**PRESS RELEASE**

Unique Linerless dust extraction ducting system installed at a cement producer

***29 May, 2014:*** *Top liner plate expert Rio-Carb recently completed a unique Chromium Carbide (CrC) linerless dust extraction ducting system at a cement manufacturing plant, which was experiencing excessive wear.*

Rio-Carb Director, **Colin Maine,** notes that the project required re-designing the dust extraction ducting system in order to overcome the problems caused by wear. "Rio-Carb manufactured a 6 mm CrC liner on the outside of the bend where the wear was severe," he explains.

The inside of the bend component was left as mild steel in order to save costs, as no wear or damage was experienced on this section. "Our unique production methods enabled us to make the mild steel in hybrid with the CrC. Both materials complimented each other in this application,” he adds.

Maine reveals that the project also required a linerless CrC duct too. "CrC is used for linerless products as it can be welded, rolled, bent, and manipulated easier than 400 or 500 material. The advantages of a CrC duct is that the customer saves on weight, as well as downtime and cost."

Maine points out that the CrC chute offers the customer many advantages. "CrC is recyclable, therefore making the product environmentally friendly. Liners like these made out of inferior materials comprise of at least 70 percent iron. The CrC liners are longer lasting than these liners."

A normal liner will require replacing eight times more often than a CrC liner. This means that CrC liners result in an eighth of the scrap iron generated by normal liners. In addition to reducing downtime and repairs, it also generates ISO 14000 'Green Points'.

Due to the large scale of the project, Rio-Carb faced several unique challenges in terms of assembly and design, as well as handling and manipulating while welding and finishing the installation. "In addition, specialised transport was required in order to deliver the various parts required to complete the project," adds Maine. "All welding was in accordance with American Welding Society (AWS) standards."

The project was completed within the required two week turnaround time for the plant shutdown. Maine points out that there were several aspects involved in the project which allowed for timely completion. “The project team consisted of eight elements ranging from design work, assembly, boiler making and quality control.”

Maine observes that the project would not have been possible without Rio-Carb’s new and larger facility. “This project has proved that there is no limit to what Rio-Carb can achieve with this new facility, which has opened new doors for the company. As a result, we are currently busy with a similar project for a linerless chute for a sinter plant,” he concludes.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit <http://media.ngage.co.za> and click the Rio-Carb link.

**About Rio-Carb**Rio-Carb manufactures wear-resistant Chromium Carbide clad liner plates for heavy materials handling applications in the mining and allied resources industries. The company was initially motivated by Martin Maine, who had experience in the welding and manufacturing industries. He was importing the current product from Australia, and saw the opportunity to establish local manufacture in 1982, when Rio-Tinto had ambitions to establish manufacturing companies allied to mining, and therefore, financed and capitalised the new Rio-Carb for local manufacture. After being in the Rio-Tinto (SA) stable for 16 years, there was a management buy-out by the existing and current share-holders.

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