



Yukon Mine Training Association

Placer Miners Hit the Training Mother lode as Heavy Equipment Simulator Training Course Arrives in Dawson City

April 16, 2009, Whitehorse

The Yukon Mine Training Association (YMTA) announced today that it is bringing the latest in training technology to Dawson City – the heavy equipment operator simulator. On April 20, students will climb aboard the simulator to begin a 20-day course which will teach them the heavy equipment operating skills essential on placer claims in the Yukon.

The simulator gives trainees a chance to experience real-world challenges without the risks associated with learning on a work site by using video screens, realistic controls, and a replica equipment cab. Participants will use the simulator to gain experience driving dozers, loaders and excavators.

“Placer mining in and around Dawson City presents some very specific challenges and this course will give equipment operators the skills to increase safety on the claims where they work without costing lives, or ruining equipment,” said YMTA Executive Director Tracy Thomas.

“The simulator will also increase the number of skilled operators available for mining and mining-related industries in the Territory,” said YMTA Training Coordinator Jennifer Russell. “Dawson City has been the heart of mining in the Yukon for over a century, and we’re proud to be part of adding to the mining skills that already exist there,” she added.

The Yukon Mine Training Association is a partnership between the Yukon's mining industry and First Nations. YMTA works to maximize employment opportunities emerging from the growth of the mining and related resource industries in the North.

For more information contact:

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Heavy Equipment Operator Simulator Training:

Simulator training is the most efficient way to teach equipment operators new skills without risking lives and damaging equipment. Simulator training allows individuals who would like to become heavy equipment operators practice driving and operating techniques under controlled conditions, and is taught by Nuna Training Technologies.