

BOOK REVIEW

Proceedings of XXIV International Mineral Processing Congress, Beijing, China, 24-28 September 2008, edited by Wang Dianzuo, Sun Chuan Yao, Wng Fu Liang, Zhang Li Cheng, and Han Long. Responsible Editor: Geng Jianye. xxxii + 4415 pages 21.4 x 27.8 cm, hard cover, in 3 volumes, A CD containing all the proceedings is also included. Published by Science Press, 16, Donghuangchenggen North Street, Beijing 100717, China. ISBN 978-7-03-022711-9 [Beijing]

The history of the International Mineral Processing Congress is the history of modern mineral processing. During its existence since 1952, IMPC has been a major driving force for promoting scientific and technical knowledge in areas such as comminution, flotation, and other separation methods, mineral sciences, and hydrometallurgy. The Congress has been a truly international gathering that met 24 times in 15 countries at an average participation of 700 delegates per Congress:

I	1952	London, England	XIII	1979	Warsaw, Poland
II	1953	Paris, France	XIV	1982	Toronto, Canada
III	1955	Goslar, Germany	XV	1985	Cannes, France
IV	1957	Stockholm, Sweden	XVI	1988	Stockholm, Sweden
V	1960	London, England	XVII	1991	Dresden, Germany
VI	1963	Cannes, France	XVIII	1993	Sydney, Australia
VII	1964	New York, USA	XIX	1995	San Francisco, USA
VII	1968	Leningrad, USSR	XX	1997	Aachen, Germany
IX	1970	Prague, Czechoslovakia	XXI	2000	Rome, Italy
X	1973	London, England	XXII	2003	Cape Town, S Africa
XI	1975	Cagliari, Italy	XXIII	2006	Istanbul, Turkey
XII	1977	Sao Paulo, Brazil	XXIV	2008	Beijing, China

The impact of these congresses on the mineral industry of the world may be found in many new processing plants and in substantial changes made in the older plants. Most certainly these congresses have contributed in large measure to the current capabilities of the mining industry to support the world-wide expansion of all industries. Continuity of the congresses is the responsibility of the International Scientific Committee, but the job of organization lies with the sponsoring institution. The 24th Congress held in Beijing was organized by the Chinese Academy of Engineering, whose Vice President Prof. Wang Dianzuo is the senior editor of the proceedings.

The proceedings start with 10 plenary papers. The first entitled, "Evolution and innovation of mineral processing in China" by D.Z.Wang et al., attempts to give a short historical review of mineral processing in China. The second plenary is by Cyril O'Connor, President of IMPC, looks at the future of mineral processing education and the need for more graduates. The other lectures discuss specialized aspects of mineral processing such as the role of microorganisms in flotation, optimization in crushing, sustainability, the shaping of science and practice of mineral processing, arsenic in

copper industry, flotation, role of molecular structure of surfactants on flotation, and the treatment of tungsten ores in China. The remaining papers are organized in 22 headings as follows:

Section Title	Number of papers	Section Title	Number of papers
1. Applied mineralogy	20	12. Process simulation, expert system, and control in mineral processing	36
2. Comminution, classification	50	13. Bio-hydrometallurgy	47
3. Physical separation	29	14. Mineral chemical processing	42
4. Flotation chemistry	31	15. Powder technology	9
5. Sulfide flotation	16	16. Mineral materials	32
6. Non-sulfide flotation	36	17. Treatment and recycling of solid waste	49
7. Reagents in mineral industry	18	18. Waste water treatment	18
8. Processing of complex ores	38	19. Secondary resource recovery	14
9. Processing of industrial minerals and coal	25	20. Soil remediation	9
10. Solid-liquid separation	9	21. Concentrator engineering and process design	28
11. Dispersion and agglomeration	10	22. Application of mineral processing in related industry	12

The total number of papers is 563. Volume 1 includes the plenary papers and sections 1 to 7, volume 2 includes sections 8 to 14, and volume 3 includes sections 15 to 22 and the 15 pages Authors Index. Organizing and editing such a huge number of manuscripts is not an easy task even if a large number of workers were involved. On reading some of the papers I found a number English language mistakes but this is excusable because of the language problem in China. In general the reader will understand the text without problem. The papers were all refereed by the Organizing Committee. The three volumes will keep mineral processing engineers and researchers busy for the next few years studying them until the next congress that is scheduled in Brisbane, Australia in 2010. Congratulations for a well done job.

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