

## Profile

**Name:** Mike Tanner

**Qualifications:** Aircraft Maintenance Fitter, Grad Diploma  
Counselling and Psychology

**Title:** Spare Parts Manager, Service and After Sales (SAS) division

**Years in the industry:** 5 years

**Years with Outotec:** 5 years



**Key Tasks you complete:** The support and supply of spare parts throughout Australia, as well as some overseas customers. I also develop and mentor a team, offering customers not just the part but also installation and supervision services – and anything else they need! Spare Parts also promotes new technological developments across our product lines. This is pretty interesting as we learn about new products all the time. For example, FloatForce® rotors and stators, which help optimise flotation performance, is proving to be extremely popular at the moment.

**Some key projects:** Project managing the creation and population of our spare parts database. This was a huge undertaking as we have developed site-specific spares lists for all customers who had installed Outotec technology in Australia – so we are talking a lot of mine sites! The lists contained key information such as lead times, recommended level of emergency/operational/commissioning spares. Customers need to have a good handle on what they have in stock, stock numbers, lead times etc - particularly in case of emergency. Rather than wasting time trawling through countless documents or performing visual checks on equipment, now they simply check their spares list. The list is particularly crucial if sites are remote or lead times long.

Previously, the information was held in project files – now it is all electronic, up-to-date and in the one place. I spent nearly six months on that project, so I am proud that it has proved such a success for both customers and our own staff.

### **Most rewarding Project or Solution/Outcome:**

One relatively recent project involved a client who was experiencing excessive wear on his flotation stator blades due to the abrasive nature of the slurry. They were ordering a level of operational spares which should not have been necessary at all.

Based on successful trials at another site, and supported by Outotec's principal metallurgist, Peter Bourke, we optimised their design. The new stator incorporated white iron tips for the wear zone. The trial has worked extremely well, with client feedback reporting a significant improvement in wear life, which has also led to a major reduction in maintenance costs. The life of the blades at site has gone from six weeks to ten months – a fantastic result.



*White iron tips on stator blades during trial*

**Size of team you are in:** There are nine people in the Spare Parts team, with four based in Perth and the remainder in Sydney. The Perth team provide support for mills, whilst Sydney looks after Flotation, Thickeners, Automation and Physical Separation.

**Why do you come to work?** I like what I do and enjoy helping and working with customers. I also find the work challenging.

**What did teachers say about you growing up?** A career guidance teacher, aptly called Mrs Hope, said I wouldn't amount to much, goes to show, you should never let the dissenters become the deciders!

### Favourite Movies?

- Goodfellas
- Lock, Stock and Two Smokin' Barrels
- Pulp Fiction
- When Harry Meet Sally

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*Mike Tanner is currently Spares Parts Manager – Minerals Processing technologies for Outotec Pty Ltd in Australasia. Prior to joining Outotec, Mike was an aircraft Maintenance Fitter in the Aerospace industry. Mike also has a Diploma of Business (Frontline Management) and a Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Psychology. Mike has over five years experience in the supply of parts and services to both minerals processing and base metal technologies.*

If you would like more information, click here to contact

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