

FOREWORD

GECAMIN LTDA. organized the I International Workshop on Process Hydrometallurgy - HydroProcess 2006, held in Iquique, Chile, October 11 – 13, 2006, with the support of expert metallurgical professionals.

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, **53** papers of authors and co-authors coming from 18 different countries are included. Countries represented are: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Germany, Iran, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Peru, South-Africa, Spain, Sweden, United States and Wales. The main topics covered by HydroProcess are:

- Innovations in the Processing of Gold and Silver
- Innovations in Solvent Extraction Processes
- HydroProcess Developments and Perspectives
- Innovations in Leaching Processes
- Technical Applications and Operating Practices
- Innovations in the Treatment of Smelter Dusts
- Modeling, Simulation and Control of Hydrometallurgical Processes
- Innovations in Bio-Processes
- Treatment of Metallurgical By-Products and Wastes
- Innovations in Electrowinning Processes

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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 the Workshop HydroProcess 2006.

Dr. Jesús M. Casas
Secretary General and Editor
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