



## News

# Online boost for female miners

WOMEN working in the resource sector will now benefit from an innovative virtual mentoring program launched yesterday.

The Australian Women in Resources Alliance launched the e-mentoring program yesterday to connect experienced mining, oil and gas professionals with women in the earlier stages of their careers.

Ernest Henry Mining senior mining engineer Jade Bullock said the program would work well to broaden horizons for women in the industry.

“Online communication is the way of the future and online mentoring would provide a great forum to broaden networks within the mining community,” she said.

“This would provide opportunities to be in touch with other industry professionals who could provide diversified ideas, guidance and share experiences on how to further a career in mining.

“There are great opportunities for women in the

resource sector and this will be a great tool for women to share and celebrate their achievements with other women.”

Australian Mines and Metals Association director of group services Tara Diamond said the first round of e-mentoring partnership had commenced with both men and women providing guidance and information.

“The AWRA e-Mentoring program is a key part of AWRA’s wider strategy to increase the participation of women in resource jobs from the current 15.2% to 25% by 2020,” she said. “The remote locations and non-traditional work schedules typical of Australia’s diverse resource industry often make it difficult for career-driven women to connect with experienced industry mentors.