



News release...

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Win-Win Native Title Agreement north of Perth

Western Australian mineral sands miner and titanium dioxide producer Tiwest has struck a win-win Native Title Agreement with Native Title Claimants north of Perth.

Under the agreement with the Yued people – claimants to the land where Tiwest's Falcon Lease is located (additional reserves to the Cooljarloo mine) – Tiwest will provide apprenticeships, traineeships, work experience, create business opportunities and help develop and deliver a cultural awareness program to Tiwest employees.

Tiwest says the agreement achieves the company's objectives of engaging stakeholders and assists the Yued community build their skills base.

General Manager Corporate Services at Tiwest, David Charles, described the agreement as a landmark in Native Title Agreements.

"Tiwest and the Yued people wanted to establish a new benchmark, and I believe we did that with this agreement," he said. "We are committed to continuing to build this relationship, and we are prepared to undertake the work and effort required to implement the agreed upon programs."

Mr. Charles commented that "the negotiations were amicable and constructive and were commended by all parties involved."

"We agreed on the principles with the Yued people early in our discussions," he said. "It became clear that what the Yued people were seeking and what Tiwest was offering were fairly well aligned, and the excellent facilitation process afforded by the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council enabled an agreement to be reached."

Cooperation of this type is nothing new for Tiwest, which has a business arrangement with the Billinue people dating back 12 years (not part of any Native Title Agreement). This arrangement allows the Billinue people to collect seeds and sell them to Tiwest at commercial rates. The seeds are then used to progressively rehabilitate the areas that have been mined.

The Yued people will have an opportunity to run a similar enterprise and also harvest grass trees from areas being prepared for mining.

Tiwest will join representatives from the Yued's team at a special lunch at noon today at the offices of the South West Aboriginal Land and Sea Council in Cannington to commemorate the agreement.

Background information...

Tiwest is one of the world's largest fully integrated titanium minerals production and processing operations. The joint venture has established a major titanium minerals operation in Western Australia and has downstream facilities which value add at each step in the production of titanium dioxide including:

- Mining the ores and producing heavy mineral concentrate (HMC)
- Separating the HMC into specific minerals
- Upgrading ilmenite, one of the minerals, to produce synthetic rutile
- Further processing the synthetic rutile to manufacture titanium dioxide pigment

The **Cooljarloo mine**, located 170 kilometres north of Perth, is where the company produces heavy mineral concentrate from dredging and dry mining operations.

As well as producing titanium dioxide, Tiwest also sells the other valuable minerals it mines – such as zircon, rutile and leucosene (which are used for various commercial purposes) as well as surplus synthetic rutile, to customers all over the world.

The Tiwest Joint Venture participants are Tronox Western Australia Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of Tronox Incorporated in the USA, and subsidiaries of Tigor Pty Ltd. Tigor Pty Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of Kumba Resources Limited of South Africa.

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