



Tackling the complexity of mobile mining processes

Systemic approach for decision makers

abaut GmbH – Services for construction and mining

November 2024

abaut GmbH
Agnes-Pockels-Bogen 1
80992 Munich
Germany

www.abaut.de
www.linkedin.com/abaut/

Target and structure of the presentation

→ **Mobile mining processes**

From drill to mill

→ **Use of innovative digital tools**

**Data-driven decisions to increase
operational efficiency in quarries & mines**

Mobile mining processes

From drill to mill

Abraum

Hauwerk

Vorsieb

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Mining as a logistical challenge

Target of mining logistic:

- **The right product**
- **with the right quality**
- **at the right time**
- **in the right quantity**
- **to the right place**
- **with the right costs**

... all the way from drill to mill

Mining production factors

**The right product
with the right quality**

**at the right time
in the right quantity
to the right place**

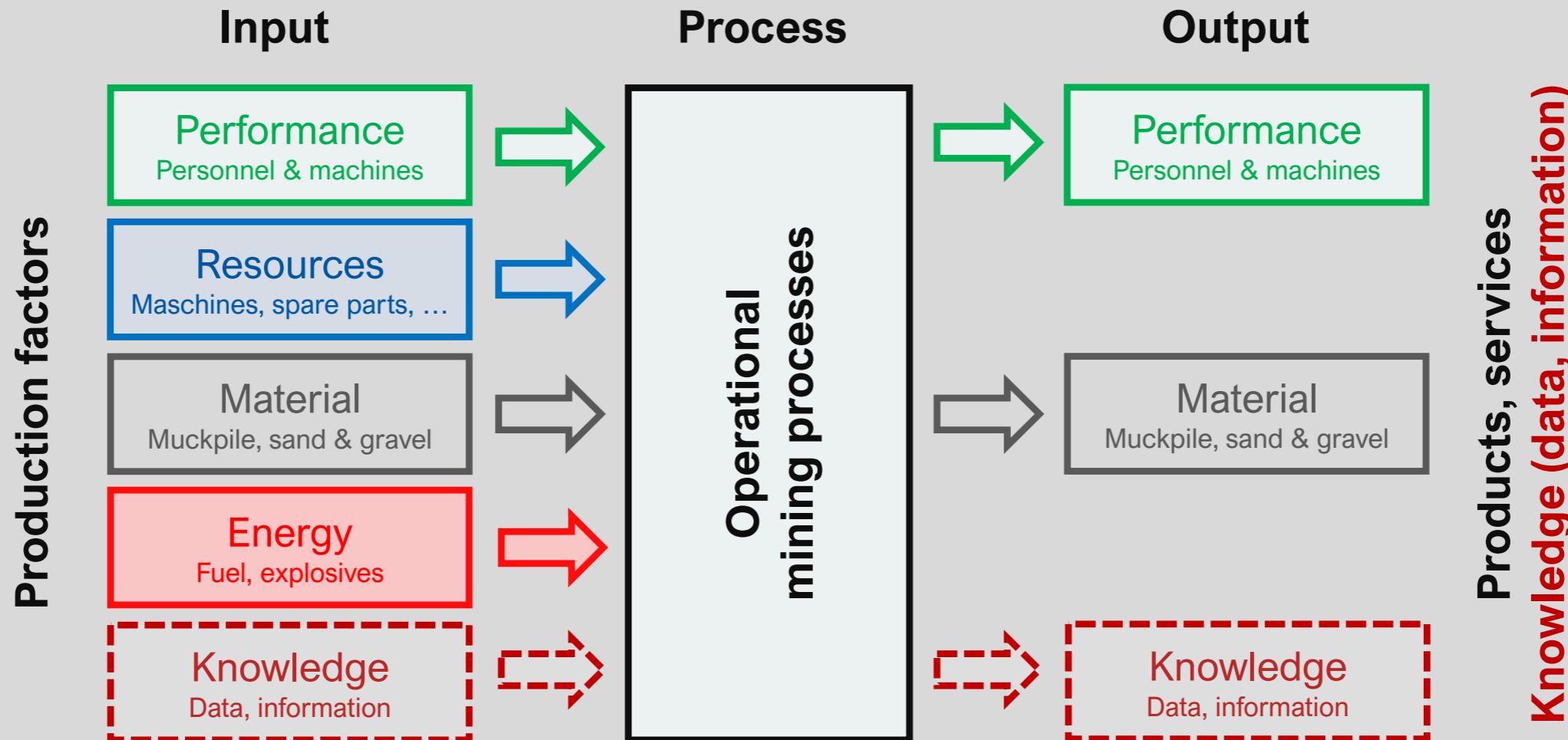
with the right costs

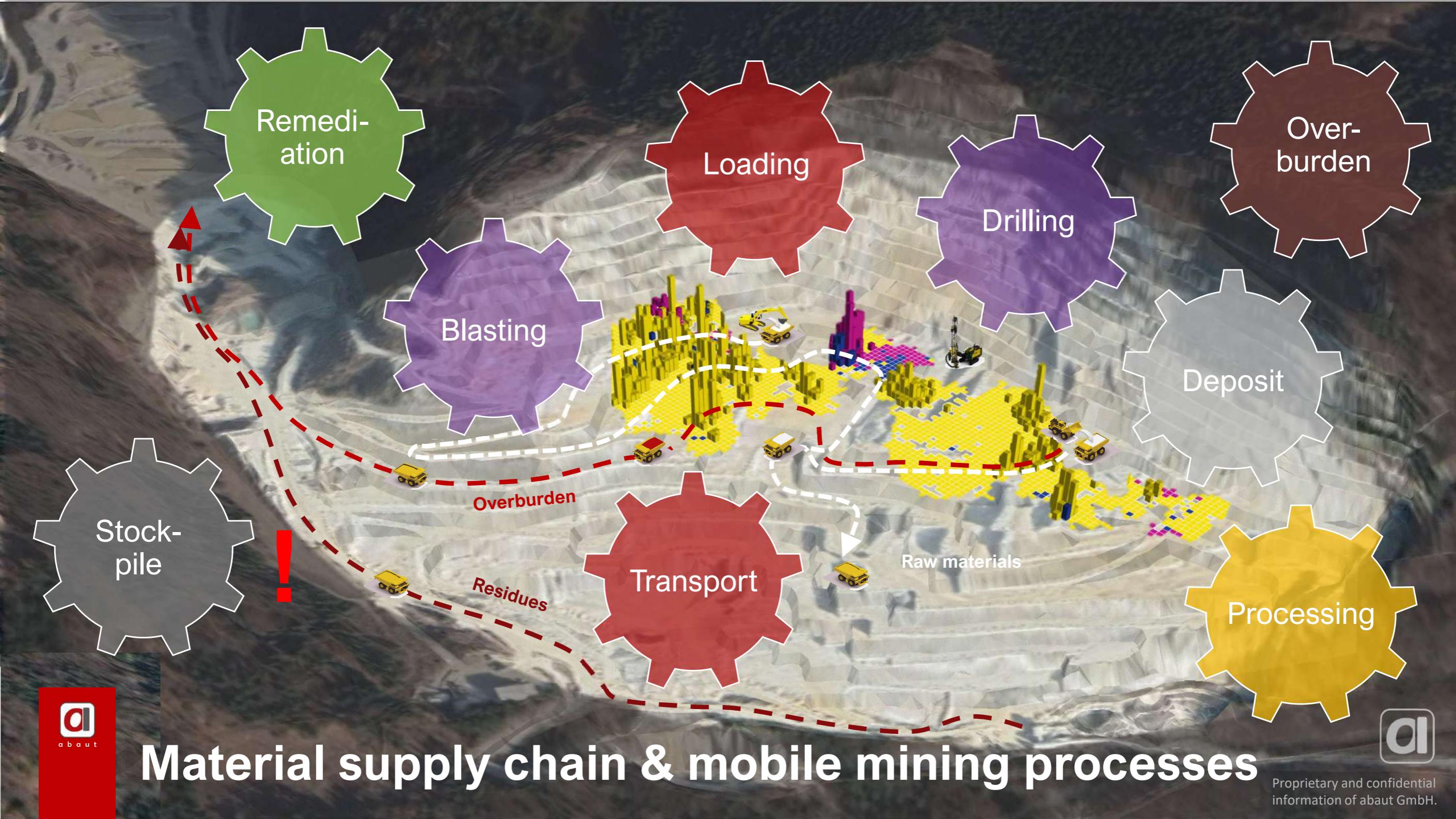
Deposit
Muckpile, sand & gravel !

