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ALASKA MINERS ASSOCIATION

THE ALASKA MINER

Journal of the Alaska Miners Association



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Dear AMA Members and Friends,

This is such an amazing season for us, so filled with activities, gifts and memories. First there are the holidays to celebrate and to be thankful for our many blessings.

Then there's the joy and satisfaction of another great Anchorage annual convention in the books!

First the thanks ...

I am incredibly thankful for the miners and support companies who attended the convention, Critical Mining for these Critical Times, in November. We had over 1,300 attendees, 90 sponsors and 156 exhibitors. It was an event so popular we added booths to the lobby!

If you attended, you know it's impossible to see and do and take in all of this biggest week in Alaska mining. There was so much to share from that incredible convention that there isn't room in this month's journal! So, watch for much more in the winter issue of The Alaska Miner magazine! Elsewhere in this Journal you'll see some of the highlights, including our 2024 AMA Award Honorees.

I cannot thank enough our amazing Convention Committee of Kevin Adler, Steve Teller, Sue Karl, Zoom Szumigala, Traci Hartz, Raesha Hartz, Vanessa Larimer, Bonnie Broman, Miles McDonald, Varina Zinno, Eric Cannon, Doug Kriner, Wescott Bott, Dave Hedderly-Smith, Tom Bundtzen, Wendie MacNaughton and Lisa Cassino. This talented group spends hours and hours planning, reviewing, arranging, and perfecting our amazing event. I know you are thankful for their efforts, too.

I'm thankful as well for our incredible team of volunteers, speakers, and presenters, and for our new board



Thank you to the legislators and staff who joined us at our final AMA Anchorage branch meeting of the year! We are looking forward to working with the 34th Alaska legislature on issues facing Alaska's miners.

of directors who took office at the convention and for the next two years. Their dedication and guidance are critical to our success.

I am also thrilled to share that at our Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors during Convention week, the following individuals were nominated and confirmed to be Directors Emeritus of AMA: Jim Clark, Curt Freeman, Bill Jeffress, David Manzer, Jeanine Schmidt and Don Stevens. I am looking forward to having their continuous involvement guiding our Association.

As we move into 2025, there are important dates to keep on your calendar:

- The first Statewide Zoom of 2025 starts Jan. 17, and in-person meetings will resume before or around then.
- The Juneau Mining Forum will be held Tuesday, Feb. 25 at the Baranof Hotel (and our joint legislative reception will be held that evening). More info coming in the new year!

■ It's also never too early to look ahead to the next Convention! The 2025 AMA Annual Convention and Trade Show will be held Nov. 3-6, 2025 at the Dena'ina Center in Anchorage.

In addition, please contact Publisher Lee Leschper for advertising in the Alaska Miners Handbook and Service Directory (and our Journal and Alaska Miner Magazine) at Lee.Leschper@FireweedStrategies.com.

Also, contact Darlene Strickland (darlene@alaskaminers.org) for updates to your listings as well as renewing your membership (remember only current members are included)!

Please have a safe Merry Christmas and joyous New Year in 2025!

**Deantha Skibinski,
Executive Director**

The Alaska Miner is the official journal of the Alaska Miners Association, published eight times a year exclusively to our members. It is published in partnership with the Alaska Miners Association by Fireweed Strategies LLC, 4849 Potter Crest Circle, Anchorage, AK 99516.

We actively seek contributions from our members and the mining industry. Please email story ideas and photos to [Lee Leschper](mailto:Lee.Leschper@FireweedStrategies.com).

