

ACG Slope Stability 2020 Symposium and Coronavirus

Date: 16 March 2020

The Australian Centre for Geomechanics (ACG), The University of Western Australia, continues to closely monitor the developments surrounding COVID-19 Coronavirus in Australia, and implications for world travel.

The ACG's top priority is the safety and well-being of the delegates, speakers, sponsors and exhibitors of our 2020 International Symposium on Slope Stability in Open Pit Mining and Civil Engineering.

In the best interest of public health and mining community, the ACG 2020 International Symposium on Slope Stability in Open Pit Mining and Civil Engineering, scheduled to take place from 12 – 14 May 2020, will no longer be held onsite at the Hyatt Hotel Perth, Western Australia. Instead, the Slope Stability 2020 Symposium programme will be delivered to symposium delegates via online media facilities. This will enable the delegates to access the latest in best practice, with respect to pit slope investigations, design, implementation and performance monitoring, in a safe environment that is not a mass gathering.

The health and safety of our symposium participants and the communities we live and work in are of paramount importance to us. Amid the deteriorating situation in Australia and around the world, a physical mass gathering is no longer possible. More than 130 symposium authors invested considerable time and resources to write their symposium paper(s), as well as the reviewers ensuring the papers' high quality. We believe we owe it to industry to make this highly topical and relevant symposium readily available to industry, despite the current challenging circumstances, and will do so via electronic media. As such, the ACG shall not be postponing Slope Stability 2020.

Many attendees' companies, exhibitors and sponsors have recently banned global and Australian interstate travel, and released event bans. Increasingly stringent travel restrictions have been imposed by Australia, USA, New Zealand, across Europe and a range of countries. It is clear the situation is evolving rapidly, Government advice is adapting and health concerns must always come first.

More details about the Slope Stability 2020 Symposium Online Content will be communicated in the weeks ahead. Our team will be working tirelessly to ensure we continue to deliver an excellent symposium.

Thank you for your understanding and collaboration.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Phil Dight

Slope Stability 2020 Symposium Chair



Josephine Ruddle

Slope Stability 2020 Event Manager