DESIGNED FOR SUCCESS

Successful projects in the mineral processing industry consist of a number of well-defined and linked processes.

Final-year students in the Department of Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering at the University of Pretoria complete a substantial process design project as part of their studies. The project exposes the students to these processes in an experiential manner. Right at the start, the students are presented with a mineral resource and a product requirement. They have to define how the resource is converted into a product, the equipment used, and the capital and operating costs of the process. Once this has been determined, they are required to build a three-dimensional scale model of the resultant plant.

Completing the process successfully prepares the students for industry, where they will be able to provide both an active and meaningful input into the projects in which they will become involved during the course of their professional careers.

→ *Scale model constructed by final-year materials science and metallurgical engineering students Noko Ngoepe, Eduard Ras, Hennie van Niekerk and Arrie van Niekerk*