

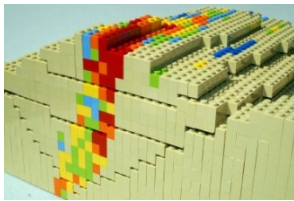
IT notebook: Mintec

Staff reporter, [8 December 2011](#)

JUMBO jets, Ferraris and Tokyo have been built out of Lego, so a mine block model would appear to be, well, child's play. For Australian Lego artist Ryan McNaught, it was – after he'd worked out what the design brief was all about.

The Melbourne man was commissioned by staff in the Perth office of mining software supplier Mintec to create the block model for a seminar. The result was a built-to-scale "computer-generated block model" about 70cm long, 40cm wide and 20cm high, and weighing 17kg. McNaught has created some amazing Lego replicas – he recently spent eight months building a Qantas A380, the world's largest passenger jet, before taking on a life-size model of teenage popstar Justin Bieber.

"When we contacted the guy [McNaught], he really didn't know what the heck we were talking about at first," said Mintec's Perth branch manager Ian Whitehouse. "But we explained it all and it took him about a week and a half to do.



"As soon as we got it, one of the engineers in the office wanted to take it away and play with it.

"It's colour-coded using RGB colors from Lego, and every block represents a grade. To create a cross-section view, it's cut down the middle and separates into two halves, which is just as well because it's quite heavy."

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