

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGY

SYMPOSIUM SERIES S45

**Second International Platinum Conference**  
***‘Platinum Surges Ahead’***

THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF MINING AND METALLURGY  
JOHANNESBURG 2006

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# Foreword

Platinum production in Southern Africa amounted to 80% of world production in 2005 with a small increase from 5 117 000 ounces to 5 275 000 ounces. For the seventh consecutive year the platinum market is on course to record a moderate deficit in supply. This is reflected in the price increase from a trading range US\$860 to US\$880 in June 2005 to an excess of US\$1 200 in September 2006. Southern Africa, with its extensive platinum reserves, will continue to be the dominant platinum producer and has a number of new mines in an advanced stage of planning.

The slogan 'Platinum Surges Ahead' was selected to describe the exciting and vibrant nature of all aspects of platinum mining, beneficiation and marketing.

This conference will cover these aspects from exploration and orebody delineation, through mine design, development and operation to mine closure; mineral beneficiation, marketing and compliance with the Mining Charter will also be subjects for discussion and debate. It is also anticipated that the issue of overall increases in productivity, through the introduction of technology, will demonstrate Southern Africa's status as a premier mining district.

It is my pleasure to welcome delegates from abroad and locally, on behalf of the SAIMM, to the Second International Platinum Conference 'Platinum Surges Ahead'.

I trust that you will find the proceedings informative and value adding and will participate in the discussions and debate in order to obtain maximum benefit from the conference. I am sure that the post-conference tours will be interesting and of great benefit to participants.

Finally, a big word of thanks to the members of the Organising Committee, the management and staff of the SAIMM, and to our willing sponsors, without all of whom this conference would not have been possible.

**Mike Rogers**  
*Chairman,*  
*Organising Committee*

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# Contents

Page No.

## *Monday, 9 October 2006*

### **SESSION 1: OPENING SESSION**

The centenary of the discovery of platinum in the Bushveld Complex (10th November, 1906) <b>R.G. Cawthorn</b> .....	1
Anglo Platinum: Taking Advantage of the Current Metal Prices and shortage of Platinum <b>G. Chunnet</b> .....	5
Ounces into pounds—how much is an in situ ounce of platinum worth? <b>A.J. van der Merwe and J.F. Erasmus</b> .....	11

### **SESSION 2: GEOLOGY AND EXPLORATION**

Keynote Address: Seismic method applied to platinum exploration, a success story! <b>G. Chambovet</b> .....	17
Valuation of a mineral resource that has a compound metal content distribution: an example based on the Merensky Reef at Wesizwe Platinum Limited's Pilanesberg project <b>D.R. Young</b> .....	19
The application of facies classification in evaluating the Merensky Reef at Bafokeng Rasimone platinum mine, South Africa <b>M.D. Lionnet and K.G. Lomberg</b> .....	29

### **SESSION 3A: PROJECT VALUATION, MANAGEMENT AND ENGINEERING**

Project valuation, capital investment and strategic alignment—tools and techniques at Anglo Platinum <b>G.L. Smith, J. Pearson-Taylor, D.C. Andersen, and A.M. Marsh</b> .....	35
Next generation project management in the platinum industry <b>H.W. Read</b> .....	43
Intelligent gearing system—solution to understand and correct operational conditions that reduce the fatigue life of a girth gear <b>D. van Dyk</b> .....	51

### **SESSION 3B: PHYSICAL METALLURGY I**

New Pt-based alloys for high temperature application in aggressive environments: The next stage <b>L.A. Cornish, R. Süß, L.H. Chown, A. Douglas, M. Matema, L. Glaner and G. Williams</b> .....	57
A review on the progress towards PT-base superalloys for ultra high temperature applications <b>R. Völkl, M. Wenderoth, J. Preussner, S. Vorberg, B. Fischer, and U. Glatzel</b> .....	67
Overview of the high-temperature mechanical properties of Pt-alloys <b>S. Vorberg, B. Fischer, D. Lupton, M. Wenderoth, U. Glatzel, and R. Völkl</b> .....	73

### **SESSION 4: PHYSICAL METALLURGY II**

Hot corrosion behaviour of Pt-Alloys for application in the next generation of gas turbines <b>N.B. Maledi, J.H. Potgieter, M. Stephton, L.A. Cornish, L. Chown and R. Süß</b> .....	81
Building a database for the prediction of phases in Pt-based superalloys <b>L.A. Cornish, R. Süß, A. Watson and S.N. Prins</b> .....	91
Platinum alloy development—the Pt-Al-Cr-Ni system <b>J. Preussner, M. Wenderoth, S. Prins, R. Völkl, and U. Glatzel</b> .....	103

