

# PREVIN PILLAY

## OPERATIONS MANAGER and PRINCIPAL PROCESS ENGINEER

Contact number

Email available on request

[LinkedIn link](#)

Sultanate of Oman

### PERSONAL PROFILE

*A forward-thinking professional and industry expert who provides strategic support in the form of process optimization, cost improvement, project success and operational best practice.*

*Exceptionally strong at unearthing hidden value drivers and road-mapping definitive progress for top organisations.*

*Proficient, dexterous leader who thrives in a deadline intensive environment, prioritizes skilfully, performs under pressure, and exceeds KPI's. Consistently overcomes multi-layered, complex challenges and delivers top-tier results that driver businesses forward.*

### EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

- **MA (Master of Arts) in Creative Writing** – 2018  
Rhodes University, Grahamstown, SA
- **Bachelor of Tech. in Chemical Engineering** – 2006  
Durban University of Technology, SA

### GAME CHANGING ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Developed a novel process to produce Gold Dore, leading to **SPMP's** first commercial sale worth over \$600K.
- Pioneered the production & sale of commercial grade antimony for SPMP.
- Led multi-disciplinary team to successful commissioning of SPMP, with ZERO LTI's.

### CORE COMPETENCIES

- Strategic Leadership
- People Engagement
- Profit and Loss Management
- Project Management
- Plant Commissioning
- Metal Accounting
- Technology & Innovation
- Change Management
- Pyro-Metallurgy
- Operational Synergy
- Health, Safety & Environment
- Sustainability Analysis
- Risk Assessment & Mitigation

### SOFTWARE SKILLS

- Microsoft Office
- Wonderware Historian
- Sharepoint
- SAP
- SCADA

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### **Strategic & Precious Metals Processing LLC, based in Sultanate of Oman** 2018 – Current **Promoted to Operations Manager – Smelting in 2019 till Current**

Created a positive work environment where employee contributions are encouraged. Here I actively contributed to the continuous improvement of systems, processes and practices, resulting in significant cost reduction and productivity improvement.

#### **Pivotal Contribution**

- Extensive experience in antimony metal, antimony trioxide and Gold Dore.
- Collaborated with COO to draft business rescue plans and project frameworks which underlined a comprehensive program to turn company around.
- Implemented a sound operational strategy which received buy-in from board members and financiers, ensuring the survival of SPMP.
- Governed the modification and redesign of critical equipment, led the start-up and ramp-up phases and delivered successful production.
- Planned and developed SPMP's process to refine complex alloys and produce a sale-able Gold Dore bar.
- Spearheaded the evolution of the Gold Dore processing to engineer a final product, outperforming the design basis Gold content by 260%.
- Merited with producing the first ever on-spec sale-able antimony metal for SPMP, at 99.79% purity.
- Improved departmental HSE performance by 32% compared to 2018.

#### **Appointed as Metallurgy Superintendent in 2018 to 2019**

Planned, modified and improved the metallurgical strategies to build a modern metallurgical plant.

- Managed > \$2.5M annual metallurgical budget & resources.
- Maintained cost effectiveness whilst maximising throughput and metal recovery.
- Led team of +50 personnel including Operations staff, Metallurgists, Control system Engineers & Technicians to deliver successful execution of the C3, C4 and C5 commissioning plans, 2 weeks ahead of schedule with ZERO lost time injuries.
- Implemented processes and steered complex projects to re-design furnaces, casting machines and converters. With sustainable and scalable performance metrics.
- Collaborated with Finance Manager to re-engineer the Techno-Economic model.
- Improved the "Dollar per ton" production costs, increases revenue by \$1M per annum.
- Improved first pass recovery of Gold through the Calcine circuit by 6 times.
- Contributed to reduced reprocessing costs by \$75 per Troy Oz of Gold produced.

#### **Richards Bay Minerals (Rio Tinto), based in South Africa** 2014 – 2018

##### **Growth path to Superintendent: Process Metallurgy in 2016 to 2018**

As a Superintendent, I led a team of 5 processing engineers. Monitored the quality of products by ensuring compliance with ISO 9000 standards and production specifications.

- Managed metallurgical budget / Cap Ex planning, cost containment, accounting processes and data.
- Instrumental in improving Roaster yield by 2% and realized a savings of \$1.5M annually.
- Implemented RCF networks on iron Injection, reducing operating costs by approx. \$20K per annum.
- Reduced spillage and increased iron yield by \$827K per annum in savings.

##### **Appointed as Senior Processing Engineer in 2014 to 2016**

Analysed plant and process efficiencies via investigations, continuous data analysis and trend reviews.

- Ensured metallurgical equipment integrity, researched appropriate new technologies to identify opportunities for continuous process optimization.

#### **BHP, based in Kwazulu-Natal** 2006 – 2014

##### **Senior Engineer: Process & Improvement**

Managed team of +20 people (operations & technical). Performed specialist technical measurements on electrolytic cells to diagnose and treat process disturbance. Administered safe pot-line shut-downs and start-ups by ensuring effective controls were in place. Crisis Management, helped to return plant to full production capacity in 2012, 2 months before deadline.

- Catastrophe prevention, averted explosion by using extensive data analysis.
- Developed a prototype thermal regulation model.
- Successfully de-bottlenecked the Bay-side bath plant, \$345K revenue achieved.