

## Hard Work and Dedication Pays Off

Four years ago, in 2007, Kaleb Couse and Pete Lambert began their heavy equipment (HE) Mechanic Apprenticeships at Red Dog.

Each one invested a minimum of 8,000 hours of on-the-job training and 530 hours of class time. Kaleb and Pete both graduated in November 2011 with U.S. Department of Labor Office of Apprenticeship certificates of completion of apprenticeship as Journeymen Heavy Equipment Mechanics.

The class time combined with hands-on training under a supervisor, other journeyman or high-class apprentices makes for a successful program. Areas covered in training are hydraulics, electronics, engine performance, drive trains and transmission.

“You need both hands-on and class time for a successful program,” said Mike McCann, HE Mechanic Trainer (recently retired). “The program is deficient if you omit one or the other.”

Pete was Mike’s last graduating apprentice before his retirement on December 28. “Both Pete and Kaleb were model students,” stated Mike. “They stayed on schedule, were regular with their attendance, were alert in class and didn’t quit at any point in the process. They’re also good examples of their Iñupiaq heritage.



Pete Lambert



Kaleb Couse

They’re hard workers, intelligent and good people. They care for their communities and their families.”

HE General Foreman Mike Stout stated, “To their credit, they completed the training in a timely manner. We’re proud of them. They’re good hands.”

Congratulations, Pete and Kaleb!

### How Do We Ensure Pit Wall Safety? (continued from page 2)



Former Red Dog Mine Engineer Joel D’Cristina looking at geotechnical event area in the main pit in June 2011

Potentially hazardous zones are visually inspected daily. A spotter is used when prism data indicates movement above the warning thresholds in active mining areas. As always, all present and future mining operations in the main pit will only be carried out when the pit walls are stable enough for operations to continue safely.

Since Golder’s initial support, Teck has hired an additional geotechnical geologist to work with Golder to provide continuous onsite monitoring and geological evaluations of the mine pit walls. With the completion of the main pit, the geotechnical efforts do not stop. Geotechnical work will be ongoing at Aqqaluk by planning for the future to protect our Red Dog workers.

### Fugitive Dust Risk Management Plan Update

Rebecca Hager

The Risk Management Plan that you read about in the Q2 Suvisi is still in progress. Currently, four of the six

implementation plans are complete and available for review on Red Dog’s website (<http://www.reddogalaska.com>) in the “Fugitive Dust” section of the site. The plans describe our current programs in detail and should answer any questions you have about our efforts to protect workers, the ecosystem and the local communities from fugitive dust impacts.

## What's your Idea?

Ed Chung

The Building Excellence at Red Dog (BEAR) process allows for employees to come up with ideas on how to improve their work environments and be more productive. Good ideas are identified by an idea generating session (IGS) or by an individual's observations and personal experience. An idea owner is someone who takes ownership in implementing an idea. A successful idea owner is someone who works in the area and has a vested interest in the idea's outcome. With assistance from his or her supervisor and the BEAR team, the idea owner completes an idea form that describes the situation, complications and benefit for our key performance indicators.

Flotation Operator Mike Garrett, Mill Operator, noticed the lack of shutdown and startup checklists at Red Dog. Mike approached his supervisor and the BEAR team with his checklist to help ensure that mill operators don't overlook or miss any critical procedural steps.

The most underrated idea form component is the action plan, outlining the idea from infancy to completion. An action plan is important because it assigns actions, reinforces accountability, identifies potential obstacles and breaks big problems into smaller, manageable ones. Key stakeholders and the department superintendent review the idea form and, if all are in agreement, sign off to provide support and resources for the idea and strategies. The idea owner and a BEAR team member will then regularly meet to complete idea owner reviews, where actions leading to idea completion are identified and assigned.

If you have an idea and you want to make a contribution like Mike Garrett's, please contact a BEAR team member to initiate the idea process.



