

A Major Mining Project Regained Control of Permits, Compliance, and Risk at Scale

Summary

The project is one of the most ambitious mining and infrastructure developments in the world. Operating in a politically complex environment with evolving regulations, the project faced severe risks related to permit delays, compliance failures, and loss of institutional knowledge.

Manual tools like Excel spreadsheets and legacy databases made it difficult to understand what obligations existed, who owned them, and whether they were being met.

By implementing a highly configurable compliance and obligation management platform from Clockworx, the Simandou project established a single source of truth, automated critical workflows, and restored confidence among stakeholders.

The Challenge

“We couldn’t see the full picture, and that put the entire project at risk.”

As the project scaled, compliance and permitting emerged as two of the biggest threats to delivery.

What teams were experiencing day to day:

- Permit approvals delayed by months due to operational and bureaucratic bottlenecks
- No reliable forecast for when all required permits would be secured
- Critical obligations missed while others were overfunded without clear justification
- Frequent regulatory changes with no clarity on which rules applied
- Knowledge lost when staff and contractors rotated off the project
- Limited visibility into what was happening on site
- Sites occasionally operating outside agreed conditions

Solution

What the project needed

The company’s leadership team identified the need for a system that could adapt to the project, not the other way around.

Core requirements included:

- Web-based access across locations and organisations
- Configurable workflows aligned to local regulations
- Clear ownership of obligations and actions
- Real-time visibility into field activity
- Automated alerts and escalations
- Strong auditability and reporting

The Result

From fragmented tracking to confident control

The new system delivered a cloud-based and mobile-enabled workspace that transformed how compliance was managed.

Tangible outcomes included:

- A single place to record and manage all obligations
- Automated task assignment with clear accountability
- Early warning alerts for upcoming and overdue actions
- Automatic escalation to managers when risks emerged
- Linked documents and commitments with full audit trails
- Real-time dashboards showing compliance status by area, task, and risk

For leadership, one dashboard replaced dozens of spreadsheets.

