

# IVN for Mining – Agile Cooperative Development and Integration



## Summary

Agile cooperative development is a hallmark of the Industry Value Network (IVN) for Mining and underpins plans for its continued development. Anja Strothkaemper examines this with respect to one key IVN partner, Runge.

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## Author Bio



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The Industry Value Network (IVN) for Mining is a community of software partners focusing on specific business requirements within the industry value chain to collectively deliver a complete portfolio of end-to-end IT solutions for the Mining sector. The IVN works closely with customer-mentors from the Industry Advisory Council for Mining (IACM) to achieve these common objectives.

### Thought Leadership for the Mining Industry

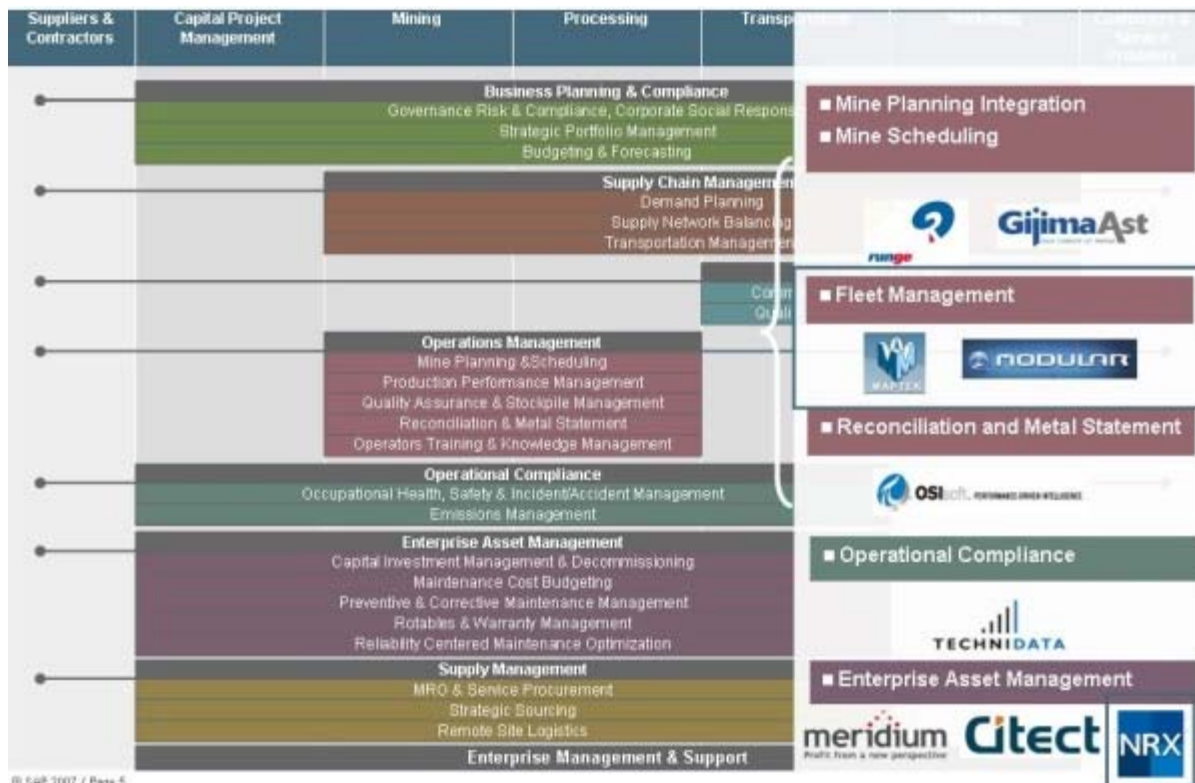
Integral to this IVN approach is the strategy to selectively target niche solutions that can be seamlessly integrated on one IT platform. Another key consideration is recruiting IVN partners who can best support our commitment to business process excellence and our aspirational goals towards thought leadership in the Mining industry. This consideration supports core IVN aims: to help manage increased growth and production for customers; keeping their costs under control; facilitating their compliance objectives; and ensuring their standards for health and safety in the workplace are maintained.

To this end, the IVN for Mining provides a single point of entry for progressive Mining companies to leverage an entire spectrum of IT and industry experts to address the many challenges associated with running remote extraction, production, and processing facilities together with global supply and logistics networks.

### IVN Partners Fill White Spaces in Mining Solution Map

Figure 1 below shows an example of our approach, where we identify white spaces within the SAP solution map for the Mining industry value chain and then establish the IVN partner network to fill these spaces with leading-edge, complementary applications.