Mike Garrett, Mill Operator

## *Nakuulluni Ukiutqiuqisi* Happy New Year! Let's Start it Right!

Jim Somers

In this new year, I encourage you to make a pledge to get your personal health and wellness program on track. Our friendly and professional wellness consultant, Chris Newans, from WIN for Alaska Inc. is here at Red Dog to help you accomplish this.

WIN for Alaska Inc. has added more individualized health planning (IHP) sessions during the month of January to accommodate Red Dog employees who may want to make their personal health and wellness part of their New Year's resolutions.

The IHP sessions are held onsite at both the mine and port PACs and, with your supervisor's consent, employees can attend their initial session during work time. The time commitment is minimal, roughly 30 minutes a month for six months. As with all of Teck's health and wellness benefit programs, no personal information is shared with Teck and sessions are completely confidential.

This extension is for the month of January only. Once these additional sessions have been filled, registration for the IHP program will not come around again until October 2012.

I strongly encourage anyone interested in focusing on their personal nutrition, stress reduction, heart health, weight management, athletic performance or overall health to enroll in the IHP program and start the year off on the right foot.

Go to [www.teckhealthinaction.com](http://www.teckhealthinaction.com) to learn more about the IHP program and WIN for Alaska, and to sign up for your individualized health planning sessions.

If I can do it, anyone can do it. And remember... Everyone Going Home Safe and Healthy Every Day.



PAA River Construction workers at the completion of the civil construction phase of the IsaMill project

## Red Dog 2011 Employment Boost

Red Dog employed over 1,030 employees at one time at its peak in the summer of 2011! This includes Teck and contractors NANA Management Services, NANA Lynden, NANA Construction, PAA River and Connor's Drilling. Other contractors for the year totaled 740 employed!

## Easy Ways to Help Save Energy

Jeff Clark

*"We are a catalyst for introducing new energy and management systems that make a positive contribution to society's efficient use of energy."* Teck 2010 Sustainability Review

How can the average employee at Red Dog help to fulfill the corporate energy vision? All of us can be conservative in our energy use. Simple things make a difference, such as turning off the lights in your personal accommodation center (PAC) room or office or not letting equipment idle longer than necessary. One of the best ways to help is to keep PAC windows closed in the winter.

Most of the heat needed to heat the PAC and our hot water comes from waste heat from our large generators. Since we burn diesel fuel to power the generators for electricity, this waste heat is essentially free. The waste heat is captured and supplied to the PAC air handling systems by the silver-colored, insulated pipes you see in the utilidoors.

The air-handling units in the PAC take in some fresh, filtered air from outside and mix it with recycled air from within the buildings and heat the air by passing it through radiators containing the hot glycol from the powerhouse. The hot air is then transported by ductwork to your rooms. The air-handling system is designed to provide positive pressure to the building so that cold air doesn't leak into the building.



*Help conserve energy this winter by keeping PAC windows closed and minimize the use of baseboard heaters when you aren't in your room.*

This means that those of you who think you are cooling your rooms by opening the windows will be disappointed to know that all you are doing is letting warm air out of your rooms to be replaced by more warm air from the ductwork. If you look at the picture, you can see how warm air blowing out of these open windows in the PAC has melted the snow outside the windows.

When the baseboard electric heater in a PAC room is turned on, additional electricity is used, adding to the load on the generators, causing the powerhouse to burn more diesel fuel. With the window open and the baseboard heater on, we are throwing away the free heat plus the additional heat created by the baseboard heater.

## Ken Ahrens, Mill General Foreman, Gains Skills From BEAR Experience

Lee Frasl

Building Excellence at Red Dog (BEAR) exists to bridge the gap between people's improvement ideas and actual change. Former BEAR team member Ken Ahrens began his career at Red Dog Operations in August 2003 as a Mill Operator and then worked as a Reliability Centered Maintenance Technician. He joined the BEAR team in September 2008 and returned to Mill Operations in June 2010.

