Core Storage And Analysis Enters The Digital Age

Exploration in the Northern Territory has moved into the digital age with a new tool aimed at assisting explorers, Resources Minister Kon Vatskalis said today.

The Territory Government’s Northern Territory Geological Survey (NTGS) earlier this year began using the HyLogger semi-automated core logging unit at its Core Storage and Library Facility in Winnellie.

Over 13,000 metres of drill core from past and current mineral exploration across the Territory has been scanned by the Hylogger so far, providing digital data that can further assist explorers to make decisions on unexplored areas in the Territory.

HyLogger is an important component of the Northern Territory Governments $14.4 million Bringing Forward Discovery program to increase exploration and investment in the Territory.

“The arrival and installation of the HyLogger further expands the capabilities of the NTGS, and that means that the level of geoscientific information we supply free of charge to potential exploration companies has been enhanced,” Mr Vatskalis said.

“Most of the Geological Survey’s clients are located interstate or overseas, but this technology will allow geologists to view and assess our drill core collection online, wherever they are in the world.

“By making the collection available for viewing online, this will raise awareness of the valuable resource the NTGS core collection provides for explorers.”

Developed by the CSIRO, HyLogger™ (hyperspectral logging) is a non-destructive, rapid, cost-effective method of mapping and imaging the minerals present within drill core.

The technology allows geologists to track subtle changes in the minerals in the drillcore. It also provides basic geological information to assist in refining exploration, and provides an important new form of pre-competitive data to assist exploration in the Territory.

Mr Vatskalis says the arrival and installation of the HyLogger moves the analysis of drill core into the digital era, and will make viewing and analysing drill core information easier for geologists.

The HyLogger is a component of a collaborative research infrastructure project funded by the Federal Government’s National Collaborative Research Infrastructure Strategy (NCRIS) and CSIRO, and implemented by all State and Territory Geological Surveys.

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