

FOREWORD

The 1 International Congress on Automation in the Mining Industry AUTOMINING 2008 held in Santiago, Chile, April 23-25, 2008, was organised by GECAMIN Ltd.

The objectives of the congress were: to spread the knowledge and experiences about automation applied on the mining, metallurgical processes, and metal manufacturing, to discuss the emerging developments, to identify the technologies and successful automation practices in the mining industry, and to promote an international network for collaboration and technical exchange among professionals dedicated to develop, to operate and to maintain automation systems for the mining industry.

This edition contains 45 papers by authors and co-authors from 11 different countries, including: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Mexico, Sweden and the United States of America. The main topics covered by AUTOMINING are:

- Sensors and Monitoring Systems (10)
- Industrial Networking and Communications (4)
- Real Time Information & Management Systems (10)
- Process Modelling (5)
- Process Control and Optimization (5)
- Predictive Maintenance, Fault Analysis and Asset Management (5)
- Robotics and Equipment Automation (6)

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Finally, we thank all the delegates who attended the congress exchanging their valuable knowledge and expertise, which contributed to the great success of the congress AUTOMINING 2008.