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## Diamond Resource Reconciliation In a Mature Black Cave

SAMREC/SAMVAL Companion Volume Conference

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**Petra**Diamonds



# Presentation Outline



- Introduction
- Mining Block Layout
- Reconciliation Process
  - Survey Reconciliation
  - Draw Control Reconciliation
  - Depletion model calibration
- Resource Classification
  - Use of Confidence Intervals
- Conclusion



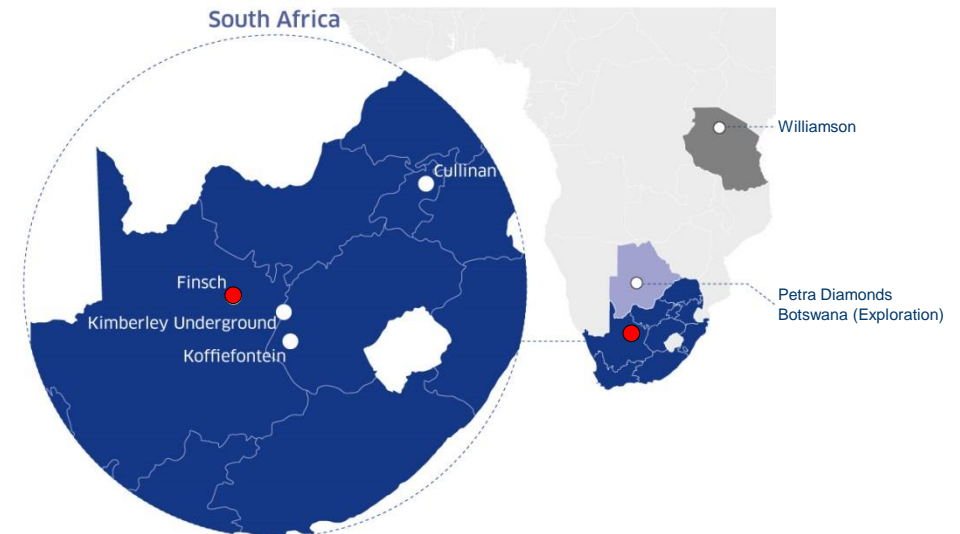
# Finsch Mine Overview



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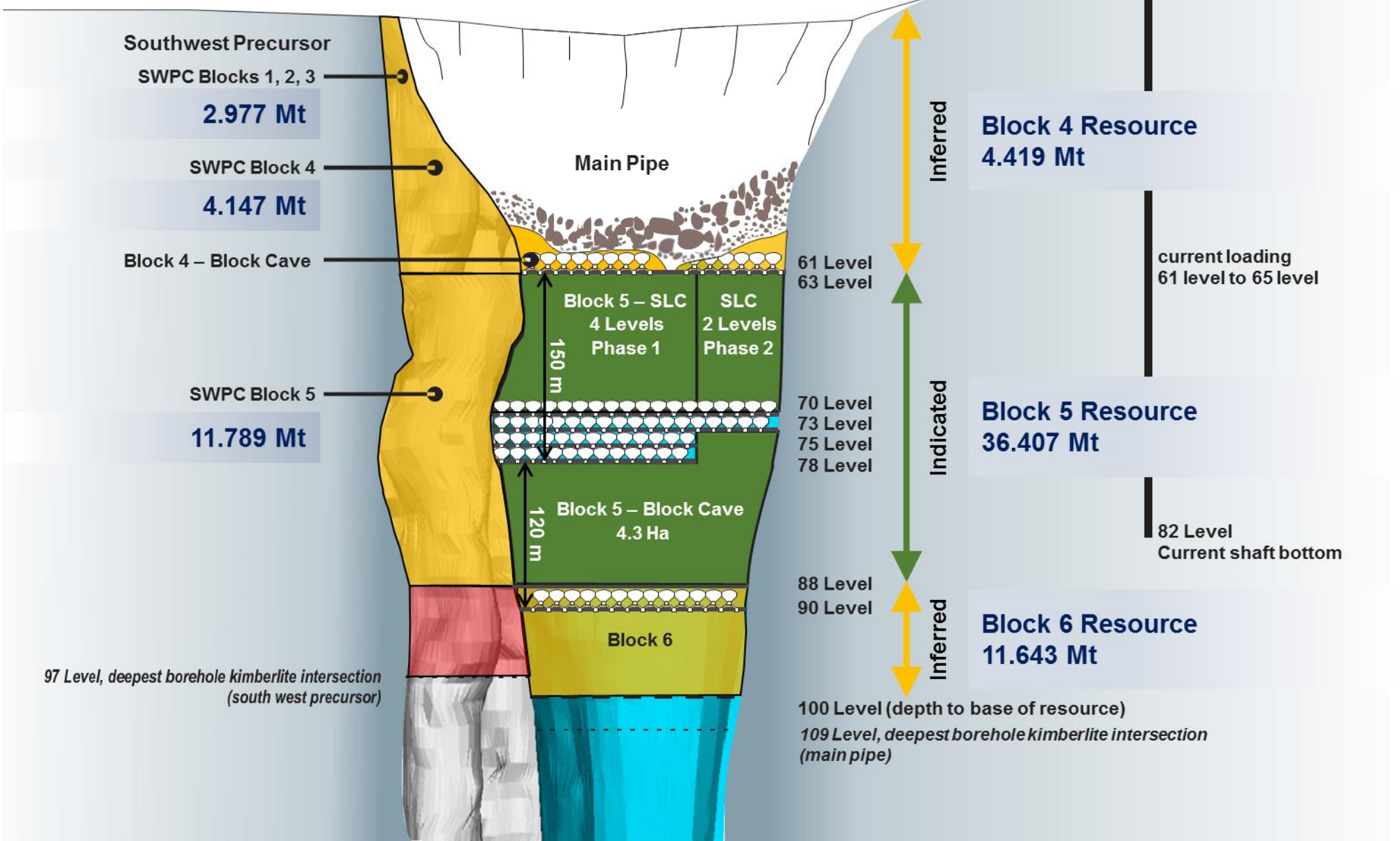


