WHITTLE is the name synonymous with strategic mine planning. But there was always one problem just too tough to crack: how to schedule a mine to maximize its economic value. Now we have overcome this final barrier: with the Milawa Algorithm™.

Picture the complexities of mining. As if designing the pit and maintaining production were not enough, you have to handle fluctuating commodity prices, unstable extraction costs, the problems which beset you from day to day. How can you manage to cope with the problems from year to year?

Now the Milawa Algorithm gives Whittle Four-X™ added flexibility and power.

The Milawa Algorithm™ determines what to mine in each period.

The Milawa Algorithm's NPV maximization mode creates a long-term mining schedule with the objective of maximizing profitability.

The Balancing mode on the other hand, offers stability: it will determine a schedule which maintains a constant utilisation of mining and processing capacities.
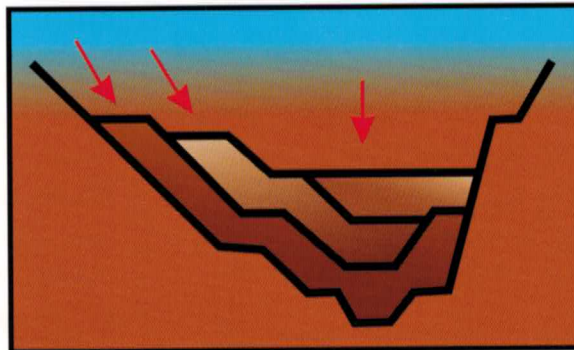
This ability to plan for high return or constancy over the years of a mine's life is a luxury you have never had before. Suddenly all your plans and projections will be so much easier to make.

How it works

This program is highly flexible, and designed for the open-cut mining industry as a whole.

It integrates perfectly with Whittle Four-X™, our top of the range strategic planning package.

The input is a set of mining phases which you generate with, or import into Four-X™. You select the phases which look right and run them through Milawa. It takes into account mining and processing capacities that change with time. It will look at costs that change with time and complex recoveries. It can handle single elements, or multi-elements. The algorithm will also take into account the precedence rules for the phases.

The end product is a life-of-mine schedule which will show you what to mine and process, and when to do it. It takes you through each period and shows what is to be mined from each phase. And you can keep changing the parameters to test an infinite number of scenarios.

Because Milawa uses the Four-X™ data structures, existing users can be producing Milawa schedules literally within hours of receiving the software.

Whittle Programming Pty Ltd