

# Contents

<i>Preface and acknowledgments</i>	<i>xiii</i>
<b>1 Fundamentals of slope design</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Peter Stacey</i>	
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Pit slope designs	1
1.2.1 Safety/social factors	2
1.2.2 Economic factors	2
1.2.3 Environmental and regulatory factors	3
1.3 Terminology of slope design	4
1.3.1 Slope configurations	4
1.3.2 Instability	4
1.3.3 Rockfall	6
1.4 Formulation of slope designs	6
1.4.1 Introduction	6
1.4.2 Geotechnical model	6
1.4.3 Data uncertainty (Chapter 8)	8
1.4.4 Acceptance criteria (Chapter 9)	8
1.4.5 Slope design methods (Chapter 10)	9
1.4.6 Design implementation (Chapter 11)	10
1.4.7 Slope evaluation and monitoring (Chapter 12)	10
1.4.8 Risk management (Chapter 13)	11
1.4.9 Closure (Chapter 14)	11
1.5 Design requirements by project level	11
1.5.1 Project development	11
1.5.2 Study requirements	12
1.6 Review	12
1.6.1 Overview	12
1.6.2 Review levels	14
1.6.3 Geotechnically competent person	14
1.7 Conclusion	14
<b>2 Field data collection</b>	<b>15</b>
<i>John Read, Jarek Jakubec and Geoff Beale</i>	
2.1 Introduction	15
2.2 Outcrop mapping and logging	15
2.2.1 Introduction	15
2.2.2 General geotechnical logging	17
2.2.3 Mapping for structural analyses	19
2.2.4 Surface geophysical techniques	22
2.3 Overburden soils logging	23
2.3.1 Classification	23
2.3.2 Strength and relative density	26
2.4 Core drilling and logging	26



4.3.3	Sedimentary	76
4.3.4	Metamorphic	77
<b>4.4</b>	<b>Structural modelling tools</b>	<b>77</b>
4.4.1	Solid modelling	77
4.4.2	Stereographic projection	77
4.4.3	Discrete fracture network modelling	79
<b>4.5</b>	<b>Structural domain definition</b>	<b>80</b>
4.5.1	General guidelines	80
4.5.2	Example application	80
<b>5</b>	<b>Rock mass model</b>	<b>83</b>
	<i>Antonio Karzulovic and John Read</i>	
<b>5.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>5.2</b>	<b>Intact rock strength</b>	<b>83</b>
5.2.1	Introduction	83
5.2.2	Index properties	85
5.2.3	Mechanical properties	88
5.2.4	Special conditions	92
<b>5.3</b>	<b>Strength of structural defects</b>	<b>94</b>
5.3.1	Terminology and classification	94
5.3.2	Defect strength	94
<b>5.4</b>	<b>Rock mass classification</b>	<b>117</b>
5.4.1	Introduction	117
5.4.2	RMR, Bieniawski	117
5.4.3	Laubscher IRMR and MRMR	119
5.4.4	Hoek-Brown GSI	123
<b>5.5</b>	<b>Rock mass strength</b>	<b>127</b>
5.5.1	Introduction	127
5.5.2	Laubscher strength criteria	127
5.5.3	Hoek-Brown strength criterion	128
5.5.4	CNI criterion	130
5.5.5	Directional rock mass strength	132
5.5.6	Synthetic rock mass model	138
<b>6</b>	<b>Hydrogeological model</b>	<b>141</b>
	<i>Geoff Beale</i>	
<b>6.1</b>	<b>Hydrogeology and slope engineering</b>	<b>141</b>
6.1.1	Introduction	141
6.1.2	Porosity and pore pressure	141
6.1.3	General mine dewatering and localised pore pressure control	146
6.1.4	Making the decision to depressurise	148
6.1.5	Developing a slope depressurisation program	151
<b>6.2</b>	<b>Background to groundwater hydraulics</b>	<b>151</b>
6.2.1	Groundwater flow	151
6.2.2	Porous-medium (intergranular) groundwater settings	154
6.2.3	Fracture-flow groundwater settings	156
6.2.4	Influences on fracturing and groundwater	161
6.2.5	Mechanisms controlling pore pressure reduction	163



8.4.3	Relative frequency concepts	216
<b>8.5</b>	<b>Reporting data uncertainty</b>	<b>216</b>
8.5.1	Geotechnical reporting system	216
8.5.2	Assessment criteria checklist	219
<b>8.6</b>	<b>Summary and conclusions</b>	<b>219</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Acceptance criteria</b>	<b>221</b>
	<i>Johan Wesseloo and John Read</i>	
<b>9.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>221</b>
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Factor of safety</b>	<b>221</b>
9.2.1	FoS as a design criterion	221
9.2.2	Tolerable factors of safety	223
<b>9.3</b>	<b>Probability of failure</b>	<b>223</b>
9.3.1	PoF as a design criterion	223
9.3.2	Acceptable levels of PoF	224
<b>9.4</b>	<b>Risk model</b>	<b>225</b>
9.4.1	Introduction	225
9.4.2	Cost–benefit analysis	226
9.4.3	Risk model process	228
9.4.4	Formulating acceptance criteria	232
9.4.5	Slope angles and levels of confidence	234
<b>9.5</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>235</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Slope design methods</b>	<b>237</b>
	<i>Loren Lorig, Peter Stacey and John Read</i>	
<b>10.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>237</b>
10.1.1	Design steps	237
10.1.2	Design analyses	238
<b>10.2</b>	<b>Kinematic analyses</b>	<b>239</b>
10.2.1	Benches	239
10.2.2	Inter-ramp slopes	244
<b>10.3</b>	<b>Rock mass analyses</b>	<b>246</b>
10.3.1	Overview	246
10.3.2	Empirical methods	246
10.3.3	Limit equilibrium methods	248
10.3.4	Numerical methods	253
10.3.5	Summary recommendations	263
<b>11</b>	<b>Design implementation</b>	<b>265</b>
	<i>Peter Williams, John Floyd, Gideon Chitombo and Trevor Maton</i>	
<b>11.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>265</b>
<b>11.2</b>	<b>Mine planning aspects of slope design</b>	<b>265</b>
11.2.1	Introduction	265
11.2.2	Open pit design philosophy	265
11.2.3	Open pit design process	267
11.2.4	Application of slope design criteria in mine design	268
11.2.5	Summary and conclusions	276