- South Africa's second largest diamond mine by production
- World-class operation with best-in-class infrastructure and modern plant
- Produced 126 Mct in its 40+ year life
- Average production of ca. 2 Mct per annum over last 5 years
- Current production from underground (Block Cave & Sublevel Cave)
- Major Probable Reserve of 25.66 Mct





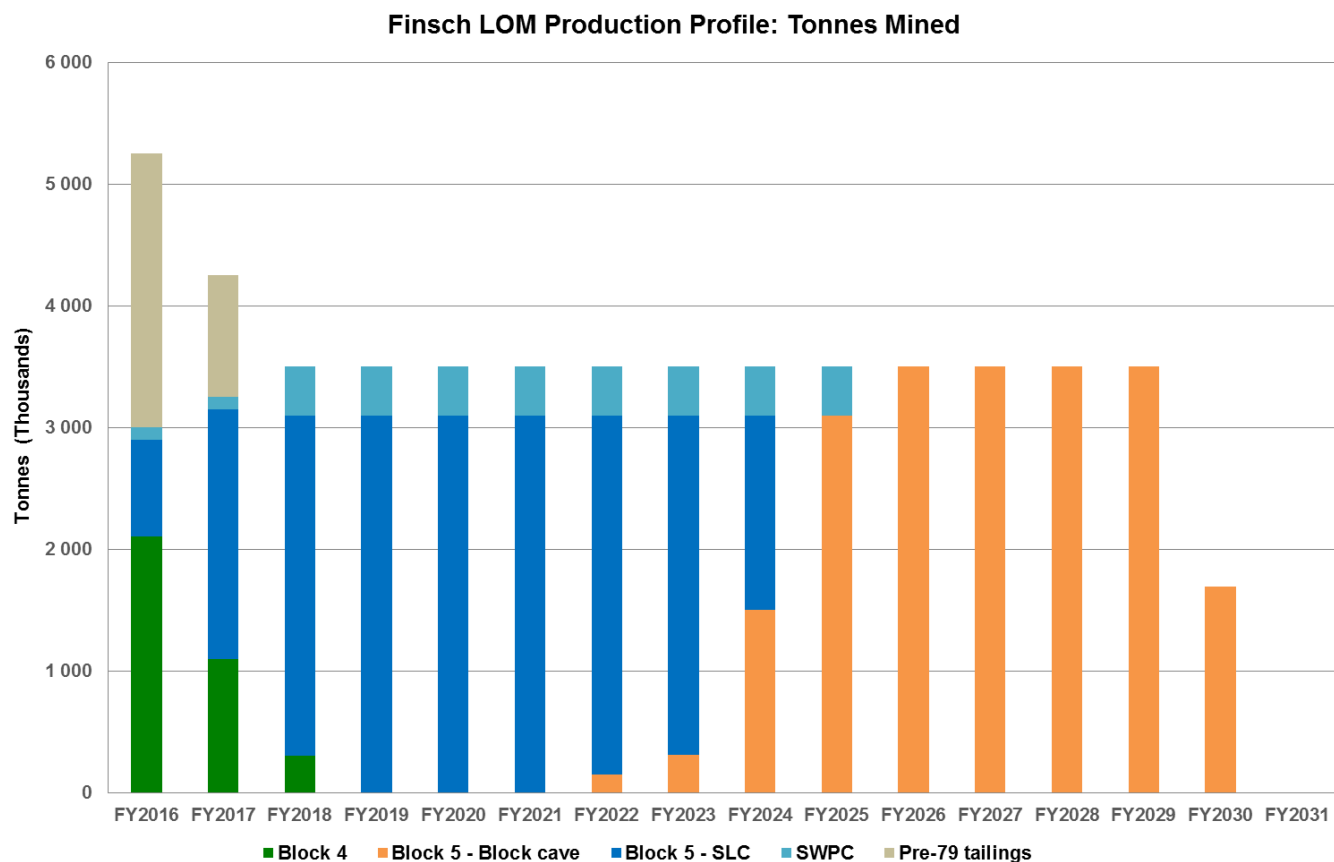
