

# THUNDERBIRD MINERAL SANDS OPERATIONS

Together, building prosperity in the Kimberley and beyond.

## Fact Sheet

Kimberley Mineral Sands' (KMS) Thunderbird Operations (Thunderbird) is located mid-way between Derby and Broome in the Kimberley region of Western Australia, on the Joombarn-buru native title determination area.

Thunderbird is one of the largest zircon mineral sands deposits in the world and contains valuable heavy minerals including ilmenite, zircon and leucoxene which are extracted and exported via the Port of Broome to our global offtake partners.

Since operations began at Thunderbird in October 2023, KMS has become a major contributor to the local West Kimberley economy, providing significant local and Aboriginal business and employment outcomes.



## THUNDERBIRD FAST FACTS & PROJECTED ECONOMIC BENEFITS

**\$750 million**

Estimated spend with local businesses in first 20 years of operations. Current monthly spend is approximately \$4 million.



Creation of ~300 long term direct jobs, with ambitious Aboriginal employment and business targets.

**36+ year lifespan**

Long-term, sustainable project lifespan creating inter-generational employment and business opportunities.

**\$2 billion**

Estimated uplift to Gross Domestic Product in first 20 years of operations.



One of the world's largest zircon mineral sands deposits.



Environmental monitoring in place for native fauna, water use, dust and noise.



Regular export shipments from Port of Broome to global offtake partners.



Progressive mining and rehabilitation, returning vegetation to pre-mining habitat.

## WHAT IS PRODUCED AT THUNDERBIRD?

Thunderbird is a mineral sands operation which produces concentrates that are exported for further processing. Mineral sands products are found in many everyday uses including ceramics, paint and inks, paper, plastics and titanium products.

**Zircon concentrate** produced at Thunderbird is exported to our global offtake partners and customers for further processing.

The zircon is then used in a number of applications including ceramics, zircon refractories and zirconium based chemicals that are both sold locally and exported globally.

100% of the **ilmenite concentrate** produced at Thunderbird is exported to our joint venture partner Yansteel.

After processing, the ilmenite goes into the manufacture of titanium dioxide pigment which is then used in a range of paint, plastic and paper products.



