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Introductory word

We are delighted to present you with the first issue of the new quarterly Journal of Sustainable Mining, which is published by the Central Mining Institute. This journal will be dedicated to the key problems of contemporary mining, for which activities related to sustainable development are already a great and important challenge. I am deeply convinced they will determine the future functioning of mining for mineral resources. The fact is that mining activities always affect environmental balance and is, to a lesser or greater extent, a hardship for the residents of mining areas. This is why the twenty-first century mining industry must become a sustainable development industry in order to gain public acceptance for its activities.

The mission of this new journal will be to promote and spread knowledge not only concerning the idea of sustainable development in mining, but most of all, specialist knowledge derived from national and international research as well as technological solutions and methods, in which this vital idea is implemented.

Sustainable mining is economically efficient and thus can obtain raw materials at prices accepted by customers and ensures the stability of its supply. The effectiveness of sustainable mining is a prerequisite for achieving the objectives in the area of both work safety and environmental protection. Because of this, we will present innovative solutions within this domain, related both to the sphere of production and the processing of minerals already extracted.

In the articles to be published in Journal of Sustainable Mining, we will pay special attention to the global problem of the depletion of non-renewable mineral resources and its consequences. The contemporary world and each following generation of inhabitants of the Earth must be aware of this and rationally manage the extraordinary gifts of nature. Rationally, this means both economically acquiring and economically consuming mineral resources. This is the key to securing the world's raw materials.

An area of particular interest of this journal will be the issue of work safety. Problems related to these area are becoming more and more important in different mining areas of the world. We will share with our readers expertise and experience in how to combat various natural and technical hazards. Some of them today even include barriers to mining activity. We will also pay attention to the social aspects of work safety in mining.

Similarly important are environmental problems in the areas subjected to mining activities. This applies both to solutions that minimise different kinds of impacts, and recovery technologies to restore post-mining areas to the public to continue their further use and appropriate management.

I kindly encourage you to read the first issue of this magazine and enjoy all subsequent issues. I am sure it will meet your expectations.

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