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For advertising information, or to submit news, story ideas and photos, call or email Lee Leschper at 907-957-6025 or Lee.Leschper@FireweedStrategies.com

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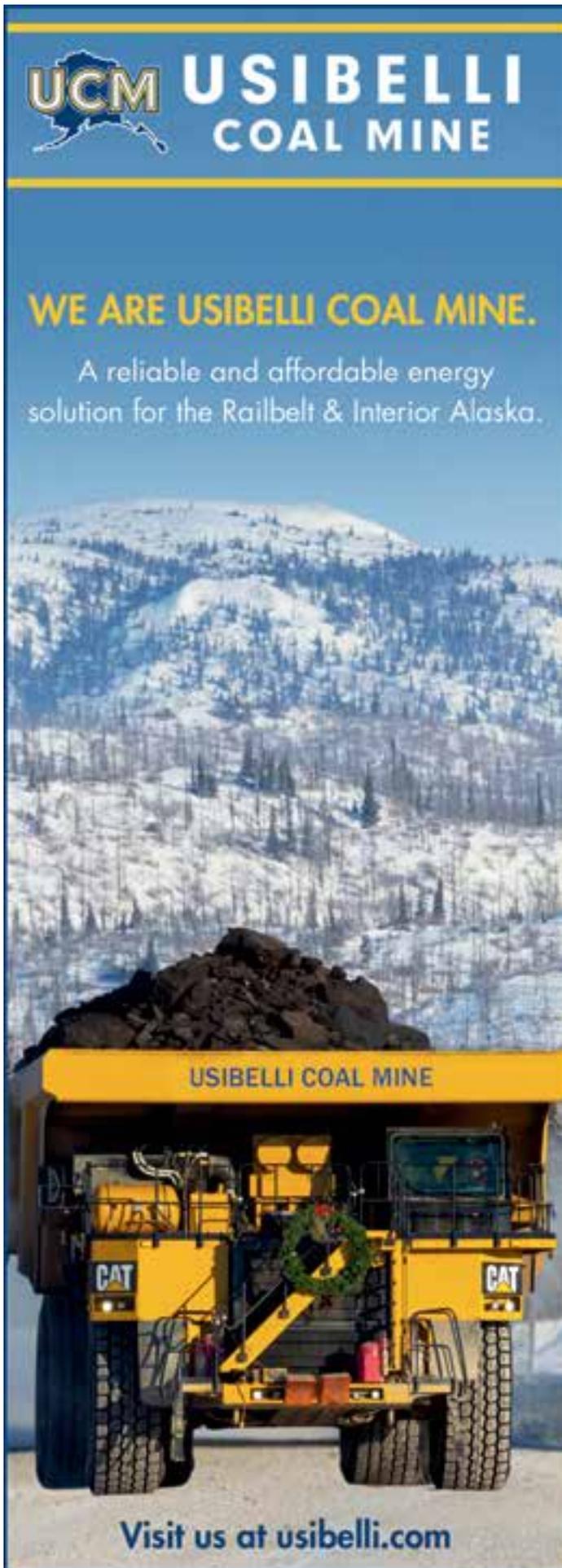
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AMA Convention 2024: Big Thank Yous All Around!



The 2024 Annual AMA Convention in Anchorage broke all records set by previous Conventions! More than 1,300 attendees enjoyed a full week of sessions, speakers, trade show and awards banquet.

We would like to say a big thank you to the 90 sponsors and 156 exhibitors who were in attendance and helped us represent all sectors of the industries within and supporting Alaska miners.

Plan now for our next annual convention set for Nov. 3-6, 2025.

Watch for much more about this year's convention in the winter issue of your Alaska Miner Magazine.





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AMA members and staff attended the American Exploration & Mining Association's annual meeting in early December in Reno, Nev. Among those who gave presentations as part of the Alaska mining portion of the event were Dave "Zoom" Szumigala (right) of Alaska DGGs, Victor Ross with Stantec, Kaleb Froehlich with Ambler Metals and Brenna Schaake (far right) with Kinross Alaska. AMA Projects & Communications Manager Carin Currier also was accepted into the AEMA Society. The Society was created in 2021 to match young individuals in mining with mentors in their selected discipline and receive instruction on cross-disciplinary topics. For the next year, she will receive guidance and work alongside her "classmates" to learn from other mentors and each other on all things mining.

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Donlin Backhauls E-Waste Out of Southwest Alaska



North of 60 Mining News

In Alaska's urban centers, an old refrigerator, computer, or television is simply dropped off at a recycling center – and in many cases, the seller of your new appliance will cart away the old one for you. For remote Alaska villages that are hundreds of miles from the nearest recycling center, however, it is neither convenient nor economically feasible to circulate old appliances and e-waste back into the economy.

