

CAPABILITY STATEMENT:
UNDERGROUND HARD ROCK

VBKOM combines deep underground hard rock mining expertise with multidisciplinary technical capability and commercial insight. From understanding the orebody to optimising mine design and evaluating project value, we connect critical decisions across the mining value chain to help clients identify risk, unlock value, and move projects forward with confidence.

© 2026 VBKOM



BETTER UNDERGROUND MINING DECISIONS START BEFORE THE COMMITMENT IS MADE.

Underground mining decisions carry consequences that can last for decades. Shaft position, mining method, cut-off grades, stope layout, ventilation assumptions, production rate, and capital can be difficult, or sometimes impossible, to unwind once made.

VBKOM helps mining companies understand those decisions before they are locked in, connecting technical depth with practical mining experience and commercial judgement.



South African–born. Globally proven. Locally embedded.

Our underground mining experience shaped in some of the deepest and most technically demanding hard rock environments in the world, including narrow-reef operations where assumptions, sequencing, and execution matter.

That experience gives our team a practical understanding of how underground decisions interact, from the orebody and mine design through to production, capital, and project viability.

© 2026 VBKOM

COMBINED TEAM EXPERIENCE, BY COMMODITY

**Cumulative years worked by current VBKOM personnel on producing operations and projects in each commodity.*



Gold
123 years



Manganese
94 years



PGMs
61 years



Copper
57 years



Diamonds & Gems
49 years



Uranium
16 years



Lead & Zinc
15 years

© 2026 VBKOM

CONNECTED JUDGEMENT ACROSS THE UNDERGROUND MINING VALUE CHAIN

Underground projects rarely fail because of one isolated decision. More often, risk emerges in the connections between geology, mine design, infrastructure, production, capital, and project economics.

VBKOM brings those decisions together so clients can understand what matters, where the risk sits, and what needs to happen next.

THE OREBODY

What is there, and how confident are we?

Every downstream decision begins with the geological model. Uncertainty in the orebody influences mine design, scheduling, economics, and ultimately the confidence of the investment decision.

We assist clients to establish a technically defensible understanding of the resource before assumptions begin compounding downstream.

- Geostatistics
- Domaining
- Block modelling
- Classification
- Grade control
- Mine-to-mill reconciliation

THE MINE

How should it be accessed, economically mined, ventilated, and sequenced?

Underground mine design creates long-term commitments. Access, infrastructure, mining method, ventilation, and production strategy must work together - technically, operationally, and economically.

Our role is to connect these decisions into a practical mine plan that balances orebody realities, operating requirements, and long-term project performance.

- Stope design and layout optimisation
- Access and ventilation
- Rock engineering
- Equipment selection
- Production scheduling

© 2026 VBKOM

THE VALUE

How do technical decisions translate into project value?.

Capital decisions should support a mine plan that can actually deliver.

Technical design, production assumptions, and project economics are considered together, creating a clearer view of the trade-offs behind capital deployment, operating performance, and project value.

The goal is not simply to reduce cost. It is to understand where capital creates value, where it carries risk, and what the project needs to move forward with confidence.

- Cost models
- Trade-off and options studies
- Discrete-event simulation
- Operational readiness
- FEL concept to feasibility

THE CONFIDENCE

Will the technical answer stand up to scrutiny?.

Mining decisions must often withstand review from technical teams, executives, boards, investors, and regulators.

VBKOM translates complex technical work into clear, defensible decision frameworks, supported by independent judgement and appropriate and recognised reporting standards.

Mineral Resource and Mineral Reserve reporting is prepared in accordance with recognised international standards and codes, including SAMREC (2016), JORC (2012), NI 43-101 and KS-K 1300, providing a defensible technical basis for review, disclosure, and decision-making.

- Competent and Qualified Person reporting
- Independent technical audit
- Due diligence



© 2026 VBKOM

FROM UNDERGROUND REALITY TO DECISION CONFIDENCE

VBKOM combines practical hard rock mining experience with multidisciplinary technical capability and commercial understanding.

We work inside the technical detail while keeping sight of the decision it needs to support - bringing the orebody, the mine, the economics, and the risk into one connected view.

Move your underground project forward with confidence.

Let’s talk about your next critical decision.

© 2026 VBKOM

By unearthing opportunities, our solutions have the power to improve lives.

VBKOM

ABOUT VBKOM
VBKOM is a South African-born, globally active mining consultancy providing strategic technical expertise across the mining project lifecycle.

From exploration and engineering to project delivery, operational optimisation and risk management, we connect technical disciplines with commercial understanding to support better-informed decisions.

With experience across Africa, the Americas and Asia-Pacific, we combine practical mining knowledge, integrated expertise and local insight to bring clarity to complex challenges.

Our approach is grounded in a simple belief: better mining outcomes begin with better-connected decisions.

AFRICA
Centurion, South Africa
info@vbkom.com
+27 (0) 12 654 0004

AMERICAS
Ontario, Canada
info@vbkom.com
+1234

ASIA PACIFIC
Perth, Australia
info@vbkom.com
+1234

vbkom.com

© 2026 VBKOM