

## Contractor's largest-ever African project

**H**atch South Africa's R2,5-billion share of the R8,462-billion Kumba Sishen South project will see the company being responsible for the engineering, procurement and construction management (EPCM) of the project's plant and stockyard areas, including design, process development, full engineering, procurement, construction management and project management.

Hatch project manager for Sishen South, Floyd Botha says that the mine will produce 9-million t of iron ore from this well-known deposit, which has been investigated since 1952, within months of its completion, which is scheduled for the first half of 2012. Located near Postmasberg in the Northern Cape, the new project, which includes a crushing and sizing plant, stockpiles and a rail-truck loading station, is 80 km south of the principal Sishen mine.

Hatch's area of responsibility regarding the plant starts at the feed point and runs through the entire plant (including the primary, secondary and tertiary crushing and screening of material), through the stockyard, into the load-out station and, finally, into the rail chase.

"With the first shipment of iron ore expected to leave Saldanha in 2012, the timely completion of Sishen South is vital. Hatch was involved in the original study of the overall project in 2007 and was awarded these sections of the project in 2008. While we have undertaken projects of this size globally, this is the first iron ore project of this magnitude that we have undertaken in South Africa," Botha comments. Completion is set for mid-2011.