Donlin Gold – a 50-50 joint venture formed between Barrick Gold Corp. and Novagold Resources Inc. to develop a mine at the world-class Donlin Gold project in the Yukon-Kuskokwim region – is a longtime supporter of a backhaul project that provides a means of hauling e-waste and hazardous materials out of the Y-K Delta for proper recycling or disposal.

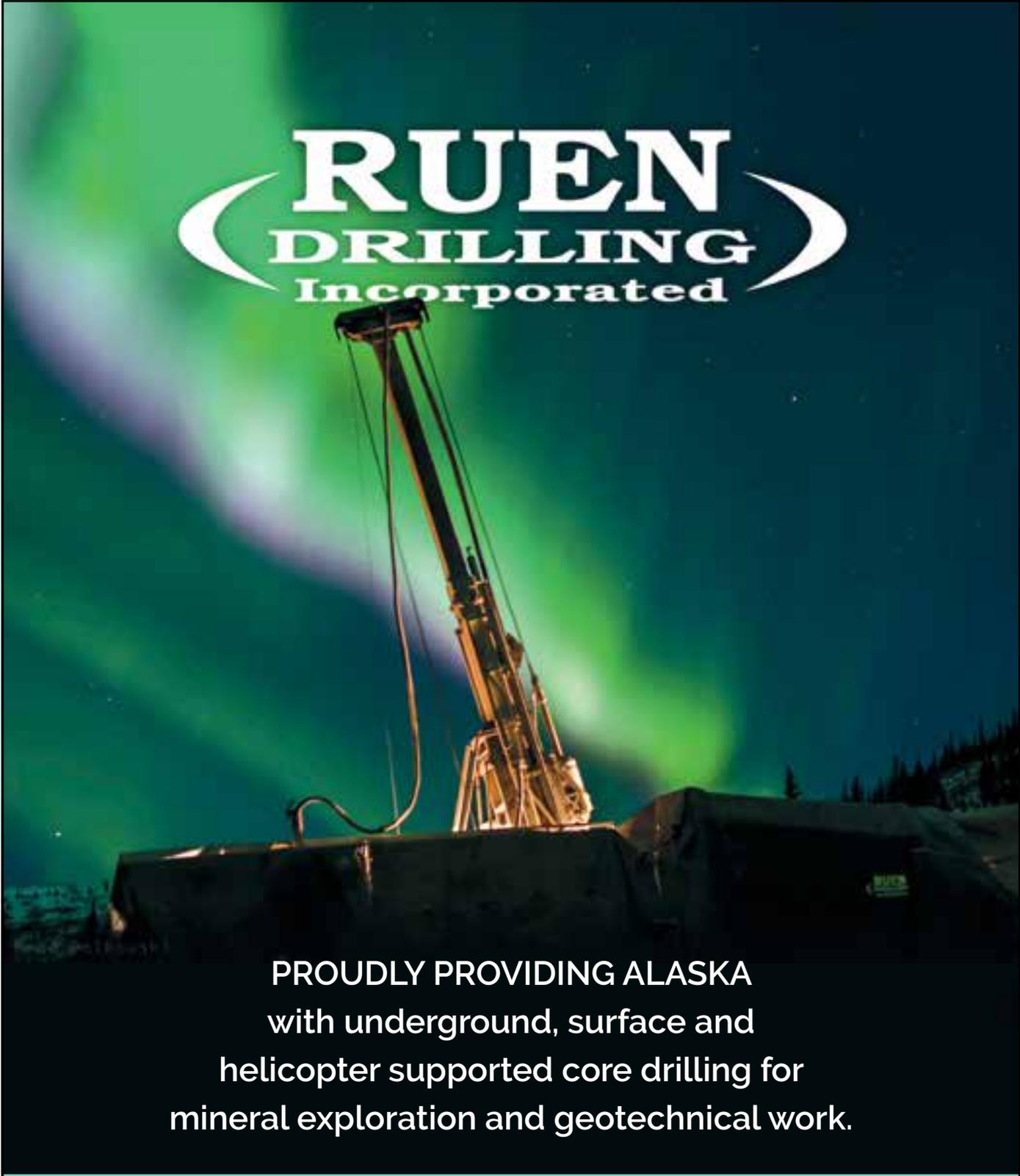
In partnership with Delta Backhaul Company, along with community and tribal organizations in the region, Donlin Gold's "In It For the Long Haul Backhaul Project" safely removes unwanted appliances, electronics, vehicle batteries, household chemicals, old paint, used oil, and more from Y-K Delta villages.