# Mining Block Layout



# Life of Mine Production Profile



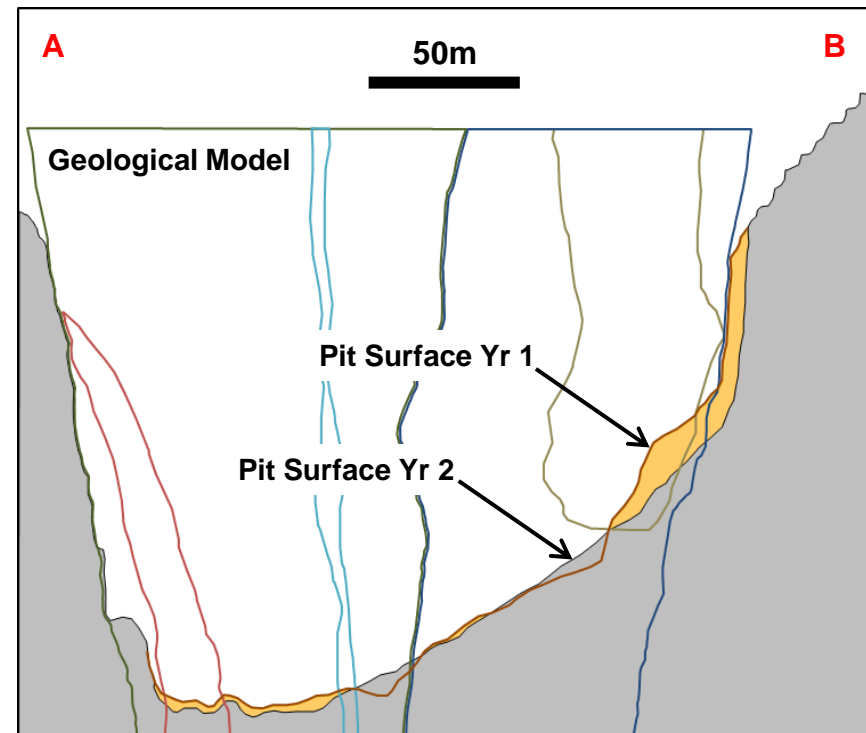
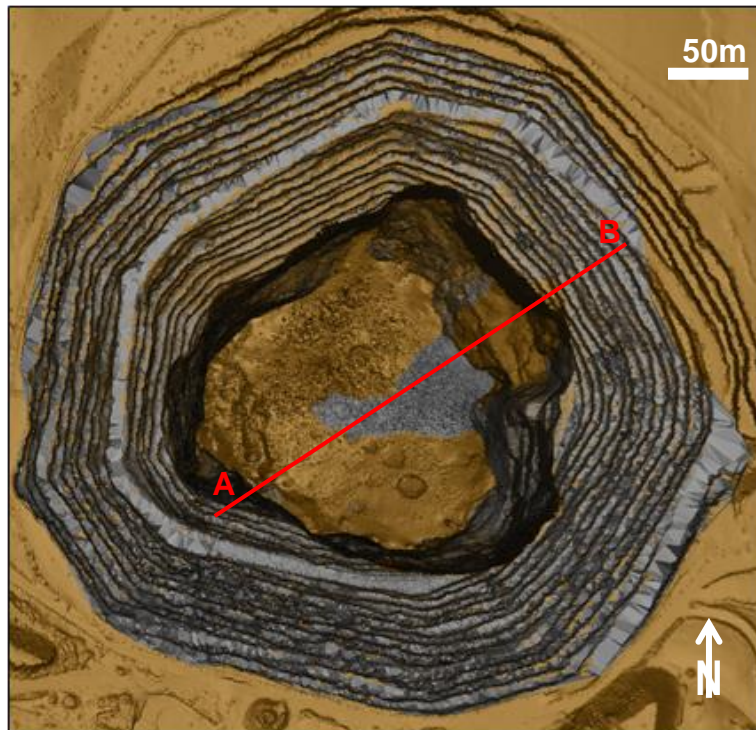
- Current production from mature block cave (Block 4)
- Sublevel cave (Block 5) infrastructure and ore development being established
- Underground production to ramp up to 3.5 Mt per annum
- Life of mine plan extends to 2030 and includes Block 5 below current SLC



