
News Details

CC&V Team Increases Mill Production

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Since its start up in 2014, the CC&V mill has undergone a lengthy commissioning process. Ore mills are complex and typically require a break-in period of “fine-tuning” to get them running as efficiently as possible. CC&V’s mill has been no exception.



Newmont CC&V's Mill

The mill team spent most of 2015 running and understanding their mill, struggling to operate it above 50 percent of the capacity for which it was designed. Then, starting in December of 2015 through March 2016, based on extensive diagnostics and analysis, a cross-functional team of employees and contractors steadily worked to optimize, realign, and make mechanical changes to increase the mill’s run time which is now upwards of 80 percent. The analysis and remedy of construction issues could not have been completed without the collaboration of site, regional, and corporate employees and contractors in Projects, Newmont Metallurgical Services, Operations, Maintenance, and Metallurgy. This effort, combined with calculated metallurgical modifications, as well as higher grade ore inputs, has boosted gold extraction to budgeted levels. While significant improvements have been made, optimization work continues.

All who are involved in managing the mill, acknowledge the successful work done in understanding, adjusting and in some cases reequipping various functions of the mill, especially the filter presses. Following the construction issues remediation, the effort to improve operation of the filter presses, which spans the diligent work of four crews who operate shifts, has been led by Dylan Noble, a mill foreman, who is quick to credit the entire filter press team who continue to meet the challenges posed by this critical system – 24 hours per day, 365 days per year – with patience and persistence. Pictured with Dylan are just a few of those who have battled the filter presses to achieve the successes realized so far: foreman Robert Hawver and press operators Scott Blythe and Antonio Atencio.



Left to right: Robert Hawver, Scott Blythe, Antonio Atencio and Dylan Noble

This work, along with the significant planning and execution support from mine operations in delivering higher-grade ores, has allowed the mill to meet budgeted gold production. Most importantly, given this success, no matter who you talk to in mill operations, the first accomplishment they mention is their outstanding safety record. Since established at CC&V, the mill operations team has worked with Zero Harm – that’s more than 900 days without a medical reportable. To all those involved in this operational success story - well done!