



# MINERAL SANDS

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Produced by the  
Minerals Council of Australia

Australian  
Mining

Making the  
future possible

## Australia's resource

**30%**

Share of world  
ilmenite and rutile  
reserves in 2017

**1.3Mt**

Annual production  
of mineral sands  
in 2016-17



**1st**

Largest share of  
world mineral sands  
resources in 2016

**\$20m**

Mineral sands  
exploration expenditure  
in 2016-17

## Economic contribution

**\$2.3b**

Value of Australia's  
mineral sands sales  
in 2016-17

**\$364m**

Wages to mineral  
sands mine workers  
in 2016-17

**\$60m**

Royalties paid  
by mineral sands  
operations in 2015-16

**19%**

Share of world  
ilmenite and rutile  
production in 2017

## Mineral sands at work



Fibre optics



Aircraft engine



Pharmaceuticals



Car paint



Sporting goods



Dental

## DID YOU KNOW?

Titanium mineral production comes from mineral sands. Named after the Greek Titans, titanium is twice as strong as steel but 45 per cent lighter. Resistant to corrosion, titanium is widely used in the aeronautics and aerospace industries.

## Titanium

The surgical metal of choice



High strength, light weight and non-toxic, titanium is widely used in surgical implants, such as hip and knee replacements, plates, screws and rods.