

Case Study.  
Global Gold Miner.  
North Africa.  
Mining.

## Gold Miner Reduces Costs and Builds Continuous Improvement Capability

### Challenge

A global gold miner faced profitability pressures at a remote North African open-pit gold mine. A combination of falling gold prices and rising operating costs threatened the mine's operating model, eroding the business case and feasibility of a planned expansion. The mine needed to improve costs and productivity to drive unit cost reductions. The short-term focus was a cost reduction process supported by a pipeline of cost reduction opportunities across all departments. The longer-term aim was to build internal continuous improvement capabilities to sustain improvements and identify new opportunities.

### Solution

dss+ introduced proven continuous improvement tools to deliver both productivity improvements and cost reductions; and coached the mine's operations and CI roles to deliver and sustain the process and drive further upgrades. Focus areas included:

- Identifying and executing 27 cost reduction and productivity initiatives (mining, maintenance, processing, site services)
- Refining the management operating systems to improve accountability and delivery of results
- Enhanced cost management disciplines to reduce discretionary spend
- Debottlenecking the Carbon in Leach (CiL) circuits to maintain production despite an aging crusher system and lower quality feed



### Assignment

Reduce unit cost and build capability to achieve continuous improvements.



### Offering

Operational Excellence.

Unit cost reduction, Productivity Enhancement & Continuous Improvement Capability Building.

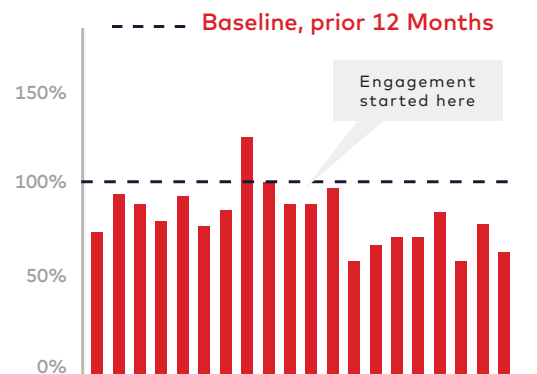


### Impact

32% reduction in mining cost/oz within 12 months.

\$114 million of cost reduction opportunities identified, of which \$65 million have.

35% reduction in number of contractors required on site.



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