# Survey Reconciliation



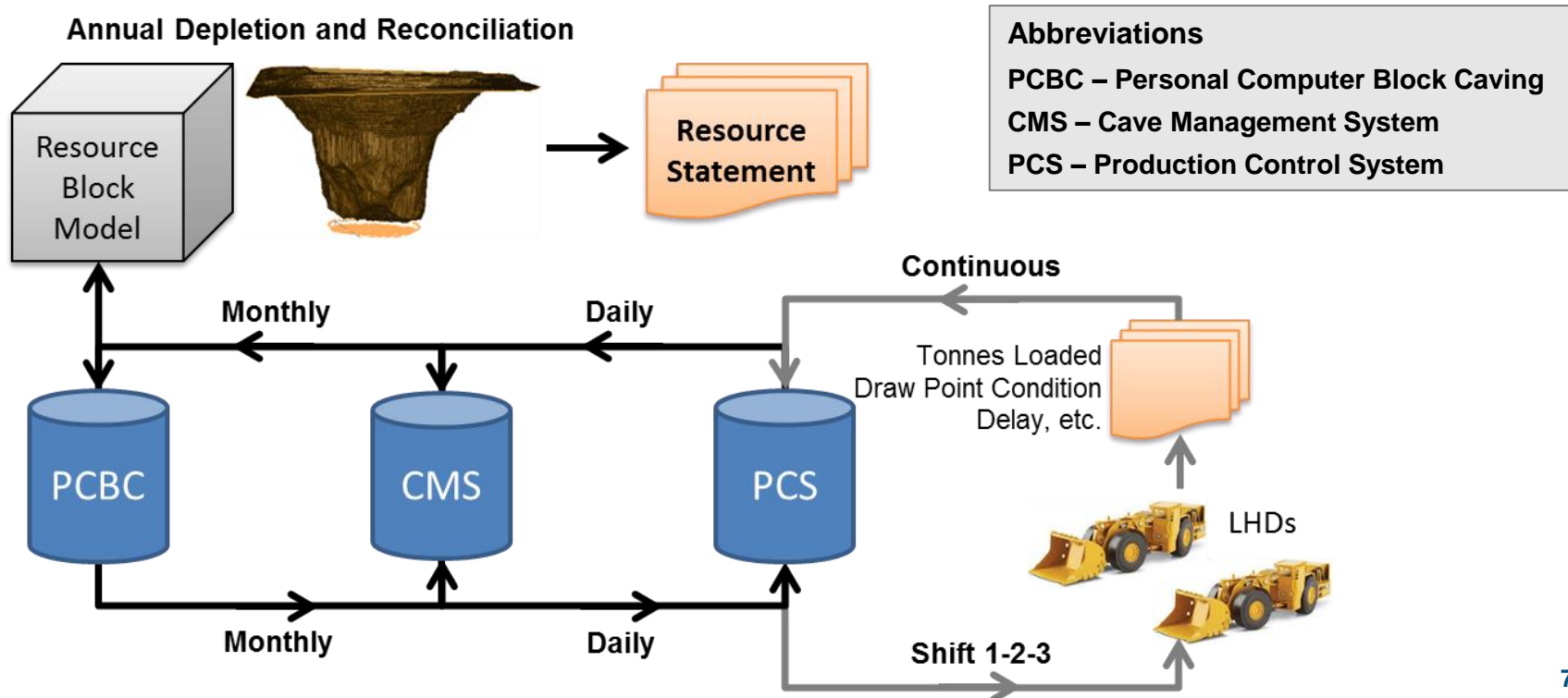
- Lidar pit scans utilised to quantify pit sidewall failures
- Provides accurate measure of material movement at pit bottom (*broken pot*)
- Volume depletion from the 3D geological model allows accurate relocation of failed material from the upper blocks to the broken pot at pit bottom for each facies
- Historically failure material included as homogenous layer of ore & waste at pit bottom
- Failed material will mix with Block 4 ore and report to the block cave draw points



