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Process Operating Costs with Applications in Mine Planning and Risk Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This paper discusses techniques for estimating treatment plant operating costs, including identification of high-impact cost areas and expected key cost variations year-by-year. Application of this information to cost development in the mine block model is presented, followed by a discussion of the risk uncertainty and cost-impact sensitivity in operating cost estimates. An example is carried from the initial base cost estimate and year-by-year annual process cost variations through the use of Excel spreadsheets and Monte Carlo simulation with Crystal Ball.



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