Since its start in 2018, this project has transported more than 803,265 pounds of the "junk" piling up in communities across the Y-K Delta.

"We are committed to supporting the health and well-being of the Y-K Delta communities," said Rebecca Wilmarth, community relations supervisor for Donlin Gold. "The Backhaul Project showcases the strength of local partnerships and the dedication of everyone involved to improve the environmental wellbeing of the region."

This year's backhaul project transported an estimated 141,838 pounds of material out of the region, including waste from a fish camp clean-up and six villages in the region, along with unwanted materials dropped off by Bethel residents.

Barge transportation was provided by the Village of Napaimute, and air transport was provided by partners Fox Air, Grant Aviation, and Ryan Air. Alaska Commercial Company, Association of Village Council Presidents, and representatives from the Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) also supported the 2024 backhaul project.



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Women in Mining: Thank You for Making the Event Great!



Thank you to everyone who attended the Women in Mining Event in November at the Annual Convention. It was a fun night honoring all the exceptional women who fill vital roles in Alaska mining!





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Celebrating Our Awards Winners!



Photos by Amber Johnson

Congratulations to Kinross Alaska (above) and Contango Ore (below) for earning the New Mine Award! AMA and its members are proud to witness this historical milestone in Alaska mining.





Congratulations to Meg Smith (left) with Kinross Alaska for receiving our Chuck Hawley Lifetime Achievement Award! Meg has devoted her professional life to ensuring a successful mining industry in Alaska. This award honors the dedication and success Chuck exemplified during his career: the devotion of time, effort, thought, and action consistently shown in his mining industry service, perseverance and ambition, and a love for educating Alaskans on mining industry endeavors. Congratulations also to John Hoppe (below) with BLM for garnering the Rock Star of Public Service Award! John has gone above and beyond to work with miners to continue and improve the industry's presence in Alaska and achieve shared results for Alaska's economy, communities and residents.



Thank You for All That You Do for Mining!



Congratulations to Vanessa Larimer with Contango Ore for receiving our Volunteer of the Year Award! Vanessa embodies the true strength of a membership-based organization! She goes above and beyond every single day for AMA and we could not be more thankful!



Congratulations to the Toni Logan Goodrich Scholarship winner Presley Wright from Mat-Su Middle College. AMA is proud to support Alaska Resource Education through its awards banquet fundraiser!



Congratulations to Sonny Fuavi from Dimond High School for being awarded as an outstanding student.



The awards banquet is among the highlights of the annual convention in Anchorage. The auction helps to raise funds for Alaska Resource Education. Congratulations to Black Gold Transport (below) for being awarded the Hard Hat Safety Award! They have demonstrated the highest safety standards, communicated safety policies and training, and have an exemplary record of incident-free days, hours and more amazing milestones.



A Huge Thank You to Our Convention Sponsors!

Support of the AMA Convention not only helps us put on a fantastic event, but it is one of our largest fundraisers, meaning, support helps sustain our year-round mission. All the work we do — our comments and testimony, Action Alerts, advocacy events like Alaska Mining Day, Alaska Night at Roundup, Juneau Mining Forum, and the dozens of presentations given throughout

the year, and our social media presence — is possible through their support. Your generosity ensures we can advocate for Alaska's mining industry, and we couldn't be more grateful.

If you are appreciative of AMA's efforts throughout the year, please take the time to read the names of companies and individuals that make it all possible.

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Meadow (left) and her two daughters, Ella and Symone.

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the industry's support needs for goods, services and expertise.

