**PRESS RELEASE**

New wear survey and wear mapping service minimises downtime costs

***6 October, 2015:*** *Industrial operations can improve efficiencies related to total cost of ownership of wear protection systems, by making use of Rio-Carb’s cost and obligation-free wear survey and wear mapping service offering.*

The service was officially launched in August 2015, and is a proactive solution to the costly and time-consuming effects that unforeseen wear can have on all liners and pipes carrying abrasive materials. Rio-Carb product development manager **Luis Garcia** reveals that the company is able to produce a wear map, which reveals the greatest wear areas on materials handling equipment, by using advanced ultrasonic equipment that is operated by staff that are qualified in chute draughting.

“This can result in huge savings for customers, as areas of less wear may not require replacement. The thickness measurements are carried out to the nearest 0.1 mm, and the areas are zoned by permanent marking, thereby ensuring that subsequent replacement checks can be reliably predicted. We are also able to estimate when and where our Chromium Carbide (CrC) liners should be installed by identifying the sharp-end of the wear system,” he explains.

Garcia says that this service is also of great importance when planning shut-downs for maintenance. “A costly industry trend is to wait for a hole to appear in the chute before replacing the entire liner. This only leads to increased downtime and more liner material being used. A monthly calculation of wear loss on each wear plate enables us to calculate the most suitable times for replacement.”

The wear survey and wear mapping service is available to operations in the mining and allied resources industries. Garcia notes that it has been trialled at a South African coal mining operation since July 2015, with positive results. “The encouraging feedback prompted us to go live with this offering, which also enables us to improve our turnaround times and efficiency, by better preparing for future supply and demand, based on strategic calculations undertaken on site,” he concludes.

To find out more about the wear survey and wear mapping service offering, contact Rio-Carb on (011) 908 1014, email info@riocarb.co.za or visit [www.riocarb.co.za](http://www.riocarb.co.za)

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**Notes to the Editor**To download hi-res images for this release, please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za> and click the Rio-Carb link to view the company’s press office.

**About Rio-Carb**Rio-Carb manufactures wear-resistant Chromium Carbide (CrC) clad liner plates for heavy materials-handling applications in the mining and allied resources industries. With more than 30 years of experience, the company’s long-life CrC liners have 8 to 10 times the wear life of industry-standard 400 and 500 BHN steel materials, which dramatically reduces operational costs as a result of less downtime and change-outs. Rio-Carb has a deep-rooted history in mining, and is able to swiftly respond to customers' needs in providing cost-effective solutions.

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