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“Planning the Largest Underground Mine in North America”

Friday, September 21, 2007
1:00pm - M&M U115



Resolution Copper Project: The Underground Mine of the 21st Century Resolution Copper Mining is undertaking a prefeasibility study into mining a large copper-molybdenum deposit located 110km Southeast of Phoenix, AZ. The current plan is to mine via panel caving with a production rate of 110,000 tonnes per day and a project life of nearly 50 years. Mining the ore body presents several technical challenges primarily related to depth (2100 meters below surface), high virgin rock temperatures (80° C), relatively weak rock and surface constraints to subsidence. This talk will explore the engineering and technical challenges associated with developing one of the largest underground mines and the largest copper projects ever found in North America in light of the project's unique challenges and constraints. Resolution Copper Mining is a limited liability company owned by Resolution Copper Company, a Rio Tinto plc subsidiary, and BHP Copper, Inc., a BHP Billiton Ltd. subsidiary.