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## **A First for DRA in Sierra Leone**

Global engineering and project delivery company DRA has announced that it has been awarded Phase 1 of the Gangama mineral sands project in south west Sierra Leone by Sierra Rutile Limited (SRL).

SRL is a leading producer of mineral sands, and is the world's second largest producer of natural rutile. The company's lease in Sierra Leone is the world's largest known deposit of natural rutile, and has been mined since the early 1960s.

The 500 t/h Phase 1 project has been awarded to DRA on a lump sum turnkey (LSTK) basis. Design, procurement, construction and commissioning will be carried out by DRA's internal specialist LSTK Projects Group. Beneficiation in the new process plant will include scrubbing, screening, desliming and gravity spirals recovery. Concentrate will be further upgraded on site by the existing beneficiation plant.

Paul Thomson, DRA's global CEO, comments: "This is an especially pleasing award for DRA and represents something of a milestone in our 30 year history. It is a significant mineral sands project for us, and our first project in Sierra Leone. It adds to our growing complement of recent projects in West Africa, which includes the New Liberty Gold project in Liberia for Aureus Mining and the Yaramoko Gold project in Burkina Faso for Roxgold".

Thomson continues: "We've been working closely with the Sierra Rutile team on studies and alternative designs for the past nine months. This period included a joint value engineering exercise which resulted in cost savings of several million dollars. This demonstrates our ability to develop optimum solutions for projects, based on innovative thinking by the teams of both DRA and our client".

Site works on the project will begin during May this year, with commissioning expected in April 2016.

## **About DRA**

DRA is a South Africa based multi-disciplinary engineering group that delivers mining, minerals processing and infrastructure services from concept to commissioning as well as providing comprehensive operations and maintenance services. DRA has offices and

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operations in nine African countries as well as Australia, Canada, China, Europe, India, and the USA. The DRA Group provides highly flexible services, allowing it to meet with needs of multinational mining companies as well as junior and emerging producers. The company's expertise covers a wide range of commodities including gold, platinum, coal, ferrous metals, diamonds, uranium, base metals, poly-metallic minerals and rare earths.