

Mining Magazine



Slurry pumps

Optimise your installation and avoid common pitfalls

Power generation

Smart investment solutions for remote sites

Slope stability

From radar and microseismic monitoring to water control



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Out and about

It has been an exceptionally busy start to the year for the *Mining Magazine* team and its contributors. The sheer number of major tradeshows this year in addition to various mine visits, trips to new facilities and product launches mean that our feet have barely touched the ground; and it is only March.

In this issue, you will find the bounty from our assistant editor, Ailbhe Goodbody's, visit to the School of Underground Mining in February, one of Poland's largest and most successful mining conferences. She joined over 500 mining professionals to gain insight into this important mining market, and learnt about the latest technological advances and mine management techniques. Read her report of the event on page 12, and also her story on the opening of Bridon's new mining rope development facility in Doncaster, UK, page 20, which also took place in February.

Meanwhile, Dr Elena Clarici, of Commodity Energy Capital, attended the African Mining Indaba 2013 event in Cape Town in February. Turn to page 17 for her superb round-up of the event and insight into key issues affecting the South African mining industry.

While Mining Indaba has traditionally been an event designed to facilitate government relations and promote investment in the African mining sector, this year saw a greater number of mine service providers and equipment manufacturers exhibiting. It seems that Indaba is fast becoming a must-attend event for the operational side of the industry too, and it's a date that will certainly be in my diary next year.

Ms Clarici also attended the annual Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) event in March, and has given us her expert insight into the current climate in the Canadian exploration and investment sector. While it is not all roses, particularly for the juniors, the tenacity and determination to survive that these companies are showing speaks volumes. Read more on pages 8-9.

And so to me. Following a brief visit to our friends at Sandvik in early February (see 'Making headway', page 32) I hopped across the pond to the annual meeting and exhibit of the Society for Mining Metallurgy and Exploration (SME) in Denver, Colorado. A firm fixture on the *MM* calendar, this year's event was somewhat hampered by a major snowstorm the day before the exhibit opened. This prevented a number of conference speakers and delegates from attending. However, mining engineers and academics are extremely resourceful and, to their credit, colleagues and peers stepped in to fill any gaps in the conference programme, and the lecture halls were as packed as ever.

So what next? For those attending Bauma in Munich (Germany) in April, at which this issue will be specially distributed, I hope to see you there. We will also be heading to the CIM 2013 convention in Toronto in May, Asia Pacific's International Mining Exhibit (AIMEX) in Sydney, Australia, and the World Mining Congress in Montreal, Canada (both in August) to name just a few trade events. Throw in a healthy dose of mine visits, too, and it looks like this eventful year is set to continue.

CARLY LOVEJOY, EDITOR

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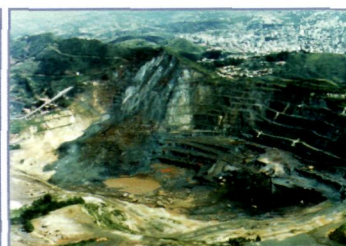
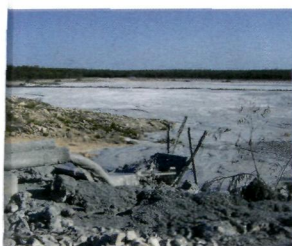
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Next month

- Trucks: Rigid-body and ADTs
- Mass mining techniques
- Plant process design
- Contract mining
- Tailings management
- Locomotives and rail systems

COVER

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