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Hecla Mining Company Celebrates 60 Years on New York Stock Exchange



Hecla Mining Company officials were in New York City on Nov. 25 to ring the closing bell on the New York Stock Exchange in honor of being listed as a publicly traded company for 60 years. “As the oldest and longest continuously listed precious metals mining company on the NYSE, this milestone underscores Hecla’s enduring strength, resilience, and commitment to delivering value to our shareholders. For 133 years, Hecla has thrived on a culture of innovation, strong community relationships, and environmental stewardship — all driven by our exceptional people. As the largest silver producer in the United States, we’re excited to celebrate this milestone and embark on the next chapter of growth,” said Hecla President and CEO Rob Kromarov.

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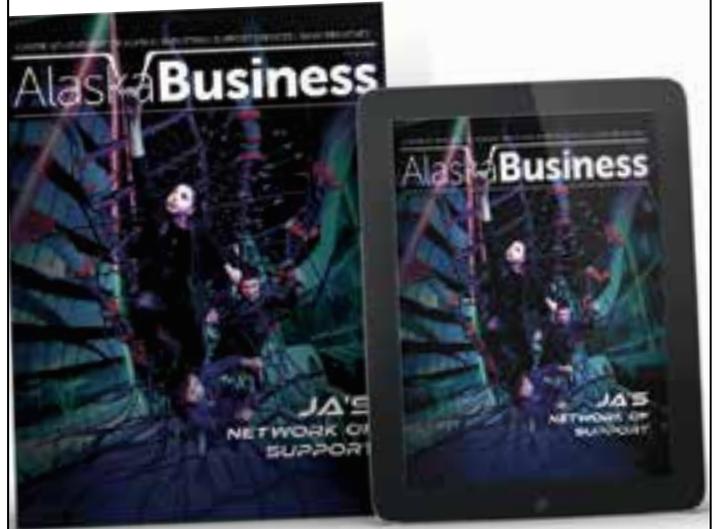
The University of Alaska Southeast and Coeur Alaska, Inc. announced Coeur's commitment to fund introductory diesel and welding courses for local high school students at the UAS School of Career and Technical Education. Coeur's \$100,000 commitment will cover students' tuition and fees through spring 2026, significantly boosting the program's accessibility and sustainability.

"By investing in local students, we are not only fostering their future success but also building a strong and sustainable workforce for Southeast Alaska's mining industry and beyond," said Steve Ball, General Manager at Coeur Alaska's Kensington Mine.

The Diesel 101 and Welding 120 courses at UAS are scheduled before the start of the regular school day, allowing high school students to complete the courses for university credit while finishing high school. These courses are part of the Mining Pathways program, a collaboration between industry, UAS, and the Juneau School District. Participants gain hands-on experience, earn college credits, and follow a clear path from high school to rewarding careers in vital local industries.

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2023 Sandvik QE442 #80-44202
163 Hrs, Scalping Screen, 11.1 YD Hopper, Stabilizing Legs, Cat C4.4 Engine
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2022 Sandvik DX800R #01-80004
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Juneau, AK **\$498,500**



2021 Sandvik DX800R #01-80002
1537 Hrs, Vertical Drill, Non Cab, Winch, Support Leg, Remote Control.
Juneau, AK **\$469,500**



2023 Sandvik QE141 #80-14103
122 Hrs, Scalping Screen, Hopper, 12' 8" Tracked
Chehalis, WA **\$249,500**



2023 Edge TS80 #80-80001
296 Hrs, Stacker, Tracked, Twin Drive
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3273 Hrs, Pattern Changer, Aux Hyd, Hyd Pin Grabber, 13'1" Arm, Hyd Thumb
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Chehalis, WA **\$239,500**

Contact Craig Thomas craigert@tylerrental.com (907) 617-1669

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Please support and thank these companies who have renewed their support and corporate membership in AMA. Their continued support make possible all the work we do in and for the mining industry.

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Construction Machinery Industrial LLC
Hecla Greens Creek Mining Company

Producers

Coeur Alaska - Kensington Mine
Kinross Alaska
NANA Regional Corp
Northern Star Resources - Pogo Mine
Ruen Drilling Inc.
Teck Alaska Inc. - Red Dog
Usibelli Coal Mine Inc.

