

Cat® Plow Systems

Facts & Figures

75
Years

...of experience with plowing technology. Caterpillar invented the plow and is looking back on a long history in designing and building longwall plow systems. The first plow was built in 1941.

1.8
Meter

...seam height. Cat® plow systems are the safest, most cost-efficient and most environmentally friendly way to extract coal in seams with a thickness of less than 1.8 meters.

10,000–20,000
Tonnes/Day

...or 1,103 - 22,046 short tons can be extracted from a high performance plow longwall under normal geological conditions.

Highest Performance in Low Coal

The removal rate achieved by plows compared to shearers has continued to increase over the years. For seams with an average height under 1.8 m (70 in), plows are now the system of choice for longwall mining. Automated Cat plow systems allow access to extended reserves in low coal seams to achieve a higher percentage of reserve recovery.

1,600
kW

...with 2 x 800 kW is the highest total installed power of a Cat plow system.



32,411
Tonnes/24 Hour Shift

...or 35,724 short tons is the actual production record of a low-seam Cat plow system in a seam height of just 1.4 m (56 in) (Pocahontas No. 3 Seam, West Virginia, USA).

4

Product Models

...are offered by Caterpillar. The GH1600, GH800, GH800B, and the RHH800 represent the Cat plow systems for mining seam heights from 0.75 (30 in) to 2.30 (98 in).

0.75
Meter

...or 30 inches is the minimum coal seam height which can be mined with a plow system – regardless of the incline of a seam and the hardness of the coal.



3.6
Meter/Second

...or 720 feet per minute is the maximum cutting speed of a Cat plow system. This very fast minispeed enables high area rates of advance allowing high productivity even in very low seams.

60
Degree

...of seam inclination can be coped with using Cat plow systems.

0
Operators

...are required at the coal face as a Cat plow system can be controlled from a secure place underground or from a control room at the surface.

400
Meter

...or >1,312 feet – this is the face length in which modern plow longwalls can be operated. Longer faces mean higher production rates and less expenditure for gateroad development.



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