
Press Release
for immediate release

**The next step in mining interoperability:
IREDES and OPC/UA prepare for digital mining**

The „International Rock Excavation Data Exchange Standard“ (IREDES) and VDMA Mining part of “Mechanical Engineering Industry Association” (VDMA) are now pushing ahead the interoperability needed for „Digital Mining“:

IREDES is an established way of exchanging equipment related operational information in mining. This relates to e.g. Drill plans to be sent to Drill Rigs or performance information sent by LHD's and Trucks to the production departments. IREDES defines the mining and equipment related content contained in different profiles. These profiles are exchanged in widely used and fully open XML technology which makes them compatible to a number of other XML related standards used in digital transformation like e.g. BIM in the construction industry.

VDMA Mining represents well-known, mainly medium-sized companies in the fields of surface and underground mining, processing technology as well as consulting, research and development. With an export quota of 96 percent, mining technology is one of the most export-intensive branches of the mechanical engineering industry. VDMA cooperate with the OPC Foundation to develop companion specifications for the branches.

In mines, supervisory control systems are using OPC/UA to acquire process information. In order to enable a smooth integration of information from mobile underground equipment into the overall process coordination, IREDES has joined up with VDMA to integrate the IREDES content into an OPC/UA companion specification for mining. OPC/UA thereby will become a second way of exchanging the IREDES standardized content.

By this cooperation, IREDES profiles beside their availability as XML data sets will be accessible as OPC/UA profiles for integration into the traditional automation world.

IREDES is an industry originated initiative for standardization of information exchange in the mining and construction industry. Members of the initiative are global mining companies as well as major global equipment manufacturers, system integrators and software providers.

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