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Contango Ore, Inc.
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Taiga Mining Company Inc.
Tower Hill Mines Inc. - Livengood Project

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Alaska Frontier Constructors Inc.
Alaska Railroad Corporation
Ambler Metals LLC
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Borealis Fuels and Logistics
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Alaska Drilling and Completions	Eastern British Columbia	Industrial Pumps of Alaska	Remote Site Services Inc.
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Alaska Minerals Inc.	Commonwealth North	Juneau Economic Development Council	Royal Gold Inc.
Alaska Mining & Diving Supply, Inc.	CONAM Construction Company	Just Refiners USA, Inc.	Samson Tug & Barge
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Alaska Policy Forum	Consumer Energy Alliance	Klondike Placer Miners' Association	Sealaska Corporation/ Alaska Coastal Aggregates LLC
Alaska Remote Imaging	Craig Taylor Equipment Company	Knight Piesold & Company	SECON/Southeast Roadbuilders
Alaska Resource Education	Crowley Fuels LLC	Kuna Engineering	Shoreside Petroleum Inc.
Alaska Rock Products Association	Cruise Lines International Alaska	Lignite Energy Council	SKAPS Industries
Alaska Roteq	Cummins Sales & Service	Madison Lumber & Hardware Inc.	SLR International Corporation
Alaska Steel Co.	Cyr Drilling USA Inc.	Mascott Equipment	SMS Equipment Inc.
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	Hy-Tech Drilling USA Inc.		Wyoming Mining Association
			Yukon Chamber of Mines
			Zonge International Inc.

New and Renewing Members

Thank you to all the AMA corporate and individual members who joined or renewed their membership to the association in October. You make AMA possible!

Corporations

Alaska Auto Rental
Anchorage Sand & Gravel Inc.
Better In Our Back Yard
Black Gold Transport
Conn-Weld Industries, LLC
Crowley Fuels LLC
Dorado Drilling Ltd.
Equity Exploration Consultants Ltd.
Far North Supply
GMS Mine Repair
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Weir Minerals

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Not yet a member of the Alaska Miners Association? Or have not yet renewed your membership? Renew today so you don't miss a single issue of The Alaska Miner or the 2025 Alaska Miners Handbook and Service Directory, available only to AMA members. Call or email Jennifer Luiten, Membership and Fundraising Director at 907-270-9232; jennifer@AlaskaMiners.org.

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- *The 2025 Alaska Miners Handbook and Service Directory*
- *The Alaska Miner Magazine*
- *The Alaska Miner Journal*

Advertising Deadline for the 2025 Alaska Miners Handbook is January 31, 2025

Don't miss it!...

And thanks for supporting AMA!

To be included, call or email Publisher Lee Leschper, Fireweed Strategies



907-957-6025

Lee.Leschper@FireweedStrategies.com



Alaska Mining Calendar

- **Jan. 20-23, 2025:** AME-BC Roundup, Alaska Night Wednesday Jan. 22
- **Feb. 25:** Juneau Mining Forum
- **Feb. 25:** Legislative Reception with AMA, AGC, and Alaska Trucking Association, Juneau

Statewide Zoom Meetings

- Beginning 2025: every two weeks, so**
 - January 17
 - January 31
 - February 14
 - February 28
 - March 14
 - March 28
 - April 11
 - April 25
 - May 9
- See all details at the AMA website!

In-Person Branch Meetings

- Branches are starting up again in January. Schedules will be posted on the AMA website
- under Branch Meetings. We look forward to seeing everyone in person!

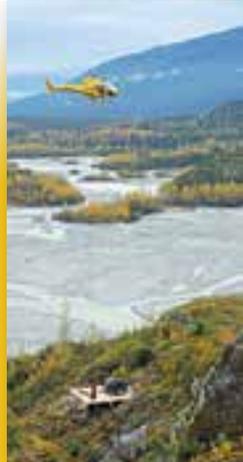
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