Thermal Fragmentation Demonstration

Overview and results of Thermal Fragmentation ‘surface demonstration’ process over 4 minutes within the hardest rock....Granite

GREEN MINING TECHNOLOGY

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Drilling of a pilot hole

- A 150 mm pilot hole is required to guide the thermal head
- Ordinary mining drill is sufficient
The pilot hole

• For production purposes, the pilot hole must be within the mineralized structure.
• For openings and development work, the fragmented hole will serve as space for rock expansion after blasting.
Thermal Fragmentation process

- The thermal head is inserted into the pilot hole
- The head is ignited and compressed air is added to create a thermal ‘cushion’
Thermal head inserted for 4 minutes
End Results
Collection of Data
Collection of Data
‘Thermal’ ore
Summary overview of process

- Pilot hole enlarged to 300 mm in 4 minutes
- Maximum width is 1200 mm (approx 10 min.)
- No angle limitation
- Little or no wall damages caused by blast vibrations
- Extracts only the mineralized structure ‘drastically reducing environmental impact’
- Creates any kind of opening faster and cheaper
- Cash cost reduction
- Reduces accidents
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