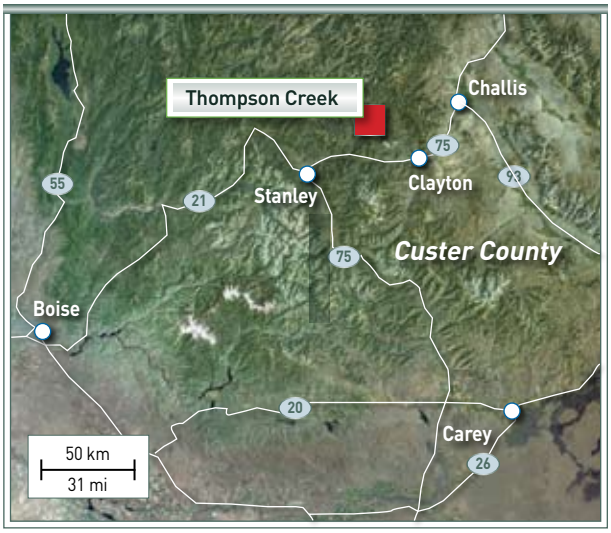
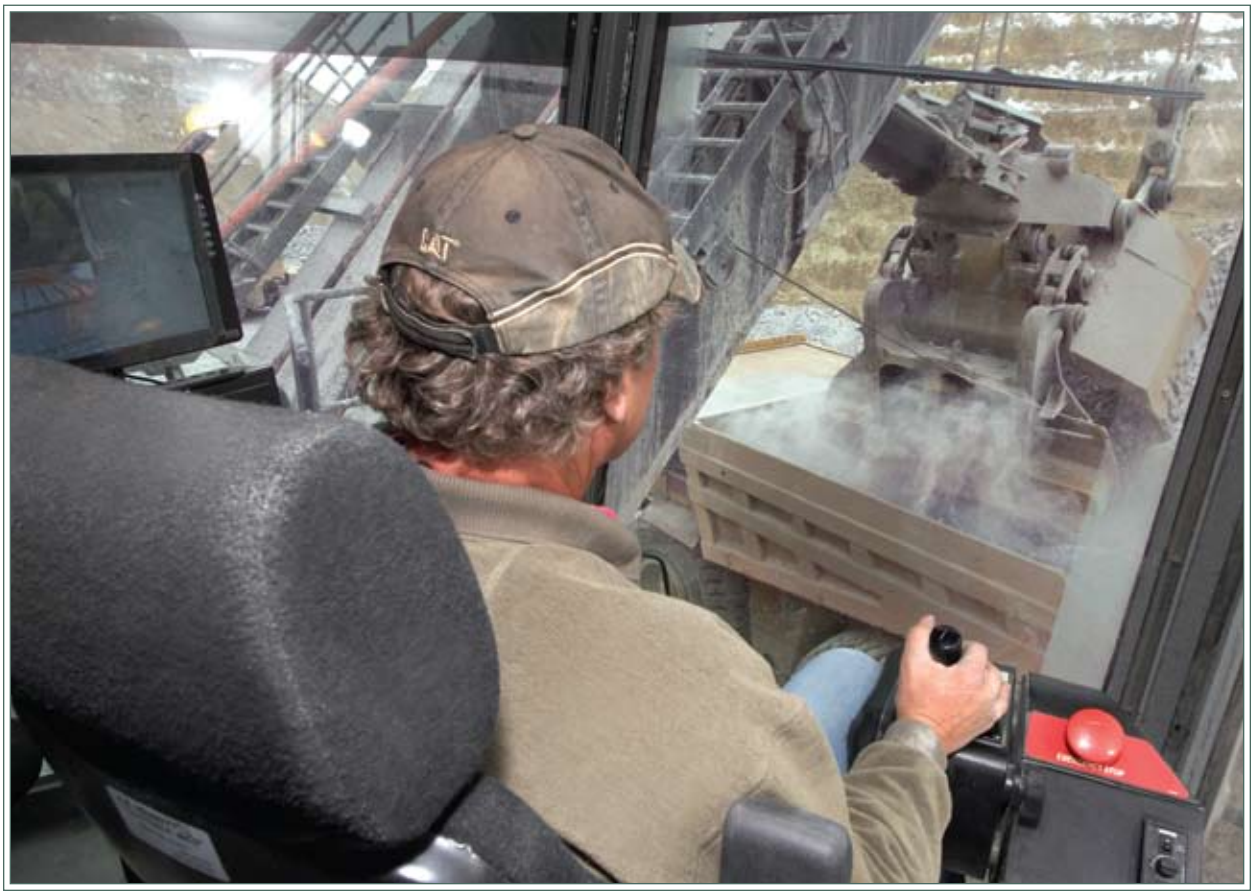
Thompson Creek Mine

The Thompson Creek Mine is the third largest open-pit primary molybdenum mine in the world. It is located in mountainous terrain. The mine property, which includes an open pit, mill and tailings facility, is approximately 56 kilometres (35 miles) southwest of the town of Challis in Idaho's Custer County, a historic mining area.