**(Lee)** What is your current role in the Mill Operations Department?

**(Ken)** I joined the BEAR team in September 2008 as a Business Improvement Analyst, was promoted to Business Improvement Facilitator in October 2009 and then to Mill General Foreman in June of 2010.

**(Lee)** Did your involvement in BEAR help prepare you for your new assignment and, if so, how?

**(Ken)** It absolutely helped me. I was able to work closely with employees in a number of different departments while analyzing



*Ken Ahrens interacting with Buckland residents during Red Dog's annual update village visit*

*(continued on page 6)*

## After 21 Years, Mike McCann Retires



*Mike McCann (center) at his farewell gathering on December 28th with Dorian Skin, HE Mechanic Apprentice (left), and Pete Lambert, HE Mechanic (right)*

*"The best things about Red Dog are the friendships and the food! I will miss them both."*

Mike McCann first arrived at Red Dog in the fall of 1990 as a Heavy Equipment Operator with contractor AIC to work on the liner project to separate Red Dog Creek from the ore. When he arrived by bus at the brand new main camp and personal accommodation center (PAC) at the mine site, he said he thought he "had died and gone to heaven, it was so nice". Much to his dismay, he was then transported down the road to the construction camp, a tent camp.

"It was still nice for canvas tents with wooden frames, plywood floors and central heating," he said. But it wasn't the PAC. His schedule was eight weeks on and two weeks off at the time. When the creek job was completed, he went to Prudhoe Bay for a few months before AIC brought him back to Red Dog in the spring of 1991 on a crew of about 20 to work on the tailings dam lift.

In March of 1992, Mike was hired by Cominco as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic, where he spent a couple of years at the port. He acquired his degree in electronics while at the port

site and then relocated to the mine site. In 2000, he took on the position of Heavy Equipment Mechanic Trainer, a position he held until his last day at Red Dog on December 28, 2011.

"He was a very patient and innovative trainer," said Mike Skeeters, Mechanical Maintenance Trainer. Mike Stout, HE General Foreman said, "Mike was instrumental in reviving and bringing the apprentice program back on track. He had a huge impact across the property in his business as trainer, not just in the apprentice program. He will be missed."

"Every mechanic has to have a shop", said McCann when asked what retirement looks like for him. "Of course, you gotta have a house for the wife, though I don't understand why she won't live in the shop. I really look forward to spending time with all my grandchildren. I'm getting the required training for a ham radio operator's license. I also plan to learn to fly and build an airplane in my new shop!"

We will all miss Mike and we wish him an adventuresome and happy retirement!

### Ken Ahrens, Gains Skills From Bear Experience (continued from page 5)

data and facilitating improvements. I was able to grow my skills working with a team to more effectively create and modify process management concepts.

**(Lee)** Has your involvement in the BEAR process changed how you work with other groups?

**(Ken)** It helped me to keep an open mind, remembering that everyone involved is part of the whole.

**(Lee)** What tools that you learned while with the BEAR team do you continue to use today?

**(Ken)** Primarily, I use the tools that involve working with people, such as communications, the ability to ask good questions and team building. This includes prioritization of work, troubleshooting and root cause analysis.

**(Lee)** What would you like to see next from the BEAR team?

**(Ken)** I would like to see more front-line supervisors and tradespeople go through the BEAR experience.

## Aqqaluk Deposit

Discovered: 1995

Discovery team: Mark Cox, Jim Kulas, Tom Krolak, Andy Buddington, Madelyn Millholland, Gary Coulter, Matt Warner, Vickie Clark, Stacy Sandvik

General Manager:  
Ralph Hargrave, Cominco

Name origin: Originally called the "north extension," referring to its location immediately north from the main deposit, and named "Aqqaluk" in 1995 after Robert Aqqaluk Newlin, Sr., an Iñupiaq leader of the Northwest Arctic Region.

