

OCTOBER 2016 BRISBANE New Technology: Getting Smarter in These Challenging Times

The EAGCG's (the Group) only meeting for 2016 was held on October 13 and 14 at The Marriott Hotel in Brisbane.

Ninety-five ground control practitioners from the Mining, Tunnelling and Civil industries heard 33 presenters give 34 presentations. Two excellent keynote presentations were given by Dr. Erik Eberhardt, Director of Geological Engineering and Professor of Rock Mechanics & Rock Engineering at UBC in Vancouver:

- "Transitioning from open pit to underground mass mining"; and
- "Managing large open pit rock slope hazards".

Issues raised by the presentations stimulated the sharing of ideas and experiences during each session and then into the meal breaks. The Group thanks all presenters for sharing their experiences and appreciates the considerable time taken to prepare their talks. Many of the technologies presented and the qualities of the presentations were outstanding. Daily prizes for the presentations considered to be both valuable and entertaining went to:

- Jack Carswell (MMG) "Geotechnical input from feasibility to construction"; and
- Frans Basson (Basrock) "Data visualisation; the good, the bad and the ugly".

The general consensus amongst attendees after the event was that it was one of the Group's "best". Like all of these meetings, the professional development and networking opportunities that this meeting provided were invaluable. Providing these opportunities cost-effectively is a fundamental reason for having these meetings and for the existence of the Group.

The Group could not have provided such a high-quality meeting at such a reasonable cost if not for the generous support of the 20 sponsors: Active Minerals, AMC Consultants, BASF, DSI Underground, Elasto Plastic Concrete, ESG, Fero, Geobrugg, GCP Technologies, Institute of Mine Seismology, Jemrok, Jenmar, Minova, Newcrest Mining, Petra, Sika, Split Set Mining Systems, SRG, Stratacrete and Surtron. Their support is greatly appreciated by the Group. You can link to their websites from the Sponsors page on the Group's web site.

The presentations will soon be uploaded to a password protected area on the Group's web site. A password to access the information will soon be sent to attendees. Once received, attendees can download the presentations for a limited time.

The next meeting will be held in May 2017 in Sydney at the Mercure Hotel. The topic will be "Shotcrete". It will combine a best practise workshop on Day 1 with a series of presentations on Day 2. Members will be kept informed by email, LinkedIn and on the Group's web site as more details become available. Please contact the Secretariat at EAGCGSecretary@outlook.com for sponsorship and participation information.

If you know of any industry personnel who would like to be added to our mailing list, get them LinkedIn to the Group or registered via the Contacts page of the web site.

Regards **EAGCG Committee:** Alex Campbell; Jeremy Doolan; Morteza Ghamgosar; Ben Jones; Tony Meyers; Jacqui Purcell; Bre-Anne Sainsbury, Erin Sweeney, Robyn Teet; Des Vlietstra.

