



Hernic Ferrochrome (Pty) Ltd is the world's 4th largest integrated ferrochrome producer based in the North West Province, South Africa. It is in the western limb of the Bushveld Complex which is one of the world's largest chrome ore deposits. Hernic operates four furnaces including the largest ferrochrome furnace in the world.

IsoMetrix Solutions and Modules

- IsoMetrix GRC suite incorporating:
 - Health, Safety and Environment
 - Occupational Health & Hygiene
 - Primary Healthcare & Wellness
 - Audits
 - Enterprise Risk Management
 - Legal Register & Compliance

Benefits

- Accurate and true reflection of data in real time.
- Legal inspection and incident reporting became electronic.
- Dashboard reporting

Unlocking the value of technology integration

Hernic has adopted a deeply proactive approach to risk management. The SHEQ

systems are tightly integrated to the access control system, so that entrance to the site is physically prohibited for employees and contractors who:

- Have not received adequate training
- Have not passed required medical examinations
- Do not have required permits to work

Alfred Pawson, Information Technology Manager, has implemented various information, operational, mining and process flow information systems at Hernic Ferrochrome. However, with the risk of managing SHEQ through a required information system, it was essential that Hernic obtained the best possible system and solution to control all aspects of SHEQ and sustainability as well as Compliance within those areas.

Hernic analyzed various solutions but the essential criteria were a system that would integrate with the core of different information and process flow systems. A further essential requirement was a system that would exist as a management tool in handling the information obtained from the integration of these various systems.

Hernic therefore required a system that would be fully functional from go-live

onwards, simplicity of use and can report correct data at any given time through reporting and dashboards.

Alfred was impressed with various aspects of the IsoMetrix software, most notably the agility of the framework and the ease with which modules could be adapted; its visibility through the dashboards; and its ability to integrate with other software.

Alfred's vision incorporated with the business requirements has now created a solution which can manage all its 700 employees together with their 3000 contracted employees with regards to SHEQ. At any time, it is possible to see who is on site as no contractor, or contractor's staff member, who is not fully compliant in terms of rules and regulations, are allowed access to the property. Pre-employment medicals are integrated with the access control system and employees whose medicals have expired are locked out. IsoMetrix acts as the central repository for all employee and contractor records, allowing KPIs such as lost time injury rates to be managed effectively.

Besides managing the safety and compliance of employees and contractors, the development of the Visual Felt Leadership (VFL) module has turned

Location

Brits, South Africa

Industry

Mining

Products and Services

Chrome Ore Mining and Ferrochrome Production

Employees

700 permanent and 3 000 contractors

System Users

150

Number of Sites

3

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Alfred Pawson, Information Technology Manager, Heric Ferrochrome

fully embraced the IsoMetrix GRC suite and it has had a positive influence on all business users.

The time saved by management through no longer having to draft reports, which traditionally reported on historical data, has allowed them to spend more time viewing real-time trends and making decisions that are relevant to the day to day running of the business.

Working with the IsoMetrix team

Alfred indicated that the implementation and running of the IsoMetrix system has been a pleasure. “We have installed multiple solutions within the organization, and the IsoMetrix team was one of the best project team with which I have worked. They never missed a deadline, they delivered what was committed, and they always had suggestions of what was industry standard. We would have had to install four to five different systems to achieve what we have been able to with the IsoMetrix GRC suite.”

Johan Kruger, IT Administrator at Heric says that what he like most about working with IsoMetrix is not only the capability of the software itself, but the team members; “Support, friendliness, understanding your

requirements and then executing are areas where IsoMetrix have the edge. When we log a support call, we receive immediate feedback. When the change request takes time to resolve, we receive continuous feedback regarding the situation. The further skill transfer from Metrix to myself has been beneficial as first line development and support are delivered on site and where required, Metrix is always on hand to assist with critical development.”

ROI – Training Module linked to Access Control

According to Alfred and Johan, a return on investment was generated within a noticeably brief period after the training solution was fully operational. “We could deliver proof of training done, from the document manager. This made it much less time consuming in providing the accurate stats with original documentation as proof,” he says.

Without proof that training had been carried out, the organization was at risk of receiving shut-down notices due to legal requirements, which would have cost the organization millions in lost production. “We had an inspection from the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR),” says Johan. The DMR requested legal

training records, along with the certificates. “It took us less than five minutes to retrieve the records to display to them, allowing us to avoid a potential Section 54.”

Integration is a critical part of our business solutions. This saves our organization immeasurable time on data capturing and reporting. With integration we now can view statistical and analytical reports, from various solutions, on one reporting platform. Our integration with IsoMetrix and other business systems started with a daily schedule and progressed to a live integration without delay.

around relations with employees. Every Friday, management spends time with staff. They ask questions, make notes of areas which may not comply with standards, give compliments, and constantly collaborate with employees, building a stronger relationship between management and staff.

As users have started using the system, they have also started giving suggestions on what can be added or what can be done differently. Because of the agility of the framework, their suggestions are easily adapted into the system. This means that users use the system willingly, without the attitude of “having to use it”. All users have

✉ If you have any questions about IsoMetrix or our solutions, please contact the sales team at sales@isometrix.com

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