

# Media Release

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For Immediate Release

## Bradken opens state of the art foundry in Xuzhou, China

Global mining consumables manufacturer, Bradken® will today officially open its new state of the art low alloy steel foundry in Xuzhou, China.

This greenfield site development is the latest addition to Bradken's global manufacturing network and represents a capital investment of A\$87 million (RMB556 million).

Bradken employs over 6,200 people throughout 59 manufacturing facilities and sales offices around the world.

The new Xuzhou foundry reinforces Bradken's commitment to China and specifically the Jiangsu province, following their initial investment in the construction of an adjoining manufacturing workshop in 2007.

To date, Bradken has invested A\$130 million (RMB846 million) into the region making the Company the third largest Australian "Wholly Owned Foreign Enterprise" operating in China.

Bradken's Xuzhou foundry has been specifically designed to manufacture the Company's world leading crawler shoe product line.

Bradken is well-known for its undercarriage systems for mining excavators and shovels, currently supplying crawler shoes to the world's largest mining machinery manufacturing companies as well as producing Bradken's own patented designs. The Xuzhou foundry will support the needs of this market reinforcing Bradken as one of the largest manufacturers of crawler shoes in the world.

"The foundry will allow Bradken to produce an additional 20,000 tonnes of crawler shoes per year in a safe and environmentally compliant environment" said Brian Hodges, Managing Director and CEO.

"Up to this time, we have been capacity constrained in this product line and we saw Xuzhou as an excellent location to build a world class foundry that would set a new standard for manufacturing in our industry. We believe we have achieved our goal with the construction of this very impressive foundry," he added.

"We are pleased with the high level of automation and our capabilities to produce these technically demanding products" he added.

Mr Hodges said the Chinese authorities have been extremely responsive and supportive of Bradken's operations in their country and this has enabled the project to be completed in a very compressed timeframe.

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The Xuzhou foundry is impressive by any standard. The footprint of the main building is larger than eight football fields under roof. Design of the process and foundry layout was a consolidated effort with Bradken's specialist staff from all over the world participating throughout the construction, installation and commissioning phases. They also acted as mentors for the new Chinese team. The foundry has been ramping up production since December 2012.

"Explaining and demonstrating our values to new staff is very important" noted Mr Hodges. The foundry now employs almost 200 personnel and is operated by a local management team. "It is Bradken's philosophy to employ local management in our facilities, so we are proud to be generating jobs for people in Xuzhou who provide the expertise and local knowledge crucial to our success," Mr Hodges said.