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PAPER TITLE Occupational And Environmental Radiation Monitoring Programmes at an
Australian Underground Copper and Uranium Mine

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ABSTRACT (See instructions overleaf)

WMC (Olympic Dam Corporation) is a major Australian producer of copper and uranium and consists of an underground mine and multifunction metallurgical plant. The facilities have been in production for 8 years and the company is currently examining a major expansion. Occupational and environmental radiation protection is considered to be a critical management function and is formalised through a radiation safety management system. The performance of the system is audited by a group of radiation protection professionals via an established radiation monitoring programme. The programme successfully quantifies the occupational and environmental radiation exposure levels and demonstrates the effectiveness of the management system. The results of the programmes indicate that occupational and environmental exposures are low and well controlled with occupational levels averaging at 20 percent of the 20 mSv limit and the most exposed public group being less than 10 percent of the member of public limit of 1 mSv.

The monitoring programme is only one part of the overall radiation safety management system and this paper will outline the monitoring programme and exposure and dose assessment methodologies from a practical perspective.