

# **Disruptive Innovation in Digital Mining-The Future of Mining**

**M. M. Manyuchi**

Department of Operations and Quality Management, Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

[mercy.manyuchi@gmail.com](mailto:mercy.manyuchi@gmail.com)

**N. Sukdeo**

Department of Operations and Quality Management, Faculty of Engineering and the Built Environment, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

[nsukdeo@uj.ac.za](mailto:nsukdeo@uj.ac.za)

## **Abstract**

Most mining houses are shifting their strategies and implementing new business and operating simulations to include new technologies and are doing so on a more rapid and global basis than ever before. A combination of market volatility, changing global demand, radically different input economics, new locations in search of more reserves, a focus on a longer asset lifecycle and a commitment to operational excellence as well as policy shifts around the globe are all contributing to a total shift in the industry. Periods of cost reduction and the aging workforce have left mining companies with limited resources to adjust. Now, a rapidly evolving set of new technologies, the digital transformation, open new possibilities to improve operating efficiency, develop more accurate and agile planning, heighten salesperson awareness and collaborate with business partners throughout the mining value chain. The mining business is at the heart of this digital transformation, and can drive considerable distinction and competitive advantage within the sector.

**Keywords:** Digital mining, disruptive innovation, the future of mining