LabWest Minerals Analysis

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Brad Whisson, Managing Director
LabWest Minerals Analysis

Q How are you innovating your workflows to serve your mining customers?

A We felt to achieve our mission, we had to develop a new paradigm for analytical testing in our industry. That is not a business built around sample volume, but rather deeper analysis with fantastic detection limits from very small surface samples. This enables our customers to actually test more surface space, with superb exploration outcomes.

We utilize PerkinElmer ICP-MS solutions to provide ultra-sensitive elemental analysis to minerals explorers, whereby our detection limits are lower than naturally-occurring background levels. These services are not currently available commercially and will overcome current constraints in sensing the faint signals that appear at surface above a buried orebody.

Q How is PerkinElmer helping you achieve your goals?

A High quality data is what we are after, which in our case means reproducible, accurate data at very low concentrations. PerkinElmer's innovations enable us to deal with interferences and matrix effects that previously have made precise analysis of geochemical matrices at such low levels impossible, and consequently provide the accurate data that our most exacting technical clients require.

For example, PerkinElmer's new NexION 5000 Multi-Quad ICP-MS is enabling us to achieve lower detection limits for key elements - including gold and pathfinders - and provide more value in the data we provide to our clients.

NexION® 5000 multi-quadrupole ICP-MS

Q What do you hope for the future and/or what's next for the business/lab?

A With the evolution of machine learning, exploration algorithms and spatial data, we believe there will be a step change for future near surface geochemical exploration.

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