

# Eliminate the Re-torque and Increase Mill Availability

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## ABSTRACT

Increased mill availability is a key improvement to most mine sites productivity. Mills are mostly ran to maximum capacity, consequently any downtime reduces the mine output.

One of the most time consuming maintenance process is the mill re-line. We looked at how to reduce the duration of these.

Initially, back in 2009, the most common headache was un-planned shutdowns due to broken bolts. Typically these caused 4-8 hours of un-planned shutdown. This one was very easy for us to solve, quite simple if the bolt tension is correct the bolts don't break – period!

In the next 10 years we built data records that showed that not only can we eradicate the failure modes but also we can remove one of the most costly processes; the re-torque.

The re-torque often takes place 24-48 hours after the mill has been re-started following a re-line. Mostly these take around 4-8 hours, however once the time the grind out and re-charge of the mill are taken into consideration lost production equates to 6-10 hours.

In our presentation we will show the results of our 10 years of testing and how we applied those to eliminate the re-torque.