

Sandvik Mining and Construction consolidates its production

Sandvik's Mining and Construction business area is closing its plant in Viriat, France at year-end 2000. The plant manufactures cemented-carbide tools for mining of coal and other soft minerals. The unit is part of Sandvik Mining and Construction's VA-Eimco business sector.

Operations are now being consolidated to the production units in Bristol, Virginia in the US and Johannesburg, South Africa. This results in reduced costs and increased capacity utilization in these plants that are closer to the customers.

The operations in Viriat have sales of about SEK 45 M and the number of employees is about 30 following successive cutbacks in recent years.

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Sandvik AB; (publ)

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Sandvik is a high-technology engineering group with advanced products and world-leading positions in selected niches - tools for metalworking, machinery and tools for rock excavation, stainless steel, special alloys and resistance heating materials and process systems. The Group has 34,000 employees at 300 companies in 130 countries, with annual sales of approximately SEK 40 billion.

Sandvik Mining and Construction is a business area within the Sandvik Group and a world-leading supplier of drilling and excavation machinery, equipment and tools for the mining and construction industries. Annual sales amount to about SEK 9,000 M, with slightly more than 6,000 employees. VA-Eimco is a business sector within Sandvik Mining and Construction that supplies products and services for mechanical rock excavation. Annual sales amount to about SEK 1,700 M, with approximately 1,300 employees.