

## **The 2009 Atlas Copco Scholarship Experience – Boomers, Bits and Big Rigs**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Each year Atlas Copco, in conjunction with The AusIMM, awards the Atlas Copco Scholarship to a student studying a degree relevant to the minerals industry. As part of the 2009 scholarship, I was lucky enough to gain an insight into the Atlas Copco Construction and Mining Technique business division. After visiting the sales company of Atlas Copco in Perth, I travelled to the division headquarters in Örebro, Sweden, to tour local production facilities and meet with product line managers. After many presentations from different groups, I learnt a great deal about mining, marketing and international business and gained an understanding of their extensive range of innovative products from some very passionate people. In Örebro I visited the Underground Rock Excavation group, the Surface Mining Equipment group and the research and development unit; Rocktec. I was also able to tour Orica's detonator production facilities as well as visit the Secoroc and Geotechnical Drilling and Exploration groups. Other highlights included a trip to Kiruna, in the Arctic Circle, for a tour around Europe's largest and most technologically advanced underground mine, having a few drinks at the Absolute Icebar in the Icehotel at Jukkasjärvi, watching a rather intense local ice hockey game and experiencing Stockholm nightlife. Upon reflection, it was an amazing experience, but it was the people I met and their enthusiasm that really made my trip, and I would strongly encourage others to apply for this scholarship in the future.

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