XPS Consulting & Testwork Services

Sampling School

A sample…or a specimen…? What's the difference? What are the consequences?

Operations managers make daily decisions about process adjustments based on assay sheets. Engineers make key decisions about process optimisation from flotation test data based on the ore sample tested. However carefully produced, the assay sheet and the flotation test results are meaningless unless they used true, representative samples.

Regrettably, the theory and best practice of sampling is rarely taught in the mineral processing and chemical engineering schools.

XPS has developed a series of short courses based on Pierre Gy's works that may be presented anywhere – at a university, at a conference, at XPS, or at an operations site – to fill the gap in this knowledge. Typical applications such as the sampling of SAG Mill Feed, Crushed Ball Mill Feed, or Drill Core for flotation testing are discussed, as well as routine concentrator sampling of float feed, final concentrate and final tailings for metal accounting.

The course offers lectures and tutorials on:

- Terms and Definitions
- Sample Extraction Rules
- Gy's Minimum Sample Mass Model
- Gy's Safety Line
- The Semivariogram
- Composite Sample Preparation
- Surveying a Concentrator for QEMSCAN or MLA Studies

Venues

- Canadian Mineral Processors, Ottawa, 2011
- Canadian Mineral Processors, Ottawa, 2012
- Xstrata Process Support, Sudbury, 2011, 2012, 2013
- University of Queensland, Australia, 2012
- Xstrata Zinc Operations, Mt Isa, 2012
- HudBay Flin Flon Operations, Manitoba, 2012
- University of Utah, USA, 2013

Some comments from the candidates…

"….It was a well taught, hands on class and I was very happy that I signed up for it. The practical examples and tutorials were particularly useful."

"Very appropriate – have been able to assess what can be done better at my plant."

"I think the tutorials were very helpful in understanding and applying the theory".

"I think the course material is quite relevant with practical use and clear delivery".

For further details please contact:

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