# Draw Control System (Depletion)



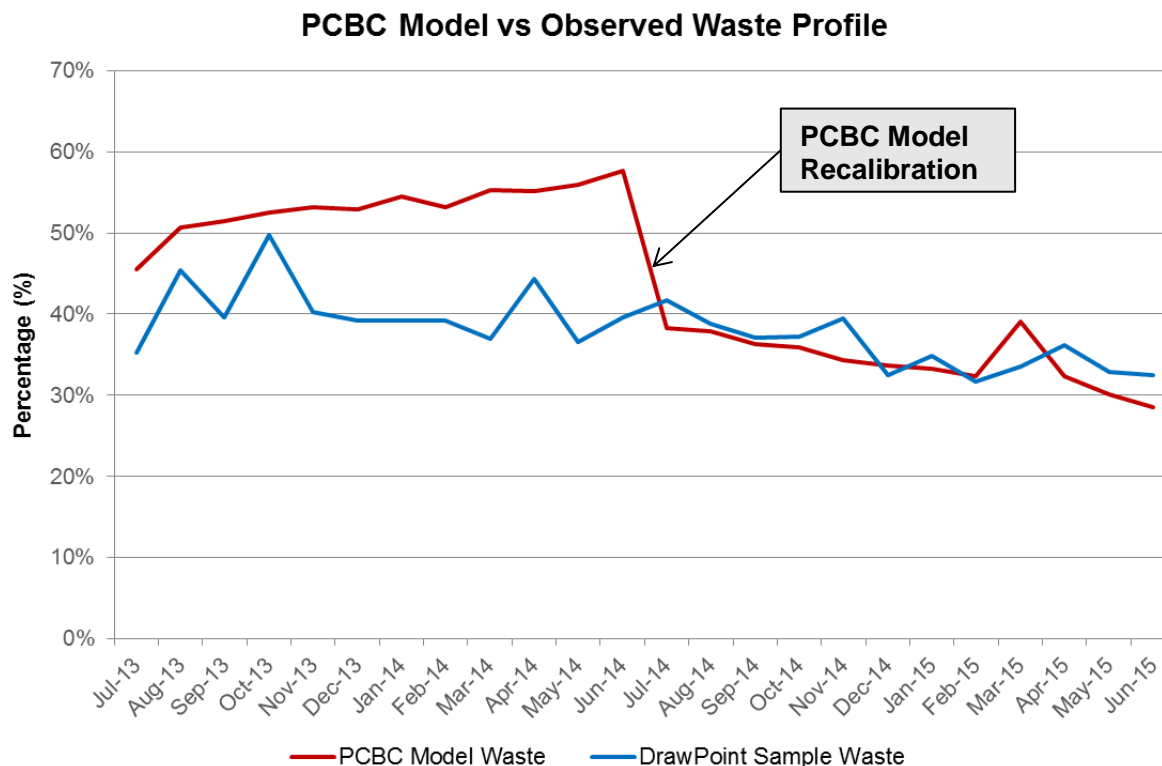
- Planning, scheduling & depletion managed through integrated draw control system
- PCBC applies caving and material mixing algorithms to the Resource model
  - Predicts material movement through the cave based on model constraints and depletion strategy
  - Produces LOM and monthly production schedule
  - Provides mined grade and material mix per draw point based on actual tonnes drawn



