

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Mining research centre marks 10 years of innovation

Sudbury, ON, October 15, 2008—MIRARCO, the Laurentian based not-for-profit corporation celebrated its tenth year of successful mining research and development. The Big Thank You gala, hosted at the Science North Inco Cavern, recognized the many people and businesses involved in MIRARCO's success.

"MIRARCO would not be where it is today without the help of these industry partners, funding agencies and researchers," said Dr. Stephen Hall, MIRARCO President. "The purpose of the event was to share the celebration with both past and present staff and partners."

Attendees had a chance to mingle with colleagues and visit 'innovation stations' showcasing MIRARCO's flagship projects. There was also a fund-raising program organized by MIRARCO and the Salvation Army. The evening concluded with a pictorial slideshow of the corporation's people, history and milestones.

MIRARCO has grown over the past ten years from a small group of geomechanics researchers to the largest not-for-profit applied research firm in North America. The corporation still specializes in geomechanics but has expanded into the realms of 3D visualization and optimization as well as environment and sustainability.

MIRARCO- Mining Innovation, Rehabilitation and Applied Research Corporation, founded in 1998, is a not-for-profit applied research and technical service company formed through collaboration between Laurentian University and the private and public sectors. MIRARCO is located in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. We promote mining innovation and provide a bridge between researchers and industry.

MIRARCO's most popular contribution to the mining industry is its visualization hardware and software. VR systems have been sold to companies in Canada, the United States and China. The Schedule Optimization Tool (SOT) is a mine scheduling software program developed by MIRARCO that is set to be used by mines in Ireland, South Africa and Australia. MIRARCO is also studying the feasibility of turning mine tailings into biofuel cropland. The Green Mines Green Energy project is being undertaken by MIRARCO, Natural Resources Canada and many industry sponsors. MIRARCO is looking forward to another ten years of growth and innovation.

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Reference:

Jane Djivre

Business Development Officer

MIRARCO

Phone 705.675.1151 x.5071

Fax 705.675.4838