

The visit to a gold mine *- Introduction*



by
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As an official of the Greenland Home Rule, I visited The Nalunaq Gold Mine in October 2006. The Nalunaq Gold mine is located in Kirkespirdalen (The church steeple valley) in the southern part of Greenland.

The visit in the mine was scheduled to last six days. My task was to gain insight into the socioeconomic aspects of mining. Among other things, I should interview the manager of the mine, the security consultants and especially the employees.

This project shows not only images from everyday life in the mine camp, but also the flight by helicopter to the mining camp deep into the stunning wilderness of South Greenland.

Nalunaq is a high-grade gold deposit found in quartz veins that cut down through the mountain. Each grain is from 0.1 to 2.0 m thick with an average of 0.7 meters. The gold is found as small grains, which size varies from microscopic to a few millimeters in diameter. Although it is a very fine appearance the gold content is only 16-25 grams of gold per ton rock, which means that very large amounts of ore have to be mined and processed, if the mine should remain profitable.



Nalunaq Gold Mine in Kirkespirdalen (The church steeple valley) in the southern part of Greenland, October 2006



Grains of gold in a rock

COLOPHON

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PDF Version 1.0

Originally Published August 2012

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