**BATHROOMS**



**TILES**



**CATALYTIC CONVERTERS**



**AIR & WATER PURIFICATION**



**PAINT**



**PAPER**



**SUNSCREEN**

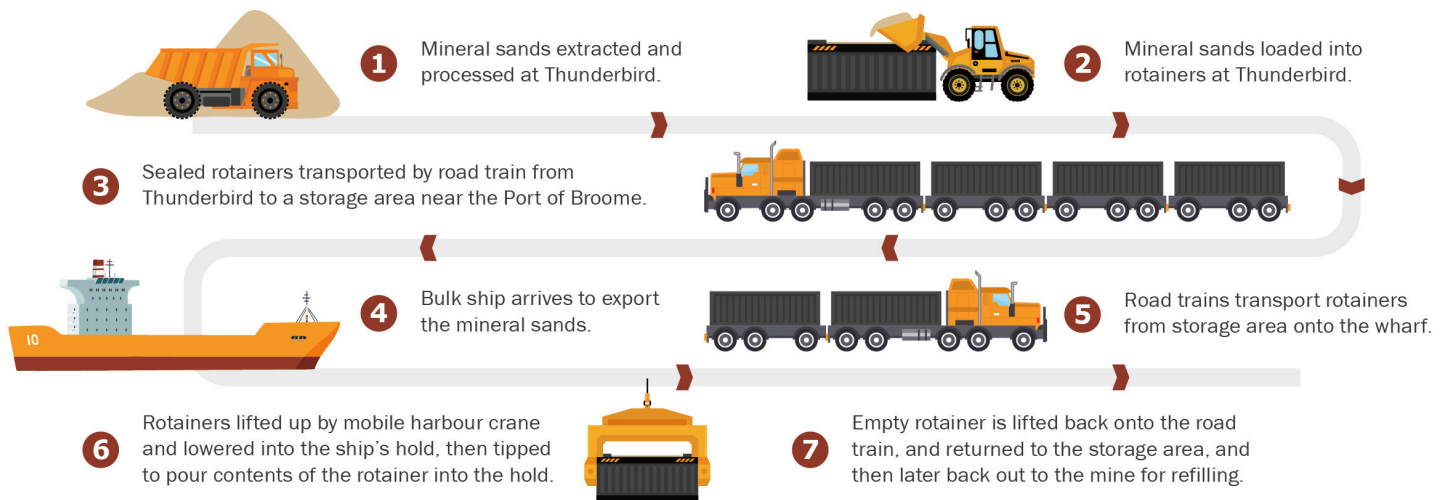


**PLASTICS**

## LOGISTICS

Our complex logistics process starts at the mine, where mineral sands concentrates are loaded into rotainers for trucking to Broome. The PBS 60 metre road trains used to transport products are equipped with many safety features.

These include including driver monitoring, dash cams, infra-red cameras and geofencing. The road trains are also subject to below signposted speed limits on Great Northern Highway (90km/h) and Gubinge Road (40km/h & 60km/h).

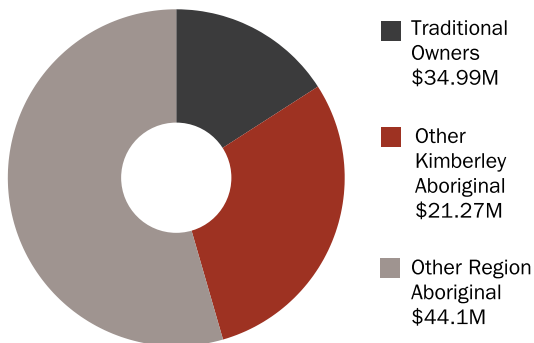


## LOCAL AND ABORIGINAL BUSINESS SPEND

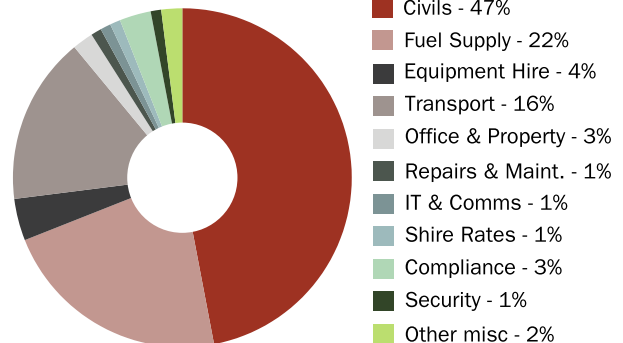
Through our tender and contracting processes, we preference local West Kimberley based and Aboriginal businesses over suppliers from elsewhere in Australia.

If you'd like to find out more about working with us at Thunderbird, please register your interest via the website [www.kmsands.com.au/procurement](http://www.kmsands.com.au/procurement).

### Aboriginal Owned Businesses \$100.36 million



### Kimberley Based Businesses \$117.97 million

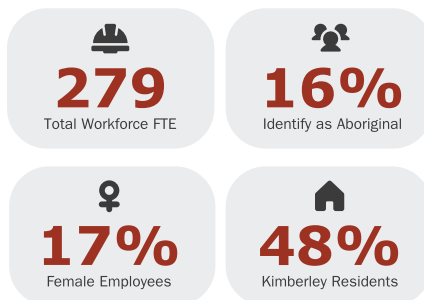


Total spend since Operations began in October 2023 (as at 30 December 2025)

We are proud to have a diverse and locally resident workforce at Thunderbird. Many different roles for all levels of experience and skill are employed both by KMS directly and by our primary contractors Piacentini & Son, Regroup, Kaynar Group, Campbell Transport and ISS.

Examples of roles available include chefs and housekeepers for the village, heavy diesel mechanics, processing operators, mining and mobile plant operators, geologists, engineers and road train drivers. All jobs are advertised online and must be applied for via [www.seek.com.au](http://www.seek.com.au).

## EMPLOYMENT



KMS direct and primary contractor workforce  
Full Time Equivalent (FTE) numbers as at 30 December 2025



For further information please visit  
[www.kmsands.com.au](http://www.kmsands.com.au)

Contact our Community  
hotline with any enquiries

1300 33 67 25  
[community@kmsands.com.au](mailto:community@kmsands.com.au)  
264 Port Drive | PO Box 1876  
Broome WA 6725