

First International Conference on Mining Geomechanical Risk Conference Report

The First International Conference on Mining Geomechanical Risk (MGR 2019) was held in Perth, Western Australia, 9-11 April 2019. This was the first of its kind for the ACG, and due to the broad nature of the subject matter, it attracted delegates from many different disciplines within mining geomechanics.

With a real melting pot of experience and backgrounds, the delegates were able to network with professionals that they wouldn't ordinarily mingle with. A diverse cross-section of opinions, ideas and knowledge made sessions and question times engaging and insightful.

MGR 2019 was chaired by the ACG's Associate Professor Johan Wesseloo and attendee numbers were in excess of 160. This included delegates from 13 countries around the world, 30 speakers, and 15 sponsors and exhibitors.

The day prior to the MGR 2019 Conference, on Monday 8 April 2019, the Introduction to Risk-Based Design and Probabilistic Methods Workshop – Part I was held. This workshop attracted 70+ attendees and was facilitated by Associate Professor Johan Wesseloo.

Part II of this workshop was held post-conference on Friday 12 April 2019 and was split into three streams, each focussing on a particular discipline: Underground, Open Pit and Paste & Tailings. Associate Professor Johan Wesseloo and Professors Phil Dight and Andy Fourie, respectively, hosted

these workshop streams. Each of the workshop streams attracted a healthy number of delegates with 33 at the Underground, 38 at the Open Pit, and 30 at the Paste and Tailings streams.

Topics covered during the three-day technical conference programme included management and geotechnical risk, risk management, monitoring and integration, quantitative approaches to design, risk management from a corporate perspective, management of large areas with limited resources, quantitative risk-based decision-making, data driven risk assessment and case studies. The first keynote speaker to present on day one of the conference was Professor John Hadjigeorgiou, of the University of Toronto, Canada who spoke on "Understanding, managing and communicating geomechanical mining risk". In session two of day one, Dr Bruce Brown from Bruce Brown Consulting Pty Ltd, provided the second keynote presentation with "What are the real risks associated with tailings management?". To commence day two, our third keynote speaker, Dr German Florez-Gonzalez, Newcrest Mining Limited, Australia gave his presentation: "Major hazards associated with



the cave mining process – are they manageable?". The fourth keynote speaker was Geoffrey Potgieter from Mount Isa Mines Limited, A Glencore Company, Australia and his presentation covered "Risk-based access control at Mount Isa Copper Operations".

The ACG team was delighted to have the support and participation of many sponsors and exhibitors including Principal Sponsor BHP, and Major Sponsors: Evolution Mining, Maptek, Newcrest Mining Limited and Reutech Mining.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and exhibitors, their involvement and support is highly appreciated. The MGR 2019 Conference papers are openly accessible at the ACG's Online Repository of Conference Proceedings and can be freely downloaded at papers.acg.uwa.edu/mgr2019.

The ACG team would like to extend an earnest thankyou to all MGR 2019 delegates, speakers, authors, reviewers, sponsors and exhibitors without whom, the event would not have been the success it was.