

Quantification of the benefits of innovation in mining grade control

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The simplest measure of benefit in any innovation program is 'change in value' but measuring this in a dynamic system is difficult and can be contentious. While a cost-benefit analysis can be undertaken the costs are generally trivial compared to the impacts in terms of tonnage, grade and productivity.

Objective measures of various strategic and incremental changes are demonstrated. Quantifying, comparing and ranking the impact of change is demonstrated and various case history examples are cited. The consequences of various approaches, in a variety of mining styles and commodities, are used to draw conclusions regarding best practice, and to make predictions for the future of mining grade control.