



Julius Kruttschnitt
Mineral Research Centre

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Package poised for April event



JKMRC flotation research data has been incorporated into the JKSimFloat simulator which will be presented at the AusIMM conference at Mt Isa in April 1998

Award winning minerals processing researcher Kym Runge, 27, will present recent developments to the PC-based flotation simulation

package JKSimFloat at the AusIMM conference at Mt Isa in April.

The paper "JKSimFloat—a tool for flotation modelling," is based on research conducted by the Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre in Brisbane which led to the development of the simulator, later installed for flotation research at Mt Isa's lead, zinc and copper concentrators.

Under the guidance of noted flotation specialists Dr Emmy Manlapig and Dr J-P Franzidis, Ms Runge has made improvements to the original JKSimFloat package released in 1992 to come up with a version allowing metallurgists and plant technicians to predict how efficiently a flotation circuit will operate.

Ms Runge's paper mainly deals with how flotation modelling has changed in recent years, and how the JKMRC has become one of the world's leading authorities in this field of minerals processing through the development of new modelling principles used in JKSimFloat.

She said much of this work had been done in collaboration with the University of Cape Town in South Africa as part of the world's longest running minerals processing research project which began at the JKMRC's Brisbane site in 1962.

Ms Runge said she expected to travel to South Africa, visiting the University of Cape Town and then on to Johannesburg to present a series of workshops and seminars on JKSimFloat prior to the AusIMM conference at Mt Isa. Ms Runge will also outline some of the principles used in the simulator for her PhD thesis in minerals processing through The University of Queensland.

** Flotation is a commonly used industrial process by which valuable minerals are separated from the mined ore body in large flotation tanks or 'cells' before further shipment to port and/or refineries.*

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