

**Rio Tinto and Wroclaw University of Technology** hosted this year's reunion of the EMC, EMEC and EGEC. It coincided with the annual meeting of the organisation that supports the three programs: FEMP (Federation of European Mineral Programmes) and its IAB (Industrial Advisory Board). Besides 55 students and some 50 alumni there were also 55 representatives of international companies, members of FEMP, and representatives of participating universities. The 160 participants had ample opportunity to strengthen their network during the various activities. This was the first year that the student groups included the 18 Erasmus Mundus non EU students. It was also the first year that this meeting was held outside the West Germany / the Netherlands area. The fear that the more complicated journey to South West Poland would reduce the number of participants, did not come true. Participants came from as far away as Australia and North America.



On Thursday most alumni, industry and academia arrived. The meetings between the academics focused on the complicated operational aspects of Erasmus Mundus. On Friday morning the meeting with the Industrial Advisory Board concluded with a discussion on the type of research the various companies would like to focus on in the future. The afternoon and evening activities were held at the university. The EMC and EGEC students from Delft and Aachen arrived in the early morning by bus, the EMEC students were already in Wroclaw. After

the lunch the industrial partners introduced their company. Narella Crux of Rio Tinto's corporate office gave an interesting overview of the activities in which Rio Tinto is involved and of the opportunities for graduates. After that Eric Turner, Rio Tinto's VP Product Stewardship & Sustainability, held a workshop with the theme: "**Sustainability**". 8 groups of about 12 students and alumni were given each one question. After an hour of discussions each group presented their view on the topic of the question.



During the evening Rio Tinto funded the program. This was the main event where all participants could meet in an informal atmosphere with food, drinks and music. At the start of the evening a traditional “Leder-sprung” (jump over the leather) took place. At 02.00 in the morn-



ing the activities at the university finished and many guests continued in the clubs downtown Wroclaw until the early morning.

On Saturday 29 November a program with activities was offered in and around the Złoty Stok gold-



mine. Over 120 Industry and Academic representatives participated together with the students and alumni. In 1961, ore exploitation from the Złoty Stok mine finished and over one thousand years of mining activities were

over. In 1966, two adits of the closed mine (Gertruda Adit and Black Adit Upper) were transformed into an Underground Route



During three hours the FEMP participants carried out various challenging assignments in and around the mine. After these activities there was a Barbecue and a traditional Polish Santa Barbara celebration underground in the mine.

During these two days it was clearly shown again that the annual meeting and reunion is an important event and is very essen-

tial to maintain the FEMP / EMMEP network. It is also the best opportunity to strengthen the links with the 35 industrial members of FEMP. A list of participants, a copy of the industrial presentations and a link to the pictures

([http://gallery2.tudelft.nl/main.php?g2\\_itemId=1207280](http://gallery2.tudelft.nl/main.php?g2_itemId=1207280)) can be found at: [www.femp.org/info/reunion08](http://www.femp.org/info/reunion08)

The effort of Narella Crux and Eric Turner of Rio Tinto and Gabriela Paszkowska of Wroclaw University of Technology in organising the major part of these days was highly appreciated.

Next year's reunion will take place from 26 until 28 November 2009 and will be hosted by **Barrick Gold** of Canada.