Organisation
**Management,
knowledge, know-How**

Team & Technology
**Machinery fleet, energy,
human resources**

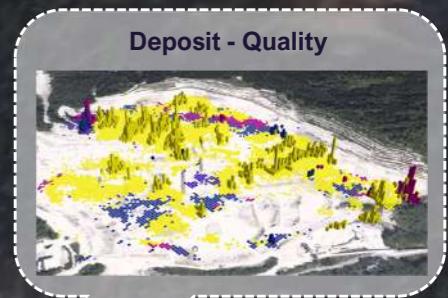
Mining processes



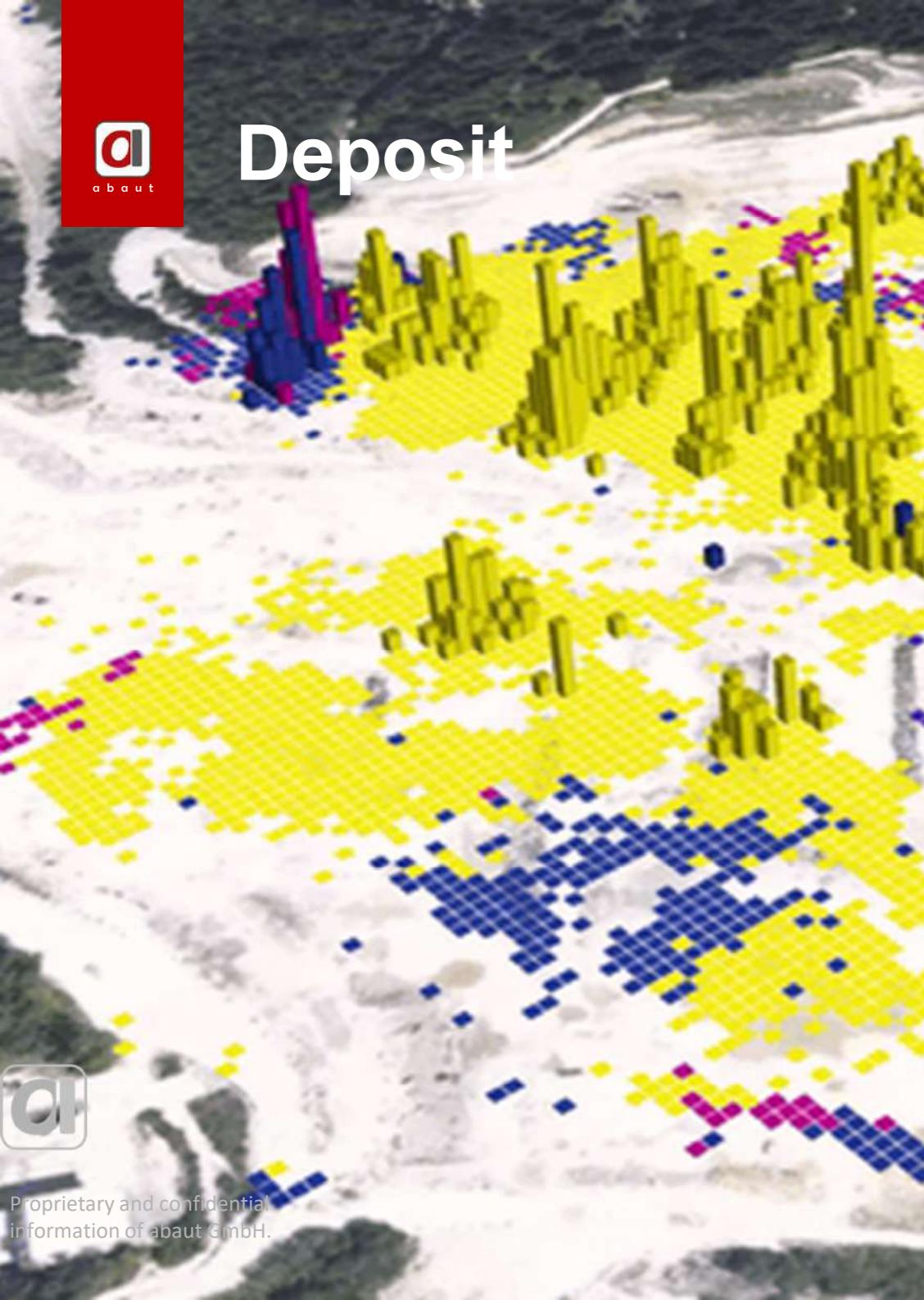


Deposit

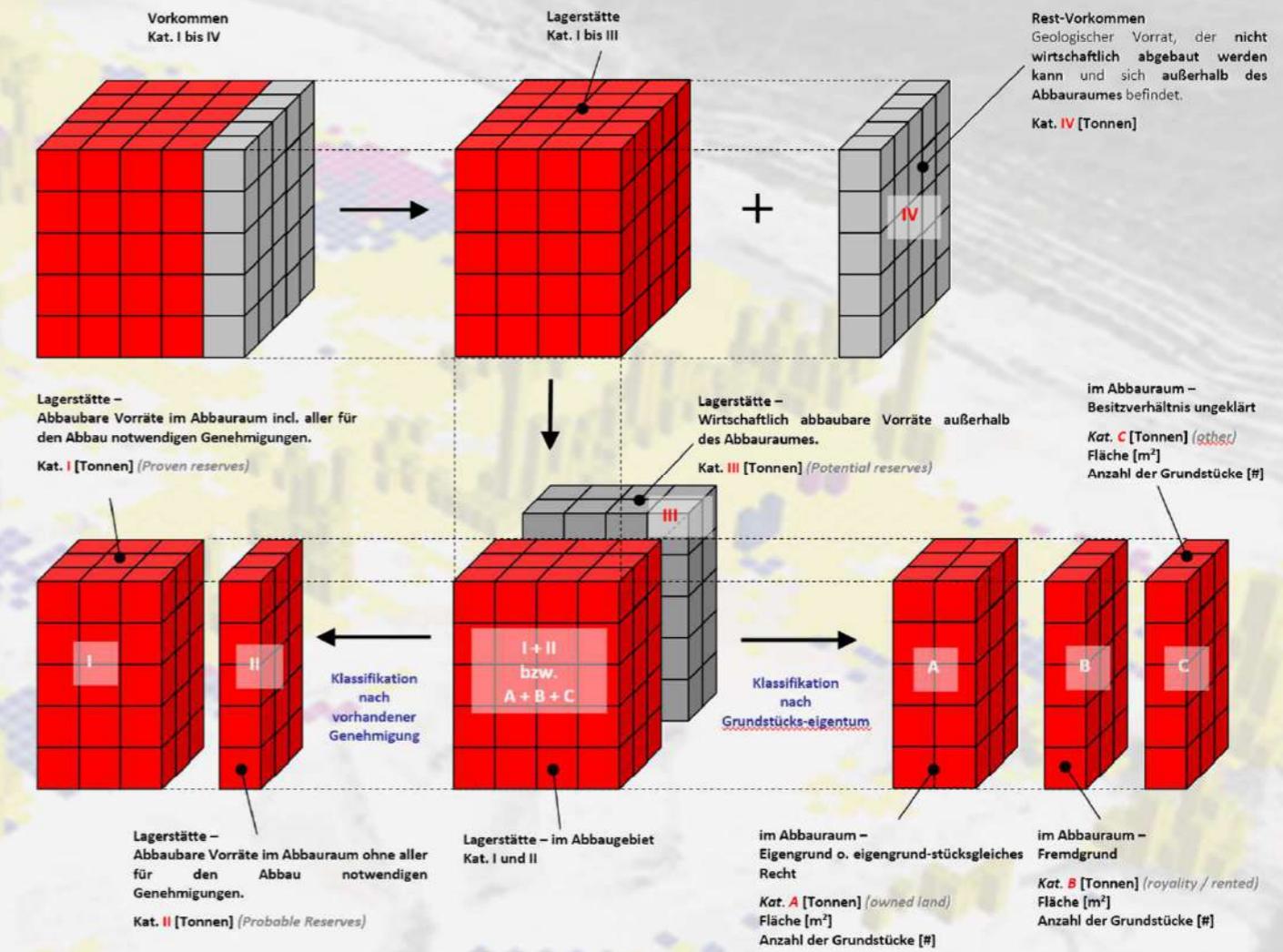
Deposit - Quality



Deposit



→ Classification model



→ Reserve: natural occurrence > deposit

