



C E M I

Centre for Excellence
in Mining Innovation



LECTURE SERIES

November 12th, 2009 at 3:00pm Willet Green Miller Centre
CEMI Broadcast/Training Room (4th Floor)

Ground Control Strategies for Burst-prone Rock Conditions at Vale Inco Ontario Division

Abstract Mineral deposits in the Sudbury basin are found at increasing depth thus adding additional rock mechanics challenges to ensure that the deposits can be extracted with an acceptable rate of return. Therefore, to insure that Vale Inco is competitive in all price cycles and creates a foundation for long-term growth, Ground Control Strategies cannot be dissociated from a strategic approach in the development of business and execution plans at Vale Inco Ontario Division. Mine design must consider geotechnical constraints that may affect mining method selection, production rate, size of openings, ground support requirements etc. Those geotechnical constraints have a direct impact on the safety and the profitability of the operations. Vale Inco Ontario Division's Ground Control Strategies consist of five integrated components: ground support considerations, numerical modeling, instrumentation, stress management and research. All the components of Vale Inco's Ground Control Strategies provide the basis for safe, profitable and sustainable operations. The following presentation will review the main aspect of the five Ground Control Strategies components in more detailed.

The lectures will be held in the Willet Green Miller Centre on the 4th floor, in the CEMI Broadcast room or if space requirements justify from the WGMC auditorium. Lectures will be announced by e-mailing to registrants and by postings on the CEMI website.

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Denis Thibodeau is a professional engineer in Ontario and Quebec and holds a Doctorate in Civil and Mining Engineering from INPL (Institut national polytechnique de Lorraine, Nancy, France), a B. Eng. in mining from McGill and B. Sc. In Geology from Montréal University. Denis has 17 years of experience in the mining industry working for Vale Inco and Barrick. He is currently the Manager of Strategic Rock Mechanics at Vale Inco.