

## PRESS RELEASE

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### ALE USES LARGEST WIDENING TRAILER CONFIGURATION IN AUSTRALIAN MINE PROJECT



ALE has completed the transportation of the largest items for the Roy Hill iron ore mine construction project using the largest configuration of ALE's widening trailers to date.

The new fleet of widening trailer were delivered into Australia in September ALE was contracted to transport three loads weighing between 310t – 320t and measuring 15m wide and 17m high to Port Hedland in North Western Australia. Once built together, the three modules will make a Mine Reclaimer machine.

Because of the size of the items, they were delivered one at a time. When added to the weight of the trailer, the total configuration weighed almost 500t. ALE configured a 30 axle line trailer with a wheelbase of 55.4m, which is set at 4.9m wide whilst loaded and returning empty at 3.48m wide. Three 240Kw rated trucks were used to transport the three loads roughly 540km over three nights (to mitigate delays to the general public), before travelling one additional day to arrive at their final destination. The overall length of the transport configuration (trailer and prime movers) exceeded 90m, posing significant challenges in manoeuvring.

Neil Vaughan, Project Manager for ALE who co-ordinated this project, said: "We have been using the new widening trailers now for about six months and they are ideal for spreading the axle load required to adhere to the different weight and width restrictions for road transport throughout Australia.

“This is the first time we have configured the trailer in such a way. The specifically designed hydraulic beams, which are fixed to the middle and to each end of the trailer, deliver the width change. By narrowing the trailers for the return journey, we could offer a more time and cost effective solution for the client as permitting issues and escort costs were reduced.”

ALE, which operates from centres in Brisbane, Darwin, Perth, Gladstone and Port Hedland, received forty axle lines fitted with Goldhofer’s innovative hydraulic width adjustment system, along with a range of accessories including goosenecks and ramps.

ALE completed the transportation project in April 2015.

## **ENDS**

***Issued by the ALE Press Office. For more information or images, please contact Sarah Maia on 01889 272 545 or email [s.maia@ale-heavylift.com](mailto:s.maia@ale-heavylift.com)***

**Image 1: The slew deck being transported to the Port Hedland site.**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

Founded in 1983 by Roger Harries, ALE delivers a highly tailored, end-to-end service covering every aspect of the handling, transportation and installation of heavy, indivisible loads, including lifting, transporting, installing, ballasting, jacking and weighing.

ALE delivers strategic heavy-lift services to a wide range of sectors, including civil, oil and gas, energy, nuclear, offshore, renewables, petrochemical, ports, marine, minerals and metals and mining.

ALE is headquartered in the UK and has more than 30 offices across Europe, the Far East, Africa, America, South America, the Middle East and Australia. It is fully compliant with international standards of safety and excellence, including Quality standard ISO 9001:2008, Environmental standard ISO 14001:2004, and Health and Safety Standard OHSAS 18001:2007. ALE is also registered and qualified in the Achilles Norway and Link-up systems, and is a member of both the British Safety Council and the British Standards Institution.

Further information can be found on the ALE website at [www.ale-heavylift.com](http://www.ale-heavylift.com)