Pre-splitting Application for Wings Stability in Secondary Stopes

Case study of an underground mine

Introduction

A study was conducted to mitigate the risk of wings failure in a secondary stope blasting in a transverse long hole stoping.

The study consisted of using the presplit concept for final crown wall protection from an existing drill design pattern to prevent wings instability after blasting effects.

Analysis conducted for one blast in a stope shape as per below:

Stope (blast#4 - Cap blasting with 17 rings)

Tools and software used for the presplit blasting

- Aegis Designer and Aegis Analyzer
- UG Shotplus

Methodology

Design the stope shape with site guidelines with first and last holes to be used as presplit holes and add easer rings as presplit rings with 2 presplit holes per each only.



Use bulk emulsion pumped with Maclean charge rig @ full coupling in normal holes and decoupling in the presplit holes using Riosplit package explosive pushed with Charge rig unit horse pusher.



Prime holes with Trajan booster 250g and Electronic detonators.



Simulate the breaking with Aegis Analyzer for blasting prediction and compare the blast shape prediction with the CMS as blast out comes and make recommendations for crown stability.



Presplit holes to be timed with the same delays and initiated after floor/breakthrough holes being fired and before side holes firing.









Simulation



Raise + Floor holes (1)

Presplit Holes (2)

Results and Analysis



□ Presplit blasting out comes vs CMS (cavity monitoring system)

Conclusion and Recommendations

The crown profile remained stable when comparing the designed wings holes shapes versus the cavity monitoring system of the blasting out comes.

Recommended presplit drill & blast design parameters;

- Burden = 1.3m
- Spacing = 2.7 or 2.8m
- Hole diameter = 102mm
- Charging with decoupled explosive (Riosplit)
- Electronic delay

Note: Keeping stope open for a long time should be avoided to avoid long exposure of the wings which could result on failure.

References and Bibliography

□Open cast mine, exposure and site visit during presplit charging & blasting;

□ Underground practical Drill & Blast knowledge and experience.

https://www.dataminesoftware.com/solutions/aegis-underground-drill-and-blast/

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