

Shotcrete – Practical Applications 2012

EAGCG Newcastle Workshop 23–25 May 2012

The Eastern Australian Ground Control Group held the first 2012 bi-annual meeting in Sydney, NSW, with 101 delegates attending. Thursday and Friday were spent discussing the practical application of shotcrete mainly in the mining industry, but also with reference to tunnelling.

On Wednesday 23rd of May, the meeting commenced with a tour of the TSE concrete testing facility in Penrith, hosted by Stefan Bernard. A big thankyou is extended to Stefan for the educational tour enjoyed by everyone who attended.

Thursday and Friday were dedicated to the shotcrete workshop. The presenters were very knowledgeable in concrete and shotcrete applications. There were representatives from mining, civil, research and development, and university. A number of topics were discussed, including concrete testing, operational aspects of shotcrete application, mix design and the role of admixtures. The topics covered by presenters included:

- Testing of concrete for mining applications
- Additives to concrete (specifically for use in fibrecrete)
- Mesh versus fibrecrete in underground applications
- Slick lines
- Fibrecrete applications in open pit mining
- Fibres in shotcrete, including metal versus plastic
- Installation of fibrecrete and problems that can be encountered
- A contractors perspective on fibrecrete installation
- Shotcrete application in coal mining

AMC Consultants provided prizes for the best speakers of each day, as selected by the committee. They went to:

- Andrew Campbell from AECOM presented a case study on Incycle Shotcrete – traps for new players, and
- Mathew Clements from EPC presented on the behaviour of fibre reinforced shotcrete underground

The committee once again thank our sponsors: Stratacrete, Surtron, DSI, BOSFA, Brugg Contec, Applied Concrete Solutions, BASF, AMC Consultants, Minova, Propex Contrete Systems, FERRO, Jennmar, Geobrugg, Mining One Consultants, Flexus, Elasto Plastic Concrete, Sika, Rock Australia and Global Drilling Products.

The next meeting will be held in November 2012. It will be held in Hobart (exact location is still to be announced) and the theme will be based around stress in mining. Registrants will be kept informed of the details. Please contact the committee at eagcg@ausimm.com.au for sponsorship and participation information and keep an eye on the website www.eagcg.org for details as they become available. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please go to <http://www.eagcg.org/contact/register.php> and enter your details.