# PCBC Depletion Model Calibration



- Deviations between PCBC model predictions and actual observations started to occur mid-2013
  - Over-estimation of waste ingress, resulting in under-prediction of grade
  - Deterioration in spatial grade distribution information
- PCBC model recalibrated in order to:
  - Align predicted waste with visual observation
  - Align remnant pit material with survey reconciliation



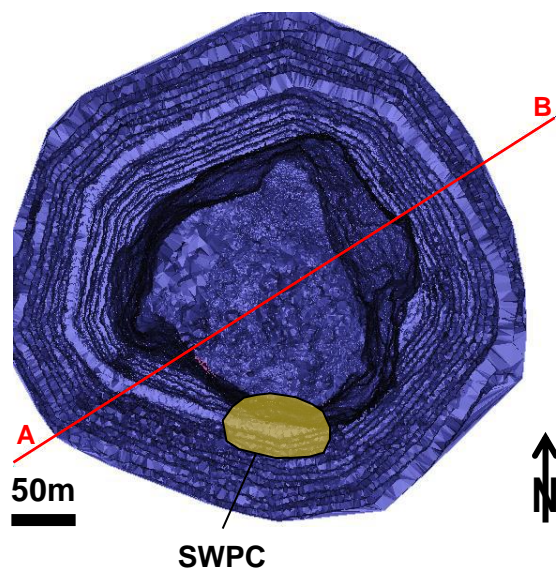


# PCBC Depletion Model Calibration

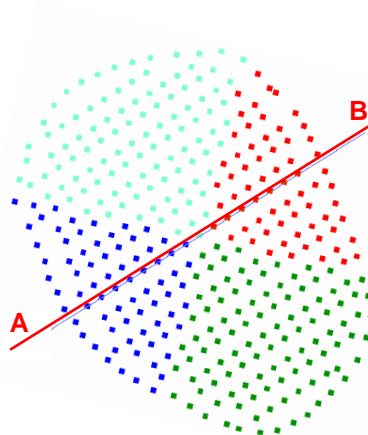


- Pit scan information showed more material at pit bottom than PCBC model predicted
- Pit divided into quadrants to improve accuracy of reconciliation of pit failure material
- Good agreement between actual and estimated pit bottom profiles obtained post calibration
- Improved accuracy of accounting for Precursor (Inferred Resource) failure material
- Depleted draw cones in the PCBC model immersed near the end of the life of the cave
- Required grade to be interpolated into infilled areas
- At this point (near 97% depletion) spatial distribution of grade and rock type bears little resemblance to the original Resource model

