

Project name:

**MIN-NOVATION Mining and Mineral Processing Waste
Management Innovation Network**

Declaration on Mining Waste Prevention and Management

December 2012

Declaration on Mining Waste Prevention and Management

We, the members of the Min-Novation project consortium, do hereby declare that

1. **We consider the Min-Novation Baltic Network (MBN)**, which was set up at the beginning of the Min-Novation project, **a good basis for further transnational cooperation**. One of the main goals of the Min-Novation project has been to facilitate the transfer of knowledge, know-how and good practice in the Baltic Sea Region. To further these goals **we are open to work together with organizations beyond the BSR on relevant mining waste management issues**.
2. **We support the continued development of the Min-Novation Regional Networks** which bring together the business sector, local authorities and R&D organizations. We recognize that the work they have done so far and the work they plan to do will contribute to creating a consensus on issues of local and regional importance.
3. **We are committed to improving and promoting the Baltic Business Database**. By promoting the information about enterprises active in the mining waste management sector we hope to generate a level of interest which will encourage more contacts within and outside the regions involved in this project.
4. **We recognize the value of the combined "State of the art" and "Compendium of mining waste management technologies" documents in that it gives the sector SMEs knowledge about what is available in terms of innovations and currently available solutions**. We therefore will look for ways to make it more accessible and useful for a wider group of entrepreneurs.
5. **We are interested in advancing a more informed perspective on mining activities as they relate to mining and processing waste management, both within the sector and amongst the general public**, and to this end we plan to:
 - investigate and disseminate information about mineral waste by-products, in particular concerning the quality and usability of these by-products
 - be involved in creating more opportunities to share information about mining waste management technologies related to waste prevention, recovery and reclamation.
 - participate in organizing educational study trips and courses for representatives of local/regional authorities and the general public.
6. **We find that the legislative and regulatory frameworks affecting the mining and processing waste management sector can and should be revisited and improved** if this will contribute to making mining waste management a more attractive business activity and with this in mind we intend to put forward specific ideas, which include:
 - differentiating between large companies and SMEs in existing directives and national laws,
 - specifying guidelines for designating mining waste storage sites,
 - drawing up separate regulations for inert and hazardous mining waste.
7. **We believe it of advantage for the mining sector to consider the experiences other branches of industry have had in creating economic value for their waste streams and changing the public's perceptions about what can be done about waste**. Learning these lessons and good practices may help improve how networks of cooperation like the MBN and trade organizations communicate the message of a sustainable mining waste management sector.

Signatories:

Signature and Date

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 17.12.2012

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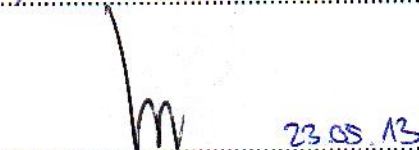
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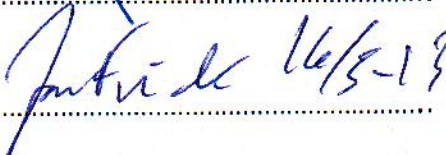
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