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Although the rich deposits of the Waterberg has been discovered almost a century ago, it has not been exploited to its full extent. In our feature article, we look at how the Waterberg Coalfields can contain this crisis and keep our country shining bright well past the 21st century.

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A scourge that has been plaguing mines since its inception, is illegal mining. Not even a month ago this came to the fore again as more than 50 illegal miners met with a tragic end. We look at the dangers associated with this activity, the impact it has on legal mining and some measures that can be taken to alleviate the crisis.

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A very exciting development in the platinum sector, especially for junior miners, is the development of Mintek's new ConRoast technology. For a long time the UG2 ridge in Rustenberg has not been mined because of the huge cost involved in mining this much harder deposit. But thanks to the ConRoast technology, it has become feasible to mine this rich resource.

## **Determining the provenance of diamonds.....47**

A problem that has been a burden on the diamond industry for as long as diamonds has been mined, is the trade of illegal diamonds, or trading in diamonds that comes from strife-torn countries. Mintek is busy developing a technology that uses trace element analysis in combination with physical characteristics to link diamonds to their source, thus curbing the illegal trade in diamonds.