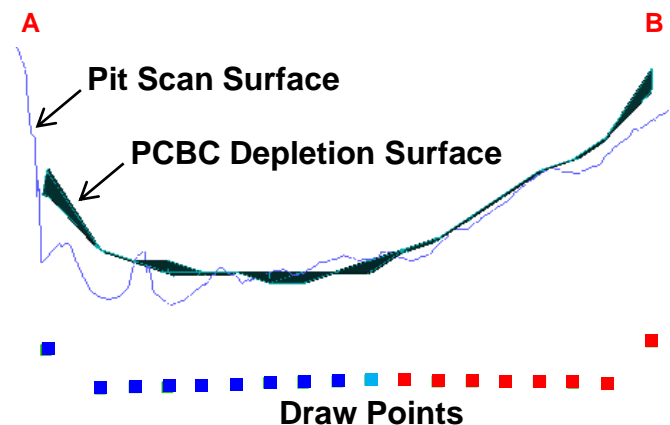
Pit Scan Surface



Draw point quadrants



Section

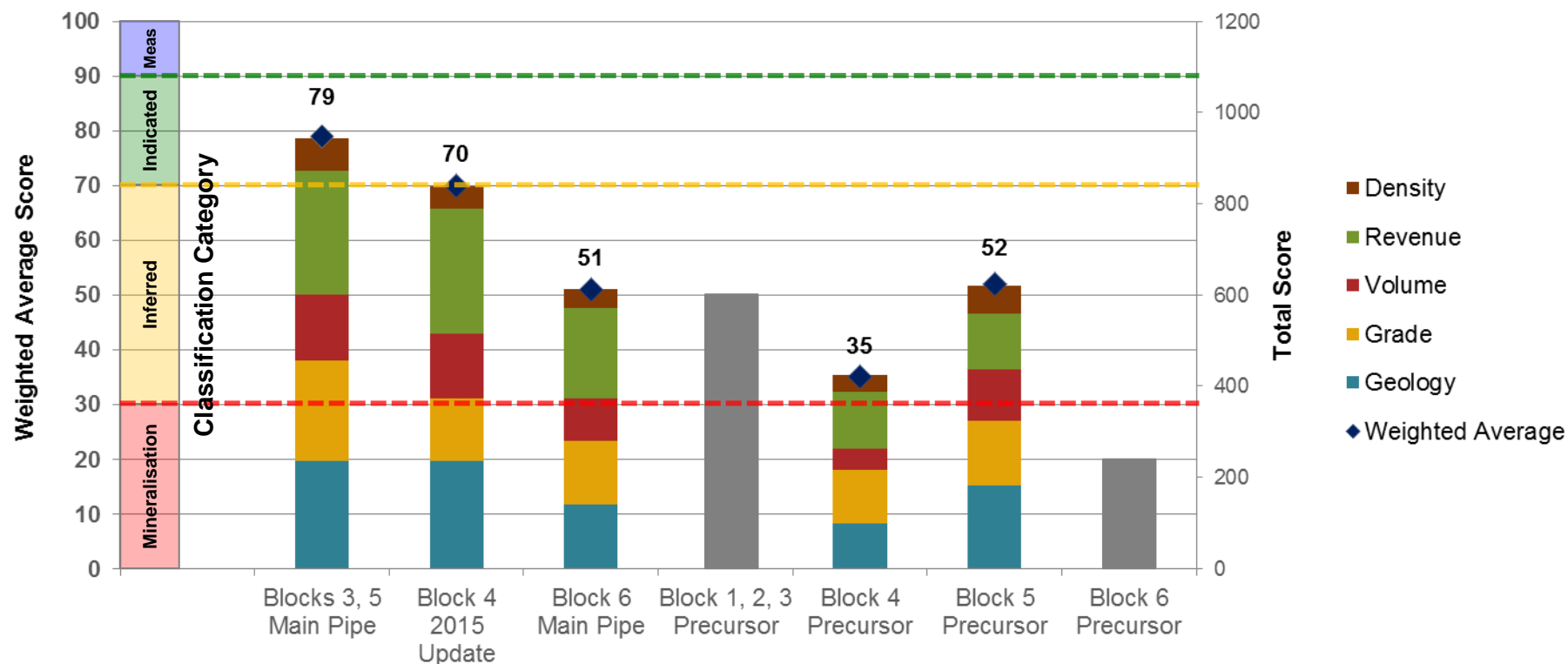


# Resource Classification



- Resources classified on a multiple scorecard system (5 Resource individual models)
- Relies on the quantity & quality of geoscientific information underpinning the estimate
- Problematic: Movement of the ore through a block cave can be predicted but not tracked accurately
- Block 4 classification reduced due to:
  - Reduced confidence in grade continuity
  - Inferred Resources (Precursors) included in pit bottom “broken pot”

