Rock mass properties influence:

- pit slope stability
 - fracture set orientation and properties, and UCS, BTS, E, μ of intact rock
- inpit mining methods
 - cutting, ripping, breaking, drill & blast
- drilling
 - Drilling Rate Index (DRI), Abrasivity (VHNR), Cerchar Abrasivity Index (CAI), ...
- blasting
 - fracture set orientation and properties, anisotropy (la), porosity, density and dry sonic velocity of intact rock
- crushing and screening
 - Bond's Work Index (Wi), Abrasion Index (Ai), density, ...
- aggregate quality
 - cubicity (Flakiness Index), toughness, waste material percentage (typically fines with a high content of mica or other clay minerals)





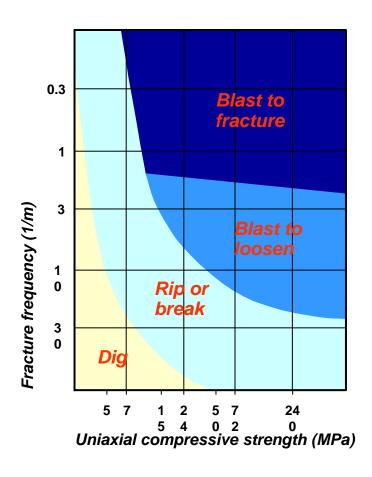




Inpit mining methods

- mechanical cutting with dragtools
- ripping with bulldozers
- breaking with hydraulic breakers
- fracture and loosen with drill & blast





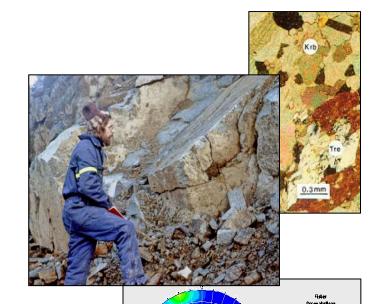






Traditional testing of rock mass properties

- atomic scale
 - chemical analysis and XRF for element and molecular content determination
- microscopic scale
 - **thin section and XRD for mineral content**
- macroscopic scale
 - **laboratory testing of intact rock specimens:**
 - strength properties, drillability, blastability, abrasivity, crushability, ...
- rock mass scale
 - representability of selected intact rock specimens for laboratory testing
 - **mapping of rock mass discontinuities:**
 - fracture set orientation and properties (strike, dip, frequency, aperature, ...)







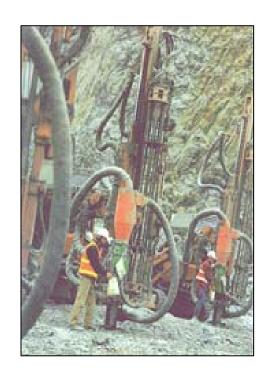


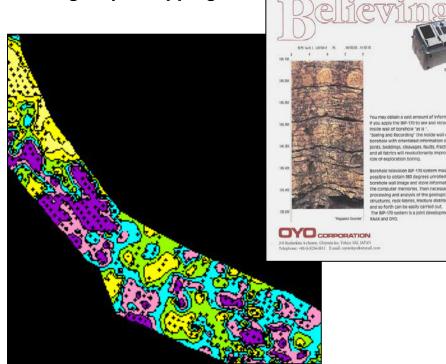
In situ testing of rock mass properties

• inhole video surveys of shotholes

• sampling of cuttings for chemical analysis

• measurement-while-drilling or MWD basis for digital pit mapping











Practical rock sampling for drillability

Sample weight 10 -15 kg Min. thickness 120 mm

Note Rock samples should be typical for the drilling

site with regard to:

- colou

- texture

density

Additional info country

Worksite, mine level, nearest town, province,

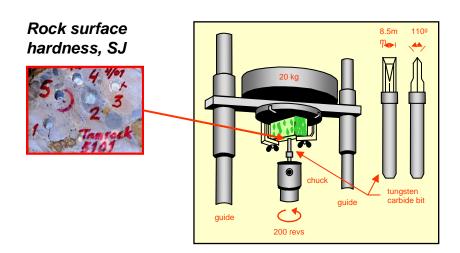
(Relevant drilling parameters and results)



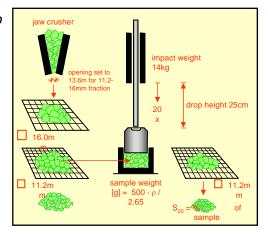




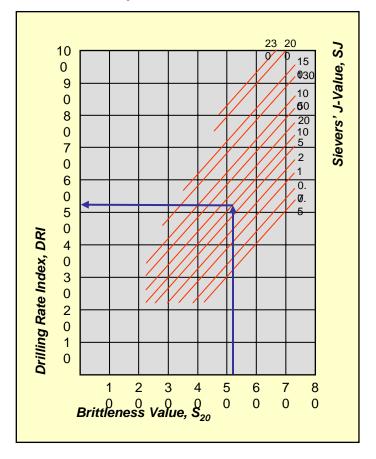
Drilling Rate Index, DRI



Rock toughness, S₂₀



Rock drillability, DRI









DRI drillability test result evaluation

- Drilling Rate Index versus UCS
- detect weathered samples (SJ/VHNR chart)

