

## Polish Report

ISM Congress 2010 in Sun City (South Africa)  
09.2010

### Mining

Poland is the leading copper and silver producer in the World. The KGHM Polska Miedz S.A. is the ninth producer of copper (see table 1) and eight producer of silver in the world.

Table 1. The biggest copper producers in the World in 2009 (mining production)

Firm	Production [K. T/year]	World share rate [%]
Codelco	1 781	11,2%
Freeport-McM Copper & Gold	1 650	10,4%
BHP Billiton	1 169	7,4%
Xstrata AG	894	5,6%
Rio Tinto	818	5,2%
Glencore	691	4,4%
Anglo American	686	4,3%
Southern Copper	490	3,1%
<b>KGHM Polska Miedz S.A.</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>2,8%</b>
Norisk Nickel	390	2,5%
remaining:	6 867	43,3%
All together:	15 875	100,00 %

source: CRU International, Copper Quarterly July 2010

In modern times hard coal is still considered as a strategic resource for Poland's economy, as it covers roughly 65% of energetic needs. Before and after World War II Poland has been one of the major coal producers worldwide, usually listed among the five largest. However, after 1989 the coal production is in decline, with the overall production for 1994 reaching 132 million metric tons, 112 million metric tons in 1999, 104 million metric tons in 2002 and 77 million metric tons in 2009. There is 30 hard coal mines in Poland. The biggest one is the LW Bogdanka S.A. which is operating in eastern Poland.

All copper ore and hard coal mines are the underground mines operating on the depth until 1200 m u.e.s.

The estimates of shale gas resources in Poland range from 1,4 to 3 billion cubic meters. This data was compiled by the U.S. consulting firms by comparing the geological conditions of Polish and American geological structures. Ministry of Environment has issued 44 licenses (5-year) to explore for shale gas in Poland, including Exxon Mobil, Chevron, ConocoPhillips and Marathon. The presence of such giants suggests that the caution given the data may be more truth than estimates. The first reliable data of shall gas resources in northern Poland will be given in spring 2011.

## **Teaching**

Mine surveyors studies are offered by two universities in southern Poland.

On the AGH University of Science and Technology in Cracow this specialization is taught at the second level after bachelor study at the faculty of Geodesy and Cartography. The Silesian University of Technology teaches the mine surveying at the faculty of Mining as the specialization on the second level. After study the graduates mine surveyors can work in the mines to acquire the needed practice. After two years on the mine the graduates can pass an exam to be authorized underground or open pit mine surveyor.

Report was prepared by R. Hejmanowski