



The MEND Monitor

8th ICARD

The Eighth International Conference on Acid Rock Drainage was held in conjunction with Securing the Future in Skellefteå, Sweden on June 23-26, 2009. Over 300 delegates from 42 countries participated in the conference. The technical program contained over 140 presentations and 70 posters ranging from basic understanding of ARD to policies for sustainable mining. Short courses were given prior to the conference and three field trips to historical and active mine sites were held after the conference. Conference proceedings will be available from the INAP www.inap.com.au and SveMin websites www.securing.skelleftea.se.

GARD Guide Launched at ICARD

The Global Acid Rock Drainage (GARD) Guide was officially launched at the 8th ICARD to much acclaim. The GARD Guide describes proven techniques for characterization, prediction, monitoring, treatment, prevention, and management of drainage produced by sulphide mineral oxidation, often termed “acid rock drainage” (ARD). It also addresses metal leaching (ML) caused by sulphide mineral oxidation. The Guide will assist industry to provide high levels of environmental protection, support government efforts in assessing and regulating mining activities, and enable the public and other stakeholders to gain a higher degree of understanding of acid prevention plans and practices.



Members of Global Alliance and Golder team at the 8th ICARD, Skellefteå, Sweden

The Guide applies to all commodities, from base and precious metals to uranium and diamonds, and to all phases of mining, from exploration to post-closure. It also takes into account climate, environmental, and other geographic factors.

The GARD Guide is based on a “Wiki” model and resides at www.gardguide.com, so that it is accessible to practitioners around the globe. Information on ARD/ML has been compiled into over 700 pages, organized into chapters and sub-chapters. The GARD Guide will now enter into a phase of continual improvement and awareness creation, which will result in further upgrades and revisions. Users of the GARD Guide can leave comments and suggestions on the Wiki, or provide feedback directly to [Gilles Tremblay](mailto:Gilles.Tremblay@Golder.com), GARD Guide Secretariat. Development of the GARD Guide was sponsored by INAP, with the support of the Global Alliance. Golder Associates was retained to develop the Guide, and assembled a global team of recognized experts for this tremendous effort.

9th ICARD Comes to Canada

The MEND Organizing Committee was selected to host the 9th ICARD in Ottawa in the spring of 2012. ICARD 2012 will continue the strong tradition forged by previous ICARDs as being the preeminent venue for leading-edge acidic drainage research and problem solving. The conference will include three days of technical presentations and a suite of short courses and field trips.

Upcoming Events

16th Annual MEND-BC ARD/ML Workshop. The theme is “Soil, Geomembrane and Non-traditional Dry Covers”. December 2-3, 2009. Vancouver, BC. Visit the [MEND website](http://www.mend-ncan.gc.ca)

13th International Seminar on Paste and Thickened Tailings. The theme is “Paste Technology – Improving our World”. May 3-6, 2010. Toronto, ON. Visit www.paste2010.com

To obtain information on MEND or its publications, please send an e-mail to:
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