→ Minalbe: permits, property, qualities

Deposit

→ **Deposit types**

- Sand & gravel,
- Solid rock

→ **Rock type**

- Hard rock
- Medium hard rock (MPa)

→ **Technical rock parameters**

- Los Angeles Index (LA)
- Polished Stone Value (PSV)

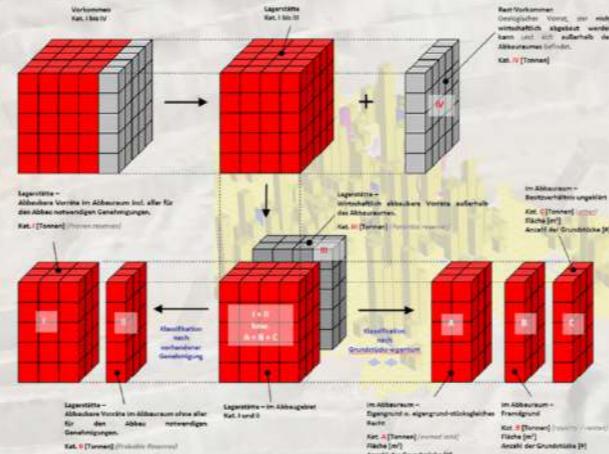
→ **Quality:**

- Selective mining !
- Several extraction areas !