Aerial extent: Covers approximately 127 acres, 3,000' N to S and 2,500' E to W; bottom will be 450' below Red Dog Creek (based on current planned pit)

Size of deposit: Approximately 55.7 million tonnes of 15.5% Zn and 4.0% Pb



## Local Youth Benefit from Trip to Red Dog

### Leslie Ahvakana

Red Dog participates with the Northwest Arctic Borough School District to introduce young people from the regional school system to the world of work. Students enjoy an overnight stay in our adult workplace and have social interactions with a variety of employees from several different occupational areas. The School-to-Work Program offers Career Awareness for freshman and sophomores and Job Shadow for juniors and seniors. Career Awareness is a basic introduction to the whole idea of work; Job Shadow is a one-to-one job experience between the student and an employee.

We will begin 2012 with our Career Awareness – School-to-Work Program. High school students from the region will come

to Red Dog for three days to learn about the different career opportunities offered by Teck Alaska Inc.

On the first day, students become familiarized with living arrangements, take a tour of the personal accommodation center (PAC) and go through a presentation on what to expect while at Red Dog. On day two, students receive department presentations on what is required for each job as far as training and education and take tours through the mill and mine pit. On the final day, students give presentations and an overview of their whole experience, followed by a discussion.

Most job opportunities at Red Dog require previous experience and/or specific knowledge or training. For information regarding scholarships, please email [alaska.scholarships@teck.com](mailto:alaska.scholarships@teck.com) or call 907-426-9291.

## Northern Exposures: Red Dog Photo Contest Results

Lorraine Ambrosio

The Recreation Committee has had great support for the Red Dog Photo Contest since it began in 2007. In the first year, 175 pictures were submitted and, since then, more than 600 photos by more than 100 Red Dog participants have been submitted. Entries are judged on the basis of creativity and photographic quality. We are very fortunate to have two very experienced and knowledgeable photographers, W. Otto Kraus IV and James (Jim) Stewart, serve as judges. They have done an excellent job. The

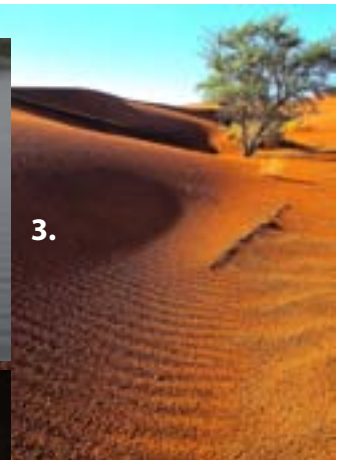
Recreation Committee offers prizes for the overall winner - \$300 - and category winners - \$100 each. This year, a new category was added, "Urbanscape," which now gives us seven categories, with one being "Red Dog – Our Community" for anything to do with the Red Dog Mine and its community as the subject. Each year, we print, frame and post the pictures in the PAC dining room and display all digital photos in the lobby area.



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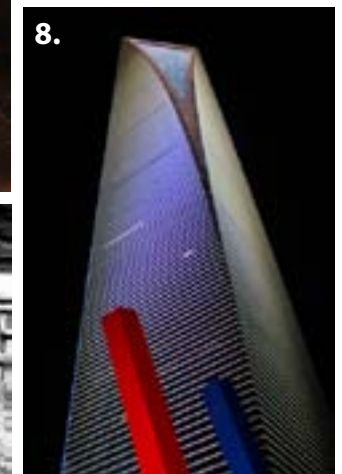
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8.

