

Characterization and Management of Mine Wastes Course

Offered in Spanish

Presented by Society of Mining, Metallurgy and Exploration

Date: February 21-22, 2009 | Denver, Colorado, USA



Characterization and Management of Mine Wastes

Management of mine waste is one of the most challenging aspects of the mining industry. The exploitation of mineral resources has a long history of environmental impacts from metal leaching and acid rock drainage (ARD). Remediating these impacts is costly, time-consuming and technically challenging. Increased awareness of the long-term impacts of mining and the globalization of the mining industry have created a demand for professionals trained in ARD assessment and mitigation, particularly in Latin America. The purpose of this course is to introduce mine staff and consultants working in Latin America to the concepts and practices of mine waste characterization and management to support the implementation of these practices. To this end, the course will be offered IN SPANISH, by Spanish-speaking geochemists with extensive experience in Latin America.

Objectives

The objective of the course is to provide an overview of current practices in the geochemical characterization and management of mine waste rock and tailings. Attendees will learn: the basics of water quality impacts from mine waste; a range of static and kinetic testing procedures; design and implementation of waste rock sampling programs; quality control/quality assurance procedures for sampling and analysis; data interpretation; and waste rock management.

Content and Program

Day 1


- Waste rock weathering and water quality
- International and national regulatory criteria
- Static analyses
- Kinetic analyses
- Design and implementation of waste rock sampling programs

Day 2

- Choosing and managing an analytical laboratory
- Quality control/quality assurance procedures for sample collection and analysis
- Data interpretation
- Case studies
- Prediction and mitigation of potential impacts

Presenters

Patrick Williamson has 21 years of experience in project management, environmental geochemistry and hydrogeology. Mr. Williamson's areas of expertise includes the design and implementation of hydrogeochemical data acquisition and quality control programs, site remediation, interpretation/modeling of hydrogeochemical data, regional water resource evaluations, environmental management systems, and water balances. Mr. Williamson's current area of practice is water supply, permitting, and water quality for the Mexican mining industry. He speaks fluent Spanish have been raised in Venezuela and Colombia.



Brent Johnson has 12 years of professional experience in hydrogeochemical, geotechnical and geological investigations for the solid waste, mining, power, and government sectors. Mr. Johnson specializes in mining geochemistry, mine water quality prediction, and management including pit lake closure. He is experienced in passive treatment technologies of acidic/metalliferous mine drainage. He has extensive experience in organic and inorganic aqueous chemistry and developing innovative approaches to managing water quality issues. He has worked extensively at sites around the world including Asia, Africa, North and South America, and Europe and he is fluent in English and Spanish.

Who should attend?

The course is designed for:

- Mine and mill managers/operators
- Engineers and mine environmental staff involved with tailings management and reclamation,
- Consulting engineers
- Mine planners

Attendees will be provided with course notes and a certificate of completion.

Dates and Venue

February 21-22, 2009, Colorado Convention Center, in conjunction with the 2009 SME Annual Meeting & Exhibit.

Cecilia Lazo has 10 years of experience in geochemistry and environmental engineering. Her area of expertise includes chemistry of natural waters, geochemical modeling and treatment technologies. Ms. Lazo has extensive experience conducting waste rock and tailings characterization programs, and has developed computer-based models to predict long-term water quality in mine pit lakes and tailings facilities for various mines in North and South America. She has also conducted environmental investigations at abandoned mining, smelting, and industrial sites, serving as task manager for various US EPA remedial investigations and feasibility studies. Ms. Lazo is proficient in several languages and a native Spanish speaker.

Fees and Registration

Prior to January 23, 2009

\$550 SME member

\$650 non-member

After January 23, 2009

\$625 SME member

\$725 non-member

Contact

Registration Enquiries:

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Register at:

www.smenet.org/meetings/annualMeeting2009/attendee/AnnualMeeting2009ShortCourses.pdf