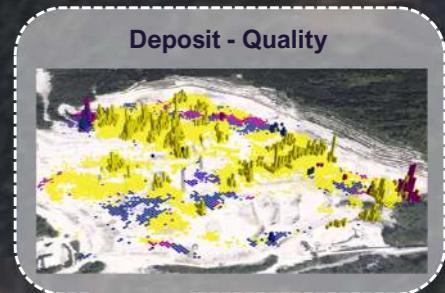
→ **Extraction type**

- Mechanical (Ripping)
- Drilling & blasting

→ Minalble part of the deposit



Deposit - Quality



Drilling & Blasting

→ Blasting parameters

- Layout – burden, spacing, stemming, subdrilling
- Target size of blasted material > Loadability !
- Explosives type

→ Drilling

- In-house competence center
- Subcontractor

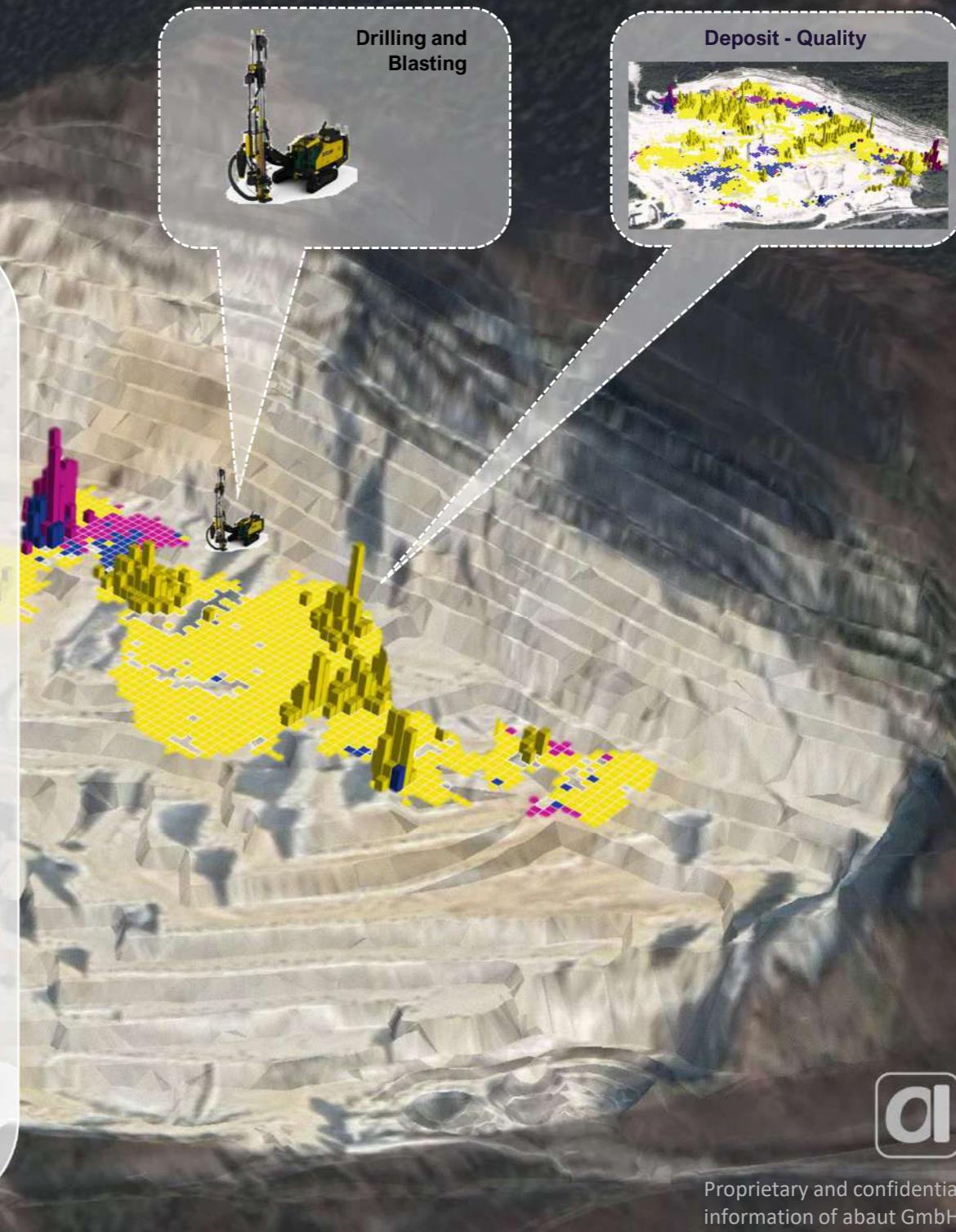
→ Choice of drilling equipment

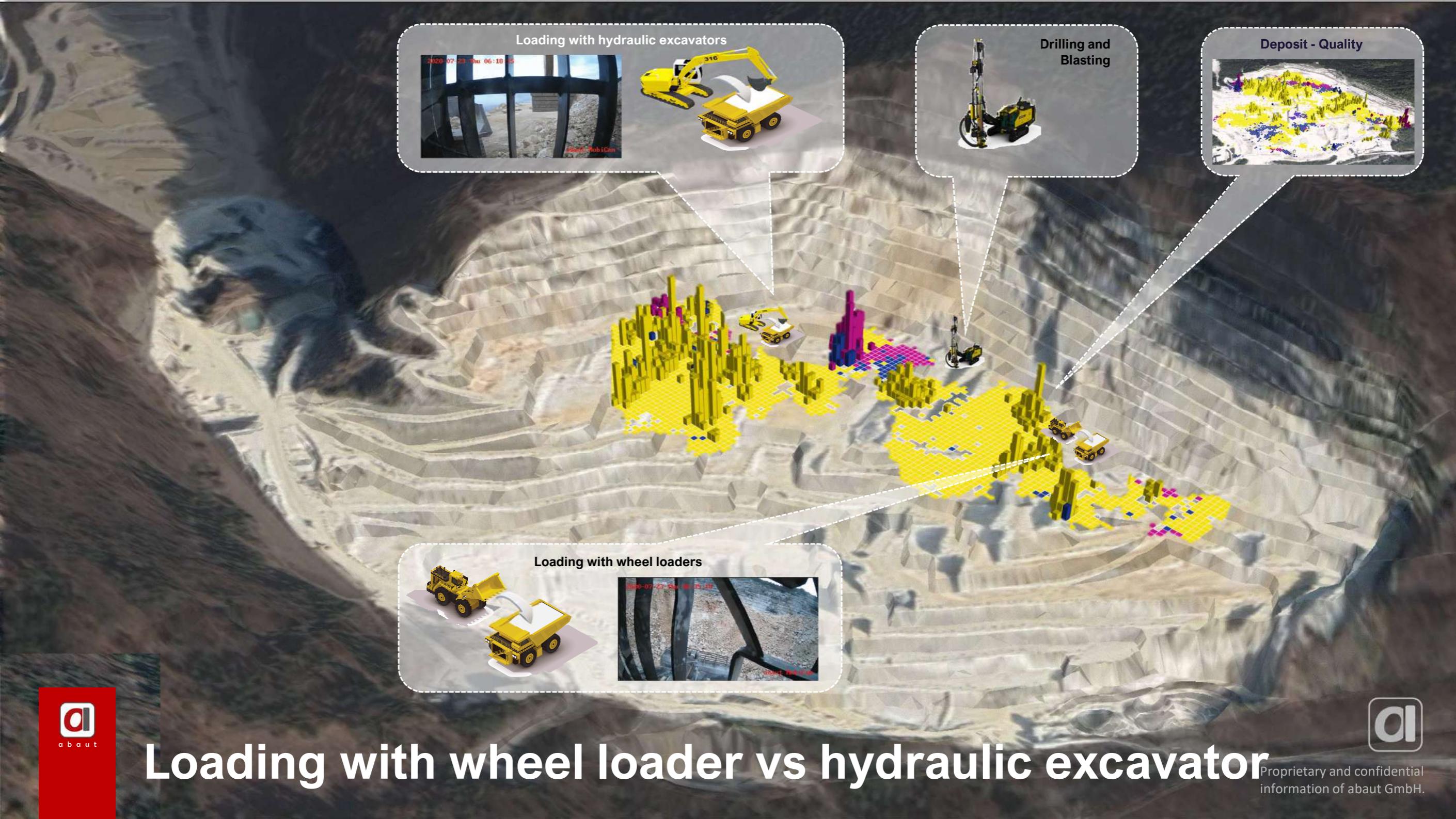
- Planned quantity for mining / year
- In one / more mining sites
- Capacity of drilling equipment
(m^3 / day – year)



Drilling and
Blasting

Deposit - Quality





Loading with wheel loader vs hydraulic excavator

Proprietary and confidential
information of about GmbH.

Loading with wheel loader vs hydraulic excavator

Choice of loading equipment

→ **Weight and bucket or shovel size**

= function of (geology, material, size of muckpile, production)

→ **Wheel loader**

- Loading / Load & Carry / very flexible
- Max. 3-4 buckets / truck
- Bucket size = Muckpile size
- Suitable for wide extraction areas

→ **Correlated with the lateral height of the dump truck**

→ **Hydraulic excavator**

- Loading / less flexible / selective mining
- Max. 7-8 buckets / truck
- Muckpile size > Bucket size
- Suitable for narrow benches



