

Metallurgical Team



Hamid Hatami – Senior Metallurgist

Hamid re-joined AuTec in 2014 following metallurgical postings at Barrick's Coyal mine in Australia and at Pueblo Viejo in the Dominican Republic. Hamid holds a B.A.Sc. degree from the University of British Columbia. Hamid has been involved in testing and optimizing hydrometallurgical processes at bench-scale, pilot-scale, and operational-scale.

Kenneth Seto – Senior Metallurgist

Ken joined AuTec in 2007 and has been heavily involved in hydrometallurgical process piloting as well as on-site commissioning of new processes at Goldstrike and Pueblo Viejo. Ken holds a B.A.Sc. degree from the University of British Columbia and from 1996 – 2002 working with the predecessor of AuTec he was instrumental in commissioning the continuous pilot autoclave facility.

Songtao Yang – Flotation Metallurgist

Songtao joined AuTec in 2015, mainly working on double refractory gold flotation projects that aim to remove both pyrite and carbonaceous matter (TCM). More recently, he was involved in mini-plant pilot flotation tests for the Lagunas Norte Sulfides project. Songtao completed BEng and MSc degrees from Jilin University in 2004 and 2007, respectively. He obtained a PhD degree in 2012 in chemical engineering at McMaster University, where he specialized in developing nanoparticle flotation collectors for pentlandite. His interests in flotation areas include flotation chemicals development, particle-air bubble interaction, particle-particle aggregation/flocculation, ultra-fine grinding, and ultra-fine/fine ore flotation. He is a member of CIM.

Kevin Erwin – Metallurgist

Kevin joined AuTec in 2012 and has been involved in various metallurgical programs while carrying out front-line supervision of the metallurgical technician team. Kevin previously worked as a Research Engineer at the University of British Columbia and holds a B.A.Sc. degree in Materials Engineering from the same university.

Duc Le – Metallurgist

Duc joined AuTec's predecessor company in 1988. He has been involved in various process development and piloting projects as well as on-site commissioning and site support. He has a strong background in database programming and process control. Duc holds a B.A.Sc. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of British Columbia.

Oscar Olvera – Research Metallurgist

Oscar recently joined AuTec to focus on hydrometallurgical process development. He holds B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. degrees from the Metropolitan Autonomous University – Iztapalapa. He was previously a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of British Columbia and at the National Autonomous University of Mexico.