**1. OVERALL WINNER:** "Tropical Sunset" by Brigitte Lacouture. Colorful sunset over the Celebes Sea from Mabul island in Malaysian Borneo. **2. PEOPLE:** "A Moment of Reflection" by Sean Forrester. My picture was taken near the upper Susitna River in a lake earlier this year. The picture is of my wife's best friend, Jan, and her two-year-old son. The story is that Jan was the one who never thought she would become a mother because she just didn't see it in her future. So when I saw her sitting on the rock, and having spent time with her and her son, I saw what a great mother she was and thought about one's reflections on life and how you never know what life will bring. When you take that moment to reflect, you realize all that you have gained and all that you have to lose. Jan and her family now live in Japan. They survived the tsunami that happened last year and this picture was one of the few that she was able to salvage from the destruction of their home. **3. NATURE, LANDSCAPE or SEASCAPE:** "Desert Reflections" by

Brigitte Lacouture. Interesting light reflections on a morning hike near Sossusvlei in the famous Namib Desert in Namibia. **4. OPEN:** "Papyrus Flowers" by Brigitte Lacouture. While taking a boat tour in the Okavango Panhandle in Botswana, I spotted some interesting Papyrus flowers. **5. ANIMALS:** "Street Light Pelicans" by Brigitte Lacouture. Some great white pelicans were resting on street lights in the town of Swakopmund in Namibia. **6. RED DOG – OUR COMMUNITY:** "It's Dark Down Here" by Brian Hall **7. BLACK & WHITE:** "Abundances" by Hui Li. Villages along the Kobuk River are rich in natural resources, as seen in this photo of whitefish hanging to dry in late August in the village of Shungnak. **8. URBANSCAPE:** "Shanghai World Financial Center" by Joe Neumann. Looking up at the Shanghai World Financial Center super skyscraper in China. Atop the 1,555-foot blue triangle building is the highest observation deck in the world. You can feel the building move when you're on top!



# Photos Page — 2011 in Review



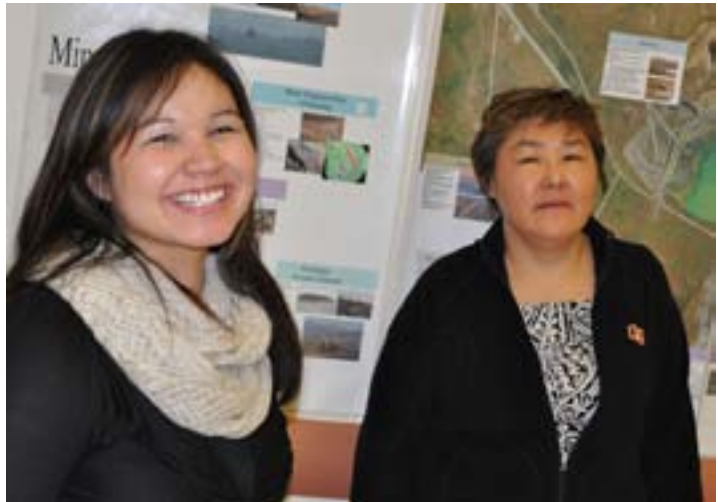
2011 Iditarod Champion John Baker with former Red Dog Public Relations Manager Jim Kulas at the finish line in Nome



Verna Westlake, talking about Red Dog to 5th grade Minor Miners of Bear Valley Elementary at the Alaska Miners Association Convention and Trade Show in Anchorage in November 2011



Aftermath of a major storm in February that left behind 16.7 inches of snow at Red Dog in a two day period. Wind gusts of 83 mph resulted in drifts 20-feet deep.



Marquita George, Port Operator, and Carrie Porter, Mine Clerk, at the Kotzebue Red Dog annual update



Wayne Hall, Manager, Community and Public Relations, having a fun time with Buckland youth during the annual update meeting

(continued on page 10)

Photos Page — 2011 in Review (continued from page 9)



Alta Horst, HE Operator in a 992 loader



Mine Crew at work: 993 loader dumping ore into a 777 haul truck



Red Dog Team, Brent Baumann, Norm Paley, Matt Westlake, Kiana School Principal Scott Warren, Verna Westlake, Kaylee Reich, Christina Clark, Fritz Westlake and Joe Warner talking to students in a classroom during a Kiana village meeting



Mark Smith, Mine Department Superintendent visiting with Kiana resident

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Suvisi (Sü-vĩ-see) in the  
 Iñupiaq language means,  
 "What are you people doing?"

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