

**Mineral Resource Evaluation II:
Methods and Case Histories**

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Mineral Resource Evaluation II:
Methods and Case Histories

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Contents

Preface	vii
Definitions	
RIDDLER, G. What is a mineral resource?	1
ARMITAGE, M. G. & POTTS, M. F. A. Some comments on the reporting of resources and reserves	11
JAKUBIAK, Z. & SMAKOWSKI, T. Classification of mineral reserves in the former Comecon countries	17
Data	
GRIBBLE, P. D. Fault interpretation from coal exploration borehole data using SURPAC2 software	29
HATTON, W. INTMOV; a program for the interactive analysis of spatial data	37
NATHANAIL, P. Reserve assessment of a stratified deposit with special reference to open-pit coal mining in Great Britain	45
Deposit variability	
NOTHOLT, A. J. G. Phosphate rock: factors in economic and technical evaluation	53
BELL, T. M. & WHATELEY, M. K. G. Evaluation of grade estimation techniques	67
DOWD, P. A. Optimal open pit design: sensitivity to estimated block values	87
SCOBLE, M. & MOSS, A. Dilution in underground metal mining: implications for grade control and production management	95
SIDES, E. J. Quantifying differences between computer models of orebody shapes	109
Finance	
GORMAN, P. A review and evaluation of the costs of exploration, acquisition and development of copper and gold projects in Chile	123
O'LEARY, J. Mining project finance and the assessment of ore reserves	129
Case histories	
DOWD, P. A. The optimal design of quarries	141
AL-HASSAN, S. & ANNELS, A. E. Geostatistical estimation of manganese oxide resources at the Nsuta Mine, Ghana	157
ANNELS, A. E., INGRAM, S. & MALMSTROM, L. Structural reconstruction and mineral resource evaluation at Zinkgruvan Mine, Sweden	171
ARTHUR, J. & ANNELS, A. E. The application of geostatistical techniques to <i>in situ</i> resource estimation in the sand and gravel industry	191
CAMERON, R. I. & MIDDLEMIS, H. Computer modelling of dewatering a major open pit mine: case study from Nevada, USA	207
CRUMP, L. A. & DONNELLY, R. Opencast coal mining; a unique opportunity for Clee Hill Quarry	219
BARRY, J., GUARD, J. & WALTON, G. Database management at the Lisheen deposit, Co. Tipperary, Ireland	233
MITCHELL, C. J. Laboratory evaluation of kaolin: a case study from Zambia	241
O'LEARY, J. Cia Minerá Los Pelambres: a project history	249

Preface

The theme of this volume is Mineral Resource Evaluation. The chapters cover a wide range of activities in this field and they describe some of the methods that are currently in use to help in the evaluation of mineral resources, including exploration drilling, sampling, resource estimation, mine design, financial evaluation and mine sampling and grade control. Case histories of mineral resource evaluation are also described, with examples from all over the world, including Canada, USA, Chile, Ghana, Sweden, Zambia, Ireland, and of course, UK.

One notable aspect of this volume is the number of chapters which deal with mineral resource definitions. A mineral resource is a means to an end not an end in itself. The aim is to develop a mine which will maximize the Net Present Value (NPV) for the present shareholders. It is therefore important to define resources sufficiently accurately to convince the banks to lend the necessary 75–80% of the money required for the capital expenditure to develop the mine. It would appear that the banks are the final arbiters and maybe it is they who should be telling the mining companies how they should be describing their resources. Perhaps the mining industry, through their

various institutions, in conjunction with the financial organizations should set up an international commission to recommend a standard nomenclature with recognized definitions. As recommendations they would not be enforceable, but companies, Governmental organizations and individuals could then compare their preferred way of describing resources to the recommended nomenclature and at least sensible and meaningful comparisons could then be made.

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