<b>11.3</b>	<b>Controlled blasting</b>	<b>276</b>
11.3.1	Introduction	276
11.3.2	Design terminology	277
11.3.3	Blast damage mechanisms	278
11.3.4	Influence of geology on blast-induced damage	279
11.3.5	Controlled blasting techniques	282
11.3.6	Delay configuration	292
11.3.7	Design implementation	294
11.3.8	Performance monitoring and analysis	296
11.3.9	Design refinement	299
11.3.10	Design platform	305
11.3.11	Planning and optimisation cycle	306
<b>11.4</b>	<b>Excavation and scaling</b>	<b>310</b>
11.4.1	Excavation	310
11.4.2	Scaling and bench cleanup	312
11.4.3	Evaluation of bench design achievement	313
<b>11.5</b>	<b>Artificial support</b>	<b>313</b>
11.5.1	Basic approaches	313
11.5.2	Stabilisation, repair and support methods	314
11.5.3	Design considerations	315
11.5.4	Economic considerations	316
11.5.5	Safety considerations	317
11.5.6	Specific situations	317
11.5.7	Reinforcement measures	318
11.5.8	Rockfall protection measures	325
<b>12</b>	<b>Performance assessment and monitoring</b>	<b>327</b>
	<i>Mark Hawley, Scott Marisett, Geoff Beale and Peter Stacey</i>	
<b>12.1</b>	<b>Assessing slope performance</b>	<b>327</b>
12.1.1	Introduction	327
12.1.2	Geotechnical model validation and refinement	327
12.1.3	Bench performance	329
12.1.4	Inter-ramp slope performance	337
12.1.5	Overall slope performance	339
12.1.6	Summary and conclusions	342
<b>12.2</b>	<b>Slope monitoring</b>	<b>342</b>
12.2.1	Introduction	342
12.2.2	Movement monitoring systems	343
12.2.3	Guidelines on the execution of monitoring programs	363
<b>12.3</b>	<b>Ground control management plans</b>	<b>370</b>
12.3.1	Introduction	370
12.3.2	Hazard management plan	371
<b>13</b>	<b>Risk management</b>	<b>381</b>
	<i>Ted Brown and Alison Booth</i>	
<b>13.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>381</b>
13.1.1	Background	381
13.1.2	Purpose and content of this chapter	381
13.1.3	Sources of information	382

<b>13.2</b>	<b>Overview of risk management</b>	<b>383</b>
13.2.1	Definitions	383
13.2.2	General risk management process	383
13.2.3	Risk management in the minerals industry	384
<b>13.3</b>	<b>Geotechnical risk management for open pit slopes</b>	<b>385</b>
<b>13.4</b>	<b>Risk assessment methodologies</b>	<b>389</b>
13.4.1	Approaches to risk assessment	389
13.4.2	Risk identification	389
13.4.3	Risk analysis	391
13.4.4	Risk evaluation	395
<b>13.5</b>	<b>Risk mitigation</b>	<b>396</b>
13.5.1	Overview	396
13.5.2	Hierarchy of controls	398
13.5.3	Geotechnical control measures	398
13.5.4	Mitigation plans	399
13.5.5	Monitoring, review and feedback	400
<b>14</b>	<b>Open pit closure</b>	<b>401</b>
	<i>Dirk van Zyl</i>	
<b>14.1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>401</b>
<b>14.2</b>	<b>Mine closure planning for open pits</b>	<b>403</b>
14.2.1	Introduction	403
14.2.2	Closure planning for new mines	403
14.2.3	Closure planning for existing mines	403
14.2.4	Risk assessment and management	405
<b>14.3</b>	<b>Open pit closure planning</b>	<b>405</b>
14.3.1	Closure goals and criteria	405
14.3.2	Site characterisation	407
14.3.3	Ore body characteristics and mining approach	408
14.3.4	Surface water diversion	409
14.3.5	Pit water balance	409
14.3.6	Pit lake water quality	409
14.3.7	Ecological risk assessment	410
14.3.8	Pit wall stability	410
14.3.9	Pit access	412
14.3.10	Reality of open pit closure	412
<b>14.4</b>	<b>Open pit closure activities and post-closure monitoring</b>	<b>412</b>
14.4.1	Closure activities	412
14.4.2	Post-closure monitoring	412
<b>14.5</b>	<b>Conclusions</b>	<b>412</b>
	Endnotes	413
<b>Appendix 1</b>		<b>415</b>
	Groundwater data collection	
<b>Appendix 2</b>		<b>431</b>
	Essential statistical and probability theory	

<b>Appendix 3</b>	<b>437</b>
Influence of in situ stresses on open pit design	
<i>Evert Hoek, Jean Hutchinson, Kathy Kalenchuk and Mark Diederichs</i>	
<b>Appendix 4</b>	<b>447</b>
Risk management: geotechnical hazard checklists	
<b>Appendix 5</b>	<b>459</b>
Example regulations for open pit closure	
<i>Terminology and definitions</i>	462
<i>References</i>	467
<i>Index</i>	487