



photography by Norina Jane

Ray McQuillan

MINESPEC PARTS

"There is only one boss and that's the customer. He or she can fire everyone in that company from the top down, simply by spending their money elsewhere."

This is a philosophy etched deeply within the focus of Minespec Parts and one which General Manager of Operations, Ray McQuillan, reminds himself of daily.

"Our mantra, 'turn your surplus into purpose' is all based around what we can do for the customer to lower their repair and maintenance costs and to ensure the cost per tonne mined is favourable.

"Quality control and quality assurance is of utmost importance to our business, to ensure the client receives longevity from work carried out on their equipment," he said.

Ray started his apprenticeship as a diesel mechanic in 1981 and has worked with heavy machinery since. From remote areas in the Northern Territory to overseas in the United States of America, his span of experience ranges from underground and manufacturing to earth moving and heavy mine haulage.

His position involves operational management across all facets of Minespec Parts, from supporting employees on the ground to supervising contract labour; inspecting incoming components and machinery, ensuring quality assurance and customer relations.

"One of the areas we pride ourselves in at Minespec Parts is the end result which the customer receives. Through our stringent dismantling process and quality assurance measures, the parts which we ship to our customers is in the best condition possible. We have engineered unique ways to ship parts and machinery to ensure their protection while also saving the client money through space saving initiatives. It is an area we receive very good feedback from.

"I also pride myself in efficient and informative customer response to all enquiries received. Without our strong client base we wouldn't have the successful business we have," Ray said.

Married to his wife, Megan, for 20 years, Ray says his marriage is his greatest passion.

"She is my rock. We have three grown children and enjoy hearing about their exciting life experiences while guiding them as they go. I have always been a hard worker, never take a day off and throw myself right into my work and Megan has always understood and supported me along the way," he said.

Ray is a keen fisherman and enjoys combining travel with wetting a line.

"I have spent a lot of time fishing in Arnhem Land in the Northern Territory where I worked for a long period of time. I have a trip planned to Bensbach Wildlife Lodge in the Western Province of Papua New Guinea for a nine day fishing trip in June, it will be my second trip back there, it's just awesome.

"I travelled around the world on my own back in 1994, which was an experience in itself. Now, my wife and I like to road trip. Before starting at Minespec Parts last year, we drove to Melbourne and took our car across on the Spirit of Tasmania and drove around Tassie. It was a fantastic adventure," he said.

Wherever possible, Minespec Parts supports the local community in Nebo and supports local businesses in the Mackay Region.

"We sponsor various activities locally and interstate, including rodeos, drag racing, Nitro Phoenix's Damian Muscat and MMA cage fighting. Minespec Parts owner, Simon Ross, regularly goes out of his way to engage with the local community to see what he can do to support the area and does what he can to support people from different walks of life. It's very humbling for me to see and makes me proud to be associated with his business. It's satisfying to see the business put so much back into the local community," Ray said.

Simon is also passionately involved with support for the Leukemia Foundation and Multiple Sclerosis.

Minespec Parts work with its Customers management, maintenance, warehouse and audit teams to deliver new opportunities to turn idle assets and surplus parts into additional revenue streams that can be reinvested back into your business.

Locally owned and operated, strategically located in Nebo, the gateway to some of the world's largest mining resources, is it time you contacted Minespec Parts to find out how you can turn your surplus into purpose?