

Optimizing Transverse Stopping at the Musselwhite Mine

Ismail Onder Ozen¹

1. Technical Services Manager, Newmont, Thunder Bay, ON Email: ismail.ozen@newmont.com

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ABSTRACT

Musselwhite Mine has been in production over 25 years. The mine is located approximately 500km north of Thunder Bay, Ontario. There are currently six active mining zones at Musselwhite; of which the PQ Deep (PQD) is the deepest mining area representing the majority of Musselwhite Reserves and is extracted primarily via transverse stopping. Development for the PQD started in late 2017, and the first stopes were mined in early 2021. This paper highlights the mine design updates, drill and blast practices and ground control applications for transverse stopping at the PQD based on the geotechnical lessons learnt from previous stopping practices at the Musselwhite Mine.