

POST BLAST ANALYSIS IN COAL MINING

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ABSTRACT

The use of monitors to assess equipment performance is carried out on a routine basis in many industries. The benefits gained through process control in knowing exactly how the equipment is working far outweigh the initial capital costs of the monitor. In the mining industry several dragline monitors have been developed and installed on equipment through out the world, but to date none has been fully accepted by the industry. This paper describes the use of a sophisticated monitoring system which incorporates an onboard processor to assess both dragline and blast performance. The use of a radio telemetry link for data transfer has removed the need for manual data collection and transfer, leading to a more efficient and powerful system. Significant effort has been put into the development and verification of a dig index to allow blast performance to be objectively assessed.