

MEDIA RELEASE

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AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR GEOMECHANICS LAUNCHES *GROUND SUPPORT FOR UNDERGROUND MINES* BOOK

The Australian Centre for Geomechanics (ACG), The University of Western Australia, is dedicated to conducting geomechanical research, sharing knowledge and providing education to industry with a view to improving safety, maximising economic return and reducing environmental impact of mining activity. As a result of considerable hard work towards these goals, the ACG is delighted to announce the publication of a new targeted book, *Ground Support for underground mines*.

Ground Support for underground mines was written in response to industry's need for a new book on ground support, with the target audience being practicing geotechnical and mining engineers having the task of designing ground support systems in mines. It will also be a valuable resource for all underground mining professionals, researchers and university students. The authors have undertaken to describe existing and novel ground support design methods, and to provide practical tips and advice on the design process.

Background

In 2013, the ACG commenced the international research project, Ground Support Systems Optimisation (GSSO), to explore whether it is possible to optimise ground support systems with the aim to maintain, if not improve, mine safety while reducing costs and/or time components. The project featured three sub-projects: probabilistic ground support design; the use of numerical modelling for ground support design; and benchmarking of current ground support design practices. The results from these sub-projects fed into the writing of a new comprehensive, yet practical, underground mining support book.

The GSSO research project is currently in its second phase, which is due for completion in September 2021.

Authors

The book has been authored by Professor John Hadjigeorgiou, University of Toronto, Canada and Professor Yves Potvin, Australian Centre for Geomechanics, The University of Western Australia, Australia, with contribution from selected experts on specific topics.

Sponsors

The *Ground Support for underground mines* book has been developed with funding and support from a number of industry sponsors.

Major Project Sponsors:

- Minerals Research Institute of Western Australia (MRIWA)
- Codelco Chile
- Glencore Mount Isa Mines
- IGO Limited
- MMG Limited
- Australian Centre for Geomechanics

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- Atlas Copco Australia Pty Limited (now Epiroc)
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- Golder
- Geobrugg AG
- Jenmar Australia

The book is available for purchase at www.acg.uwa.edu.au/shop/gsso

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About ACG:

The Australian Centre for Geomechanics is a not-for-profit mining research centre based at The University of Western Australia, Perth. The ACG undertakes research, education and training activities in the geomechanics disciplines to provide industry with the necessary tools and knowledge to ensure that safety is not simply a top priority on par with productivity, but rather an ethic that guides everything. See www.acg.uwa.edu.au