Resource Classification



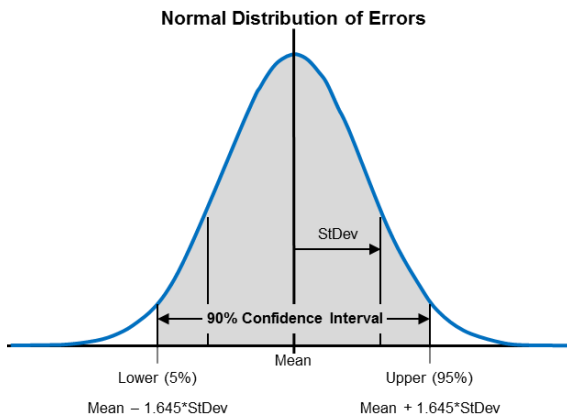
# Production Data & Confidence Intervals



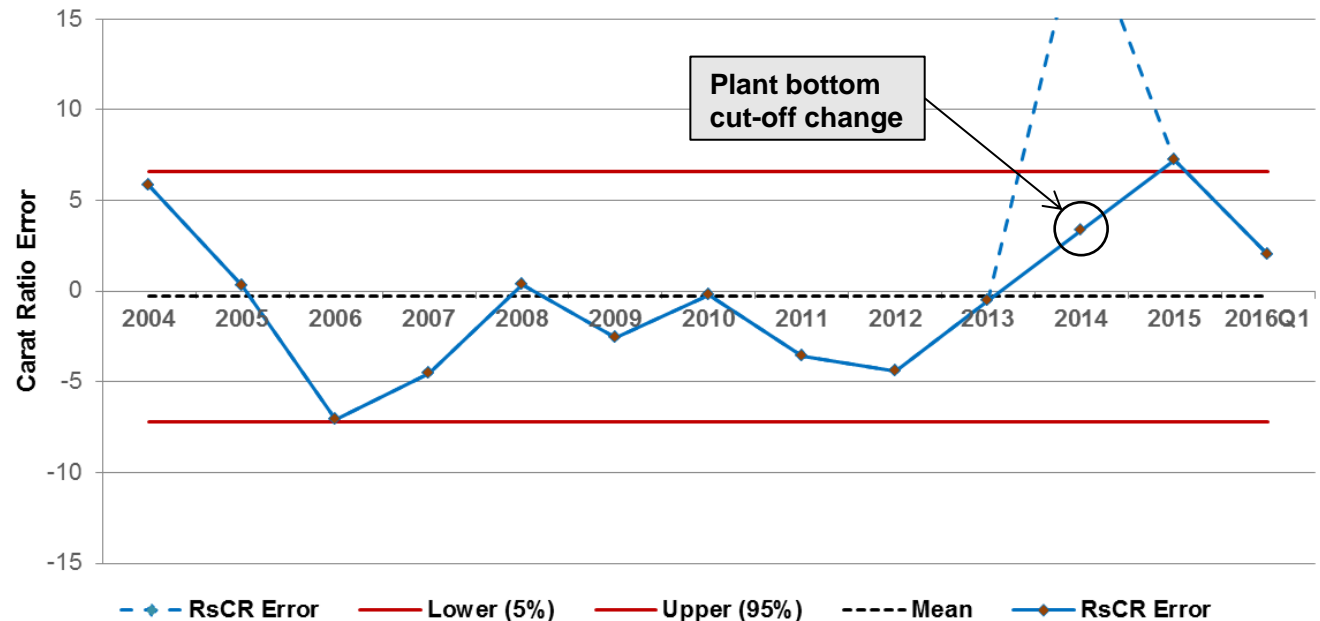
- Production data used to verify Resource confidence
- Resource carat ratio applied as measure of performance

$$RsCR_{err} = \frac{Actual\ ct - Expected\ ct}{Expected\ ct}$$

- Expected accuracy of Indicated Resource:
  - $\pm 15\%$  with 90% confidence on annual production periods



Corrected Resource Carat Ratio - Confidence Interval





# Conclusion



- Accurate Resource reconciliation paramount when block cave approaching end of life
- Mining method used during production can alter the original Resource estimate
- Current classification system reliant on the quality and spatiality of geoscientific information used in the original Resource estimate
- In specific circumstances, Resource classification systems should make provision for the inclusion of production results to verify the level of confidence in the Resource
- This is currently not strictly in accordance with the SAMREC code





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**Thank You**