Poster Sessions

Wednesday, November 4, 2020 - Eric Cannon, Golder Associates & Sue Karl, USGS - Chairs

Rite in the Rain to iPhone: a Transition to Digital Underground Data Collection at Kensington Rae Keim, Chief Mine Geologist

Kensington Mine

Yellow Rite in the Rain notebooks have been a ubiquitous part of any geologist's field gear, whether underground or on surface, for decades. While their ruggedness is commendable, the use of notebooks has the potential to introduce errors when transferring data from the book to the digital database and creates inefficiencies in data management. During an average day of underground collection, mainly centered on chip sampling of faces, the Mine Geologists at Kensington were writing and typing the same sample numbers at least four separate times. A goal of 2020 has been to move from pen and paper to digital data collection and management by designing an app to use on an iPhone. The design work was done in house by Kensington's Database Administrator and has been crafted to automatically sync with the database once the iPhone has reconnected to Wi-Fi. In addition, the app allows for digital creation of assay request forms when dropping samples off at the lab and nearly instantaneous generation of the Daily Ore Control Report. The app was created using Microsoft's PowerApps program which had a steep learning curve but allowed for cost savings associated with in-house app creation, continuous updates and future upgrades. While testing is still underway, it is expected that digital data collection will decrease the risk of simple database errors and save the Mine Geologists at least 1 hour of data entry per day.