

FOREWORD

The Mining Engineering Department of the University of Chile organized the III International Copper Hydrometallurgy Workshop - HydroCopper 2005, held in Santiago, Chile, November 23 – 25, 2005, with the support of Gecamin Ltda. This meeting was focused on the latest innovations and “state-of-the-art” in hydrometallurgical operations and processes, centred on the treatment of copper and related metal-bearing ores. The objective of the workshop was to provide a forum where plant supervisors and operators could meet with researchers, academics and technology suppliers to exchange, analyze and discuss current developments, which may be useful to optimize and to maximize benefits in hydrometallurgical plant operations and processes.

In this edition, 46 papers of authors and co-authors coming from 13 different countries are included. Countries represented are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Germany, Peru, South-Africa, Spain, Sweden and the United States. The papers are grouped in the following areas:

1. Innovations in the Hydrometallurgical Processing of Sulphides (7)
2. Ore Leaching Operations (6)
3. Innovation and Development of New Processes (8)
4. Optimization and Process Control (5)
5. Special Topics in Hydrometallurgy (9)
6. Innovation and Practices in Solvent Extraction and Electrowinning (11)

The Organizing Committee acknowledges with gratitude the efforts undertaken by the authors to contribute with excellent quality, detailed and innovative technical papers to the proceedings. Our thanks are also extended to the reviewers, to Gecamin Ltda., and to all those involved in the creation and assembly of these proceedings. Support from the Advisory and the Technical Committees has been greatly appreciated.

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Finally, we thank all the delegates who attended the workshop exchanging valuable knowledge and expertise, which contributed to the great success of Workshop HydroCopper 2005.

Dr. Jesús M. Casas de Prada
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III International Copper Hydrometallurgy Workshop
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