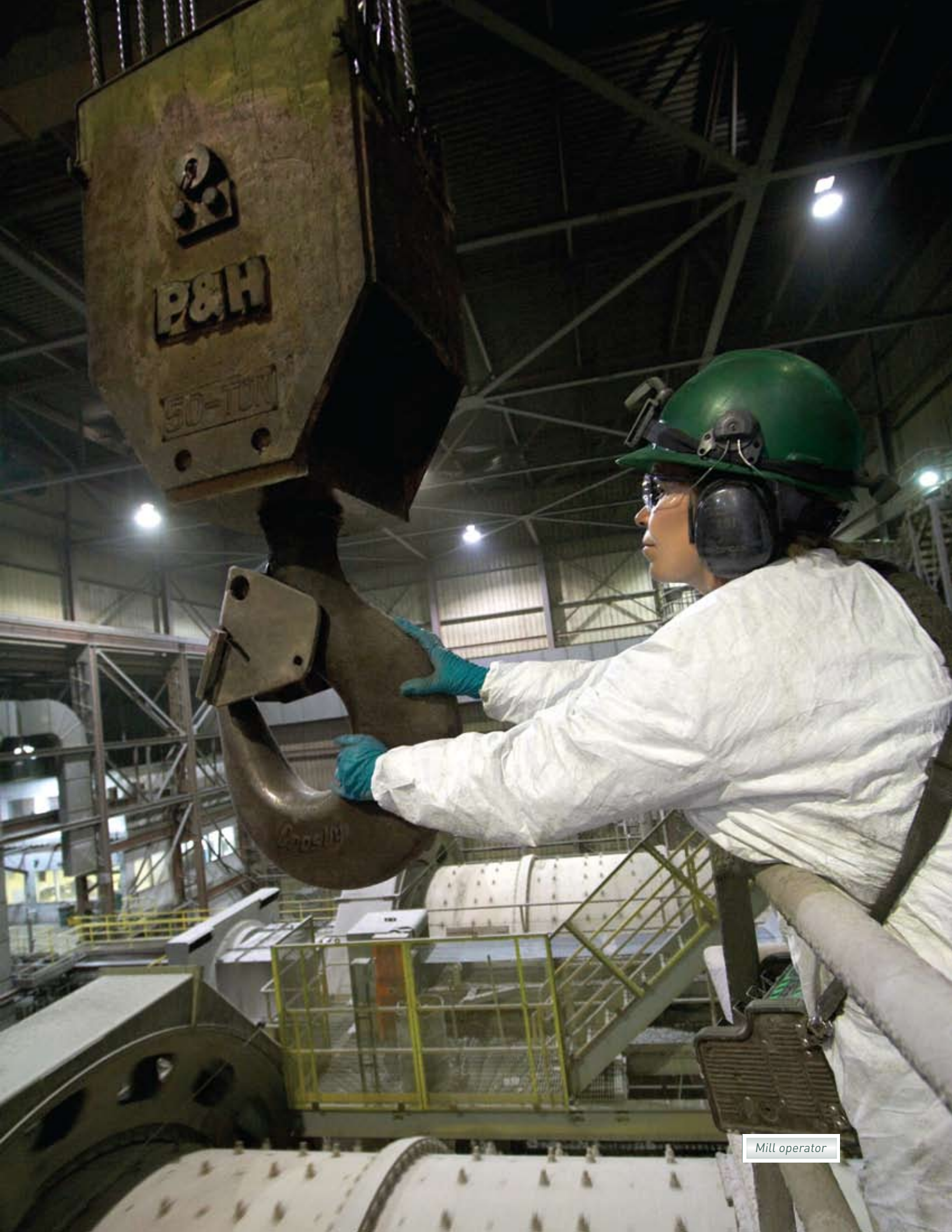
The mine, which began operations in 1983, uses conventional open-pit mining methods with large electric-powered shovels that load ore into 180-tonne trucks to be hauled to an on-site mill (concentrator). A molybdenum disulfide concentrate

Location Map - Custer County, Idaho





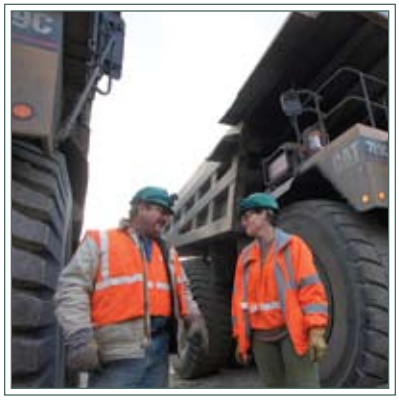
Operator of electric-powered shovel



Mill operator

Operator at flotation operations

A molybdenum disulfide concentrate is extracted from the ore through a series of crushing, grinding, and flotation operations.



Haul truck drivers

is extracted from the ore through a series of crushing, grinding, and flotation operations. The mill was designed to have a throughput capacity of 23,000 tonnes of ore per day, although daily throughput of ore has ranged up to 27,000 tonnes per day.

Most of the molybdenum disulfide concentrate produced at the mine is further processed into technical grade molybdenum oxide at the Langeloth Metallurgical Facility in Pennsylvania.

During 2007, Thompson Creek published a re-evaluation of mineral reserves and resources for the mine based on an increase in the assumed long-term molybdenum price from US$5 per pound to US$10 per pound. The resulting higher mineral reserves led to an extension of the mine life and the development of a new 10-year mine plan. Exploration drilling at the mine during 2008 is expected to lead to a second revision of the estimates for mineral reserves and mine life.

Thompson Creek Mine Cross Section