

GROUND BREAKING

AUGUST 2013 NEWS

MAKING
MINING
SAFER



FOCUS ON SOUTH AMERICA



CHILE

GroundProbe's presence in South America continues to grow following the sale of nine new SSR-XT units across four Codelco divisions, all of which are located in the Calama region of northern Chile.

GroundProbe South America finalized the sale with Codelco – the world's largest copper producer – in May 2013, and this new support arrangement will drive key benefits in data quality, system reliability, and data availability thanks to our data georeferencing capability, on-site parts availability, and on-site technical specialist skills.

"This constitutes the largest order of slope stability radars by a single customer," says David Ogan, GroundProbe's General Manager for the Americas. "In our June 2012 newsletter, we highlighted the innovative partnership between GroundProbe and Codelco's Andina division, which has resulted in a fully outsourced slope monitoring service. We are extremely pleased to be expanding our long-term partnership with Codelco and providing them with comprehensive slope monitoring services, including a total of nineteen slope stability radar units across Codelco's operations."



PROFILE ON OUR NEW SERVICE MANAGER

Luis Villanueva joined the GroundProbe team in 2008 as a Technical Specialist, based in northern Chile. Within three years, Luis had been promoted to the position of Senior Technical Officer, and in May this year he became the Service Manager for South America, covering Chile, Peru, Argentina, and Brazil.

Luis is excited that his promotion to Service Manager has given him new opportunities and a chance to contribute to the company's future:

"I am happy because GroundProbe is like my second home. I understand the business and the final objective, and I feel comfortable and at ease in this company. Every day I have the possibility of learning new practices and managing people, and I really value that."

For Luis, working with GroundProbe customers is one of the most rewarding parts of his job:

"I feel great satisfaction transmitting safety information and my knowledge of our systems to the customer ... I know the major customers from the time I spent working as a Technical Specialist, and I want to use my experience to help customers get the most out of the system they are using."

His customers recognize and value his hard work and his unwavering commitment to them, and many contacted him to offer their congratulations when his promotion was announced:

"I received emails and calls with greetings about the new job. They wished me luck in the new challenges and they are happy that I understand their needs."

Luis knows that the Service Manager role carries a lot of responsibilities, but for him "new problems are new challenges."

"You have to think as if you were the owner of the company," Luis adds, "and my goals are to improve our processes, and to always give my customers the best service I can. I want GroundProbe to be a model in the mining industry."

CONTINUED FOCUS ON SOUTH AMERICA



BRAZIL

Our mission is to make mining safer, and in July this year David Noon—VP – Marketing and Technology—represented GroundProbe at a full-day seminar dedicated to identifying global best practices for safety-critical monitoring of open pit slopes. The seminar was hosted by VOGBR (Brazilian geotechnical consulting company) and attended by the Brazilian mining industry, as well as geotechnical and mining engineering experts from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, and Australia.

As Paula Franca, Principal of VOGBR, noted:

“This seminar was an excellent opportunity to show the up-to-date monitoring technology, while presenting real applications for radar in open pit mines. VOGBR believes that radar is an important piece of mine integrated geotechnical tools, giving real time information of slope behaviour. VOGBR is available to help Brazilian clients analyse and interpret radar data.”

GroundProbe SSRs are already in use in Chile, Peru, Argentina, and Brazil, and GroundProbe’s dedicated staff in its Belo Horizonte office are available to import, service, and support SSR systems in Brazil.

PERU AND COLOMBIA

GroundProbe have joined forces with GeoBlast to import, service, and support SSR systems in Peru and Colombia.

“GeoBlast has an excellent reputation and well-established relationships with the mining and civil engineering sector,” said David Ogan, GroundProbe’s General Manager of The Americas.

“Their high competence and deep commitment to provide the best services in geophysics, geomechanics, and drilling and blasting engineering convinced us that they are a perfect fit for us.”

GeoBlast have offices in Lima, Peru, and Medellin, Colombia.

NEW TRAINING CAPABILITY

In the past twelve months, the total number of GroundProbe units deployed in South America has climbed by more than 50 percent. While our expansion in the region is exciting, we can always do more to improve the quality of the service we provide, and GroundProbe South America has recently embarked on a drive to increase customer satisfaction.

As part of this effort, GroundProbe South America has created a new position—Training Manager—and has promoted one of our most qualified and committed Technical Specialists, Pedro Oro, to undertake this important role. Pedro has received formal recognition from our customers for his excellent work and his professionalism on several occasions.

One of the first tasks for Pedro will be to define an individual development plan for the Technical Specialists attached to the Business Unit. These individual plans are designed to support the Technical Specialists as they build the technical knowledge and professional skills their jobs require, and to ensure that any training or coaching they receive is targeted to meet their individual needs.

As Training Manager, Pedro will also be responsible for providing first-level training to key technical personnel in our customers’ organizations, all of whom will be selected by the customers themselves. To date, this approach has proved very successful, and it has had a significant impact on the performance, data quality, and reliability of our Slope Stability Radars.

As always, one of GroundProbe’s key objectives is to ensure that we deliver high quality products and high quality services to our customers. The Training Manager position has been created to ensure that Technical Specialists receive the support and training they need to deliver this high quality service.

