

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Boiler upgrades continue at Proserpine Mill**

More than 400m of new boiler tubing will be installed in Proserpine Mill's number one boiler ahead of the 2015 crushing season.

The \$3.52 million retubing job marks the second stage of a three-year project to refurbish the boiler and extend its life.

Following on from work completed in recent maintenance seasons, many of this year's capital projects should deliver improved factory reliability for the upcoming crushing season and beyond.

Proserpine Mill Site Manager Danny Van der Berg said the projects included a \$1.59 million upgrade of the boiler feedwater tank, a \$600,000 reheater replacement and a \$200,000 investment in centrifugal upgrades.

"We're also spending more than \$700,000 on turbine protection upgrades," Mr Van der Berg said.

"The second stage of our feeding station upgrade will also be completed.

"All of these projects are part of our reliability and asset improvement plan for the site."

He said although Proserpine Mill generally performed well last crushing season, there was still room for improvement.

“The boiler work we’re currently undertaking will help improve the security of the factory’s steam supply, which is critical to the mill’s overall performance,” he said.

“This will be our second season with the new boiler automation system, so we expect that to run more smoothly this year.

“We’ve set ourselves ambitious operational targets for the season and are committed to achieving them.”

Based on current crop predictions, the mill can expect to crush significantly more cane than last year.

“The current estimate is 1.76 million tonnes but that could easily increase if the good growing conditions continue,” Mr Van der Berg said.

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