Loading with hydraulic excavator



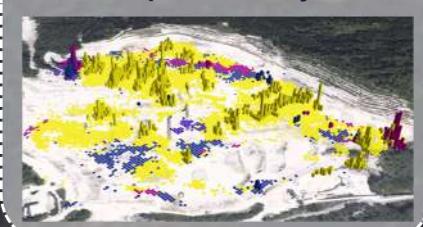
Loading with wheel loader



Drilling and Blasting



Deposit - Quality



Loading with wheel loader vs hydraulic excavator

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about



Loading with hydraulic excavator



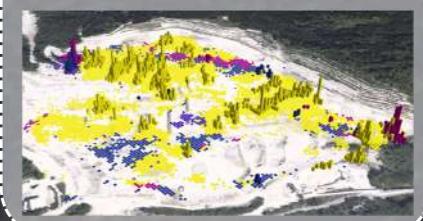
Loading with wheel loader



Drilling and Blasting



Deposit - Quality



Transport

Overburden

Raw material

Residues

Transport cycles



Technological transport

→ Hauling performance

- Dominated by the processing plant
- Dependent on hauling route (distance, width, slopes, road surface, curves)
- Machine pairing → Correlation of loading and hauling equipment

→ Transport fleet

- # Transport units = function (production, hauling route)
- Cycle times are important for the number of transport units
- Transport units should be of similar size for having similar characteristics: velocity, cycle times, ...

→ Inefficiencies in the cycle times

- Waiting for loading / unloading
- Narrow hauling routes → longer cycles
- Poorly maintained hauling routes / Weather

→ Entire fleet

- Consider entire fleet availability for covering peak production
- Optimize equipment utilization
 - avoid unneeded driving
 - avoid excess preparation work
- Monitoring shift efficiency



Loading with hydraulic excavator



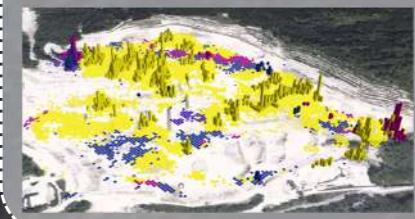
Loading with wheel loader



Drilling and Blasting



Deposit - Quality



Intermediary stockpiles

Transport cycles



Residues



Overburden

Raw material



Intermediary stockpiles

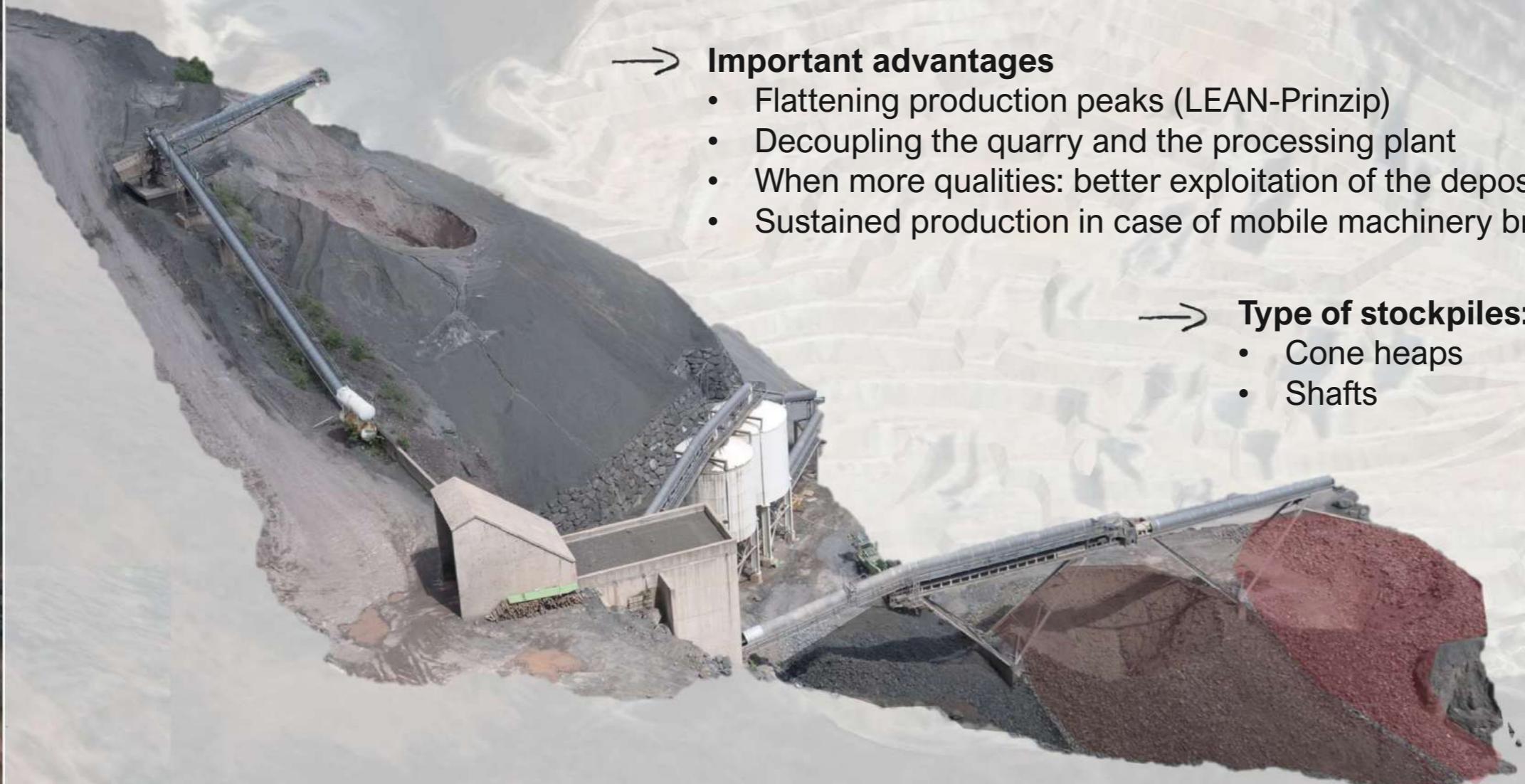
→ Still rarely considered in the workflow and organization of processing plants