We strongly believe that this initiative will facilitate continued improvements in our service, and we will monitor customer satisfaction feedback to evaluate both the initiative and the service we deliver as we strive for excellence.

WELCOME ANDREI TORRES



We would like to welcome Andrei Torres, who has recently joined GroundProbe as a Geotechnical Engineer to provide dedicated training and support to customers in North, South, and Central America. Andrei is based in Colombia and joins GroundProbe’s globally growing Geotechnical Support Services team.

“I am very pleased to introduce Andrei to our customers to help with improving their data quality and developing their risk management and response plans around effective slope monitoring,” said Albert Cabrejo, Principal Geotechnical Engineer and Manager of the Geotechnical Support Services.

Andrei joins a diverse cultural team of GroundProbe geotechnical engineers from India, Indonesia, Chile, Colombia, and the United States.

MAKING MINING SAFER



A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

This month I joined GroundProbe as the new Managing Director and CEO.

I am extremely thrilled to be part of a business with strong and leading technology that has an opportunity to grow rapidly, both locally and internationally.

As a Mining Engineer with a Masters in Business, I have worked in this industry for 30 years. Prior to this opportunity I was the CEO for Orica Mining Services based in Singapore.

I know that being close to our customers and delivering what they need, in terms of both products and services, is what makes a business successful.

I look forward to ensuring our customers are front of mind in everything we do.

John Beevers

“NO COMMENT”

We receive regular enquiries about the monitoring performance of SSR in relation to major slope failures reported in the media. Others have taken these opportunities to actively profile their monitoring performance in high-profile cases.

Our position is always on the customer's side and we will not leverage a customer's misfortune for our own benefit. Period.

Our 'no comment' in regard to this is all about our professional conduct and does not relate to any lack in confidence. The facts are that since 2001,

GroundProbe radars have performed over 4,500,000 hours of real-time, safety-critical monitoring. During this long period of service, we are proud that there is no recorded case of a GroundProbe system failing to detect wall movement prior to a slope failure.

Our commitment is to make mining safer for the benefit of our customers.

10 YEAR SERVICE FOR SSR SERIES-1

This year marks the 10 year anniversary of the SSR Series-1 model, and we are proud of the track record of high reliability this design has given our industry.

Several of the components that make up these early SSR models are no longer manufactured by our suppliers. To continue to support these systems in the field, our team of engineers in Brisbane remain busy second sourcing and re-engineering replacement components that our suppliers no longer manufacture.

Our engineering process is rigorous, and it meets global best practice standards that go far beyond simply sourcing and purchasing. Each part is designed and engineered to suit the system, and

this often involves making knock-on changes to other hardware and firmware elements of the system before it enters our robust testing regime. Our testing process includes unit testing, temperature testing, vibration testing, system testing, and extended alpha testing, followed by months of beta testing in mine sites, before the replacement component is included as a standard replacement part in our fleet.

We are proud of our 10 year anniversary and the millions of hours of monitoring the SSR Series-1 systems have delivered.

NEW DEPLOYMENTS

- + **Anglo American**
Kolomela (South Africa)
- + **BHP Billiton Mitsubishi Alliance**
Central Queensland Operations (Australia)
- + **Capstone Mining**
Pinto Valley (USA)
- + **Codelco**
Chuquicamata (Chile)
Radomiro Tomic (Chile)
División Ministro Hales (Chile)
Gabriela Mistral (Chile)
- + **Freeport McMoRan**
Morenci (USA)
Candelaria (Chile)
- + **Rio Tinto**
Bingham Canyon (USA)
- + **Ok Tedi Mining**
Ok Tedi (PNG)
- + **Stanwell Corporation**
Meandu (Australia)



BE OUR GUEST IN BRISBANE DURING SLOPE STABILITY SYMPOSIUM



We warmly welcome all of our customers and industry friends to our home city of Brisbane for the International Symposium on Slope Stability in Open Pit Mining, 25-27 September 2013.

September is the most beautiful month to be in Brisbane, and we will be bringing a number of our global staff (including all our global Geotechnical Engineers) to Brisbane to actively participate in the symposium program and enjoy the social company of our customers and industry friends.

Our signature event will be the "Casino Royale," held at Brisbane's heritage-listed Treasury Casino in the city centre. We welcome one and all to join us for a social night of cocktails and games.

We have also organised a "GroundProbe Tour" of our corporate office and production facilities. Our staff would really like to meet and show you our SSR equipment and facilities, and to have a few casual drinks with you on our deck, with sweeping views of Brisbane city and Mt Coot-tha.



HOW TO REGISTER

Please contact courtney.cruickshank@groundprobe.com to register for the "Casino Royale" and "GroundProbe Tour."



Join us at Slope Stability 2013! Slope Stability 2013 will provide a forum for 300+ open pit mining and civil engineering practitioners, consultants, researchers and suppliers worldwide to exchange views on best practice and state-of-the-art slope technologies.

MAKING MINING SAFER

FROM THE PRODUCTS WE DEVELOP TO THE SLOPE MONITORING SOLUTIONS WE TAILOR, OUR VISION IS MAKING MINING SAFER

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