

The New 5-inch Class TUBELESS DTH Hammer

Rockmore International will introduce the newest addition to its T Series DTH hammer line – the ROK 550T to the European market at the upcoming Intermat exhibition held in Paris, France on 23-28 of April at stand 5A CD 133. The Rockmore T Series DTH hammers are “TUBELESS” and utilise drill bits with industry standard shank connections without the imbedded plastic Blow Tube / Foot Valve.

Rockmore revolutionised the drilling industry with the launch of its first T Series DTH model, the ROK 600T, a six inch class model that uses a tubeless QL6/QL60 bit shank. Last year we released our ROK 60T-360T hammers that utilise the IR 360 bit shank without the Blow Tube / Foot Valve. Now, Rockmore extends the T series to the new ROK 550T, a five inch class hammer model which uses the industry standard QL5/QL50 bit shank, but with the Blow Tube / Foot Valve removed. With high performance drilling characteristics rated for drilling 5.5” to 6.0” (140 to 152mm) diameter holes, the ROK 550T is suitable for blast-hole applications in the mining and



construction sectors and for deep hole drilling in the water-well and geothermal sectors.

As with all Rockmore DTH hammers, the new ROK 550T takes advantage of Rockmore’s patented SonicFlow technology, which optimises airflow by simplifying and streamlining the air paths to minimise back flow and turbulence, thus

delivering more energy to the piston. Field testing of the SonicFlow design was determined to result in faster penetration rates and greater overall DTH hammer efficiency.

Rockmore International is a global manufacturer of rock drilling tools, serving the mining, construction, and water-well sectors for more than 65 years.

Zambia threaten to revoke mining licenses

MINES Minister Richard Musukwa has warned that idle licenses that were issued to either small or large-scale miners will be revoked.

And Musukwa says Government will implement a framework to facilitate market linkages to assist small-scale miners and prevent them from being continuously exploited.



Speaking during a four-day workshop on Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining (ASM) in Zambia, Musukwa warned that licenses that Government had issued to both small and large-scale miners risked being revoked if they remained idle.

“Idle licenses, licenses that are being held for speculation, will be revoked so as to promote serious and credible Zambians, non-Zambians, investors who would like to invest in our country,” Musukwa warned when he officially opened the workshop at Southern Sun Hotel in Lusaka on March 19.

He explained that the

issuance of mining licenses without adhering to the stipulated obligations was disadvantaging Zambia.

“When we give licenses, we also give obligations, and these obligations must be followed to the letter. In short, what I would like to state is that idle licenses, licenses that are being held for speculation, whether they are small-scale or large-scale, we will not allow that scenario because we are actually disadvantaging the country into getting the benefit from these resources,” Musukwa (in picture) observed.

He disclosed that nearly 2,000 licenses are currently idle in the country, describing the scenario as “sad.”

“What is sad is that we have issued in excess of over 2,000 small-scale licenses. On these 2,000

small-scale licenses, I can assure you that we have less than 20 licenses operating,” he revealed.

“We cannot develop our country at that score.”

And Musukwa added that Government will implement a framework to facilitate market linkages to assist small-scale miners and prevent them from being continuously exploited.

The four-day workshop, organised through PanAfGeo, the EU, among others, was held to present and describe the methods, tools, procedures and requirements for ASM operation in Zambia.

It also coincided with the release of a small-scale mining training manual dubbed: “Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Handbook for Zambia” to raise awareness of best practices in the sub-sector.