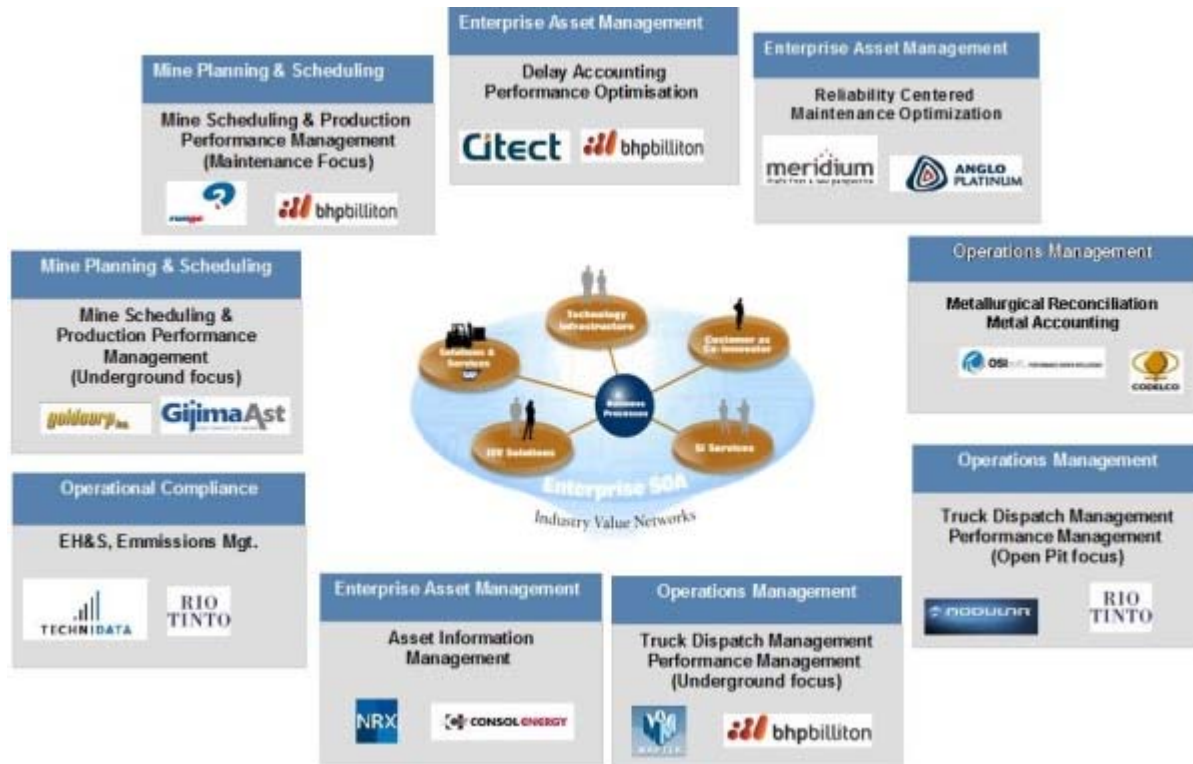
Figure 1: Filling White Spaces



## Customer-Mentors

Figure 2 then illustrates the concept of customer-mentoring, where key customers provide steering influence on the development and positioning of these integrated solutions.

Figure 2: Customer-Mentors



Since its inception in early 2007, the IVN for Mining continues to grow and develop, prioritizing specific focus areas and projects as required according to industry needs.

In 2008, the IVN progresses to Phase 2 of its strategic development. Brindusa Radulescu, IVN Lead for SAP, describes this latest phase in greater detail in her article, titled [IVN for Mining in Phase 2 - Accelerating Collaboration and Co-innovation](#).

### Short-Term Mine Scheduling – Runge and the IVN

Just to highlight one dimension of the IVN for Mining in Phase 2, the [Australian-based Mining software vendor Runge](#), through its Short-Term Mine Scheduling (STMS) application, provides a solution that allows the combination of data from Runge’s specialist solutions for Mine Planning & Scheduling with SAP data for the overall Mining value chain, from the mine to the port, and thereby enables an adaptive integrated planning process.

Here’s a quick summary of the scenario in which Runge helps the IVN for Mining to address pressing business needs of our customers:

Due to high demand, supply chains are under pressure, making it difficult to manage the need for increased throughput. In many cases, Operations becomes a bottleneck, resulting in low stock levels for supply chains. Better and more adaptable planning is the key to resolving this bottleneck issue. Mining enterprises need planning data seamlessly integrated with overall Mining supply chain management.