## *Tuesday, 10 October 2006*

### **SESSION 5A: MINING MECHANIZATION**

The development and implementation of the Lonmin mechanized breast mining <b>R.G.B. Pickering and K. Moxham</b> .....	107
The Loco Drill and its application to flat end development <b>B. McKeown and K. Moxham</b> .....	117
A symphony of collaboration between mining and engineering <b>G. Strong, C. Terblanche, B.J. Göhre and M. Andrews</b> .....	121

### **SESSION 5B: MINERAL PROCESSING I**

The development of a process flowsheet for the new Anglo Platinum, PPRust north concentrator, incorporating HPGR technology <b>G. Humphries, C. Rule, and E. Wolmarans</b> .....	129
The use of performance monitoring techniques in detecting process shifts and potential root causes in a variable speed grinding application <b>L.P. Coetzer and T. Khumalo</b> .....	137
The development of ultra-fine grinding at Anglo Platinum <b>A.K. Anyimadu, C. M. Rule, and L. Knopjes</b> .....	143

## **SESSION 6A: MINING METHODS AND LAYOUTS**

Two Rivers Platinum Mine: the orebody, the mining method; a perfect match <b>M. Mabuzza</b> .....	151
Technical operating flexibility in the analysis of mine layouts and schedules <b>C. Musingwini, R.C.A. Minnitt, and M. Woodhall</b> .....	159
Underground Mine Profiling <b>D. Borman</b> .....	165

## **SESSION 6B: MINERAL PROCESSING II**

Trithiocarbonates for PGM flotation <b>C.F. Vos, J.C. Davidtz, and J.D. Miller</b> .....	169
Interpreting the role of reagents in the flotation of platinum-bearing Merensky ores <b>J.G. Wiese, M. Becker, D.J. Bradshaw and P.J. Harris</b> .....	175
Technologies for emissions reduction in the metallurgical and chemical process industries <b>D. Schreuder</b> .....	181
Topsoe wet gas sulphuric acid (WSA) technology—an attractive alternative for reduction of sulphur emissions from furnaces and converters <b>H. Rosenberg</b> .....	191

## **SESSION 7A: DRILLING AND ROCKCUTTING**

Long hole drilling applied to narrow reef mining <b>R.G.B. Pickering</b> .....	199
Electric rock drilling system for in-stope mining in platinum operations <b>P.J. Petit</b> .....	209
Financial evaluation of electric rock drills for in-stope mining in platinum operations <b>P.J. Petit</b> .....	217
Mining by rock cutting in narrow reefs <b>R. Pickering, A. Smit and K. Moxham</b> .....	221

## **SESSION 7B: PYROMETALLURGY**

Independence Platinum Limited (IPt)—formation and objectives <b>R.E. Phillips, R.T. Jones, and L.A. Cramer</b> .....	231
Rectangular furnace design and revolutionary DC-slag cleaning technology for the PGM industry <b>R. Degel, T. Schreiter, H. Schmieden, and J. Kempken</b> .....	237
Oxygen activity measurements in simulated converter matte <b>K.G. Tshilombo and P.C. Pistorius</b> .....	247
Process description and optimization of the flash dryers at Polokwane Smelter <b>P.K. van Manen</b> .....	253

## **SESSION 8A: MINING PROJECTS AND SERVICES**

The application of multi-parametric block models to the mining process <b>A. Bye</b> .....	259
The implementation of Nos. 16 and 20 shaft projects <b>L.A. Jagger</b> .....	267
Ventilation strategies to meet future needs of the South African platinum industry <b>M. Biffi, D. Stanton, H. Rose and D. Pienaar</b> .....	277

*Wednesday, 11 October 2006*

## **SESSION 9: SOCIO-ECONOMICS AND OTHER**

Is platinum paying its rent? <b>L.C. Stilwell and R.C.A. Minnitt</b> .....	285
Replacement of the existing Merensky Reef operations at Lebowa Platinum Mines: an integrated business and operational readiness approach <b>O.Y. Ntrama</b> .....	295

## **SESSION 10: CLOSING SESSION**

The evolution of strategic long-term planning at Anglo Platinum <b>G.L. Smith, J. Pearson-Taylor, and D.C. Andersen</b> .....	301
End-users, recyclers and producers: shaping tomorrow's PGM market and metal prices <b>S.A. Forrest and B. Clarke</b> .....	307

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*'Platinum Surges Ahead'*

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