

# Armco

## Supplying tunnelling solutions to a satisfied mining clientele

**Armco's** MP200 structures have been the product of choice in the mining industry due to their wide range of profiles and sizes. **JUSTIN NAIDOO**, general manager of construction products, elaborates on how the company has managed to successfully be of service to the industry, which has seen it supplying large mining projects throughout Africa.



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Armco's MP200 structures are used on mines as decline tunnels, stockpile and reclaim tunnels, escape tunnels, haul road overpass/underpass, and drainage structures. In addition, the last five years have seen the company's Horseshoe Arch structure becoming the most widely used for stockpile tunnels due to a higher-rise-to-span ratio and the ability to carry higher loading, compared to its other arch structures.

"In most cases we will always find a structure to suit the client's application. In the last 10 years, the company has supplied large mining projects in countries including Lesotho, Namibia and Zambia," says Naidoo.

### Adapting to changing client needs

One of the biggest challenges Armco faces in the mining projects it works on is finding a structure that meets all the client's design criteria. In some instances, the criteria changes, making

it necessary for the company to be able to adapt to ensure that its solutions are still viable.

"Some of the changes we constantly have to adapt to include larger structures being required while maintaining the same overall structural design criteria, hydraulic capacity requiring increases and both structural loading requirement and the structure size increasing," elaborates Naidoo.

He adds that Armco has been able to succeed in this business because the company understands that changes are a natural part of operations, requiring it to always be well equipped to adapt. "Our extensive knowledge and experience in supplying large structure to the mining industry puts us in a position to be able to adapt and ensure that we always find a solution for the client."

He says the company works with various stakeholders within its supply chain and always ensures that it is on top of its game by constantly communicating with suppliers to make sure that delays are minimal.

"All stakeholders understand that our products are manufactured 'Just-in-Time' and that any delays could have a knock-on effect in the production deadline. And, to also ensure that our production lines are constantly running at full capacity, we have our maintenance team working around the clock to see to it that any downtime encountered is minimal."

Because of its ongoing commitment to providing quality products and services exceeding client expectation, Naidoo says, with all mining projects where time is of the essence and quality cannot be compromised, Armco is able to achieve both simultaneously. "Our experienced team in all facets of our company, who are self-driven and customer centric, ensures that this is always the case. Our large portfolio of structures makes it possible for us to, more than 95% of the time, be able to find a solution that meets the client's need." **MRA**



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