In validating the scenario, customers identified short-term planning data as the most important requirement in this context.

Figure 3: Integrated Supply Chain & Mining Operations

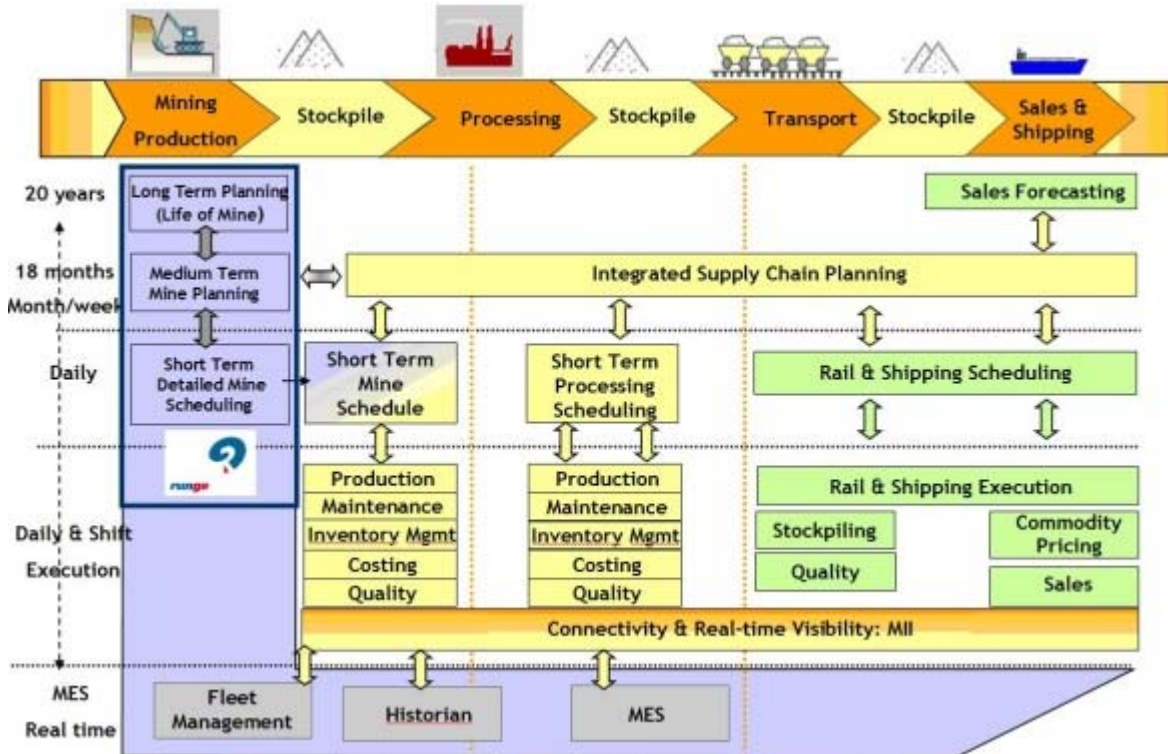


Figure 3 provides an overview of the integrated supply chain & Mining operations process, using the new STMS application by Runge, a solution based on SAP’s MII (Manufacturing Integration and Intelligence) platform.

With this solution, an operations manager can extract the latest mine schedule from Runge’s specialist planning solution. After validation and (potentially) several planning iterations, the operations manager can release final data and automatically update the SAP ERP and Supply Chain planning system.

This solution leverages service-oriented architecture (SOA), and integration is based on web services. Through such groundbreaking, niche applications, the IVN fully support enterprise planning and scaling of operations on a global level.

The screenshot shown in Figure 4 then demonstrates the graphical interfaces of Runge’s Mining Dynamics, featuring satellite images of the mine and the production location, supporting data-gathering and integration with SAP production plans.



Figure 4: Runge – Mining Dynamics Platform with Satellite Image



As Tony Kinnane, Managing Director of Runge, neatly summarizes:

“The members of the IVN for mining identified scheduling and compliance as priority areas that needed to be addressed to provide business value for global mining organizations. We now have a solution that enables adaptive mining scheduling processes.”

This type of agile cooperative development and integration is a hallmark of the IVN for Mining and underpins plans for its continued development.

## Related Content

- [www.sap.com/platform/ecosystem/ivn/](http://www.sap.com/platform/ecosystem/ivn/)
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For more information, visit the [Mining & Metals homepage](#).

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