



“A diversified international investment firm with a global perspective for global excellence”

BG GLOBAL ACQUIRES 30% EQUITY SHARE IN PIONEER DRILL AND BLAST

Middleburg, Mpumalanga – April 2025

In a landmark transaction that marks a significant milestone in the mining services sector, BG Global has acquired a 30% equity share in Pioneer Drill and Blast, one of South Africa's leading drilling and blasting contractors. The strategic investment underscores BG Global's confidence in Pioneer Drill and Blast's robust operational capacity, strong brand and leadership, and its commitment to excellence in the South African coal mining sector.

A Legacy of Excellence and Innovation

Pioneer Drill and Blast, headquartered in Middleburg, Mpumalanga, has cemented its position as a premier provider of a full suite of specialized drilling and blasting services. Established in 2017, the company was founded to meet the growing demand for flexible, customer-centric solutions in the mining industry. With a steadfast commitment to integrity, innovation, and sustainable operations, Pioneer Drill and Blast has consistently delivered superior service to its clients.

Key Statistics and Capabilities

- Annual Turnover: R500 million+
- Drilling Capacity: 330,000 meters per month
- Fleet Size: 168 LDVs, 46 drills
- Operational Footprint: 15 active mine sites
- Workforce: 700 employees

Pioneer Drill and Blast prides itself on its ability to provide tailored solutions that address airblast and ground vibration concerns while ensuring the highest safety and environmental standards. The company's strong focus on quality control, technical expertise, and innovative blasting techniques has positioned it as a preferred partner in the coal mining industry.

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Strategic Investment and Future Prospects

BG Global's 30% equity stake acquisition signifies a long-term commitment to the expansion and modernization of Pioneer Drill and Blast's operations. This partnership is expected to drive increased investment in advanced drilling technologies, enhance operational efficiencies, and strengthen the company's market presence and internal Return-On-Investment.

"We are excited to welcome "Pioneer" into the BG Global portfolio of investment propositions," said Banzi Giyose, Co-Founder and VP of BG Global. This investment not only validates our business model but also provides us with the resources to accelerate our growth trajectory and further improve our asset diversification objectives.

A History of Growth and Industry Leadership

The roots of Pioneer Drill and Blast trace back to the legacy of J.E.F Drill and Blast, a company with a strong industry presence since its inception in 1989. Over the years, the company has undergone several structural changes, reflecting the evolution of the industry and its leadership..

In 2008, Pioneer Drill and Blast was acquired by Sentula Mining, where it remained until 2017, when key management personnel, J.C.T Beyers and Z.V Potgieter, orchestrated a management buyout, leading to the establishment of Pioneer Drill and Blast as an independent entity. Since then, the company has rapidly expanded, maintaining a stronghold in the coal sector and earning a reputation for reliability and innovation.

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Coal Mining Focus

Pioneer Drill and Blast has built a formidable reputation as a trusted partner in the coal mining industry. With South Africa's coal sector playing a crucial role in the nation's energy and export economy, the company's expertise in precision drilling and controlled blasting ensures optimized extraction processes for coal producers.

- **Efficient Coal Extraction:** Pioneer Drill and Blast utilizes advanced drilling techniques to maximize coal yield while minimizing environmental impact.
- **Safety and Compliance:** The company adheres to stringent safety standards and regulatory requirements, ensuring compliance with all industry norms.
- **Custom Solutions for Coal Mines:** With a deep understanding of coal mining challenges, Pioneer Drill and Blast offers tailored drilling and blasting services that enhance operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness.
- **Sustainability Commitment:** By integrating environmentally conscious blasting methods, the company reduces airblast and ground vibration effects, mitigating the impact on surrounding communities and ecosystems.

Commitment to Excellence and Sustainability

At the heart of Pioneer Drill and Blast's success is its unwavering dedication to its core values:

- **Integrity and Accountability:** Every team member is empowered to contribute meaningfully, fostering a culture of trust and responsibility.
- **Innovation and Entrepreneurship:** The company continually invests in technology and personnel development to maintain a competitive edge.
- **Sustainability and Community Engagement:** Environmental stewardship and community well-being remain central to operational strategies.
- **Employee-Centric Culture:** Pioneer Drill and Blast prioritizes employee growth, safety, and job satisfaction, ensuring a motivated and skilled workforce.

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Looking Ahead

With BG Global's strategic backing, Pioneer Drill and Blast is poised to scale new heights in operational excellence and market expansion. The synergy between the two companies will not only enhance technical capabilities but also reinforce the shared commitment to sustainable and efficient mining practices.

The acquisition marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for BG Global and Pioneer, setting the stage for continued growth, enhanced service delivery, and long-term industry leadership in South Africa's mining sector.

LEAD AUTHOR

Banzi Giyose

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2025