→ Important advantages

- Flattening production peaks (LEAN-Prinzip)
- Decoupling the quarry and the processing plant
- When more qualities: better exploitation of the deposit
- Sustained production in case of mobile machinery break-down

→ Type of stockpiles:

- Cone heaps
- Shafts



Loading with hydraulic excavator



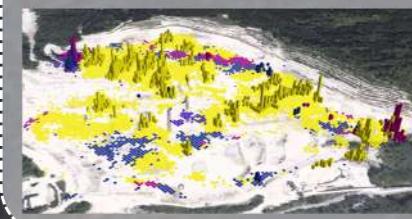
Loading with wheel loader



Drilling and Blasting



Deposit - Quality



Processing plant



Residues

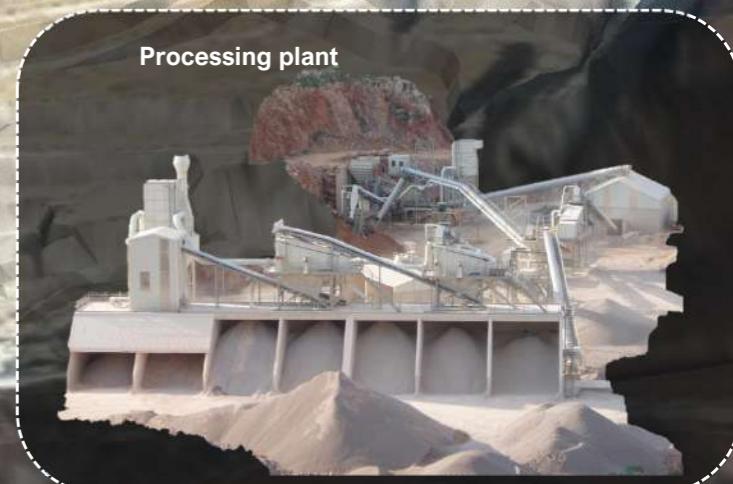
Overburden

Raw material

Intermediary stockpiles



Processing plant



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Processing plant

→ Production

- Usually: Target-production (tons / hour)
- Dictates the haulage performance of mobile machinery
- When possible: intermediary stockpiles

→ Location of the infeed hopper

- Hauling downwards
- Best in central location – Deposit !
- Short hauling routes = more trucks !
- Generous maneuvering area

→ Dimensions of the infeed hopper

- Usually: too small
- Unnecessary waiting for unloading
- Queueing of trucks



Loading with hydraulic excavator



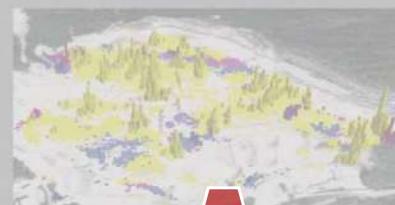
Loading with wheel loader



Drilling and Blasting



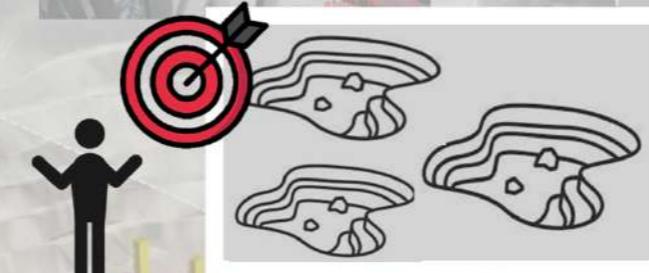
Deposit - Quality



Ingredients for reaching the target



- Production (t/h, t/d, ...)
- Quality (technical)
- Costs (€/t)



Skills

Inno-
vation

Collabo-
ration

Attention

Know-
How

Safety

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Glück Auf!





Use of innovative digital tools

Data-driven decisions to increase operational efficiency in quarries & mines

abaut GmbH – Services for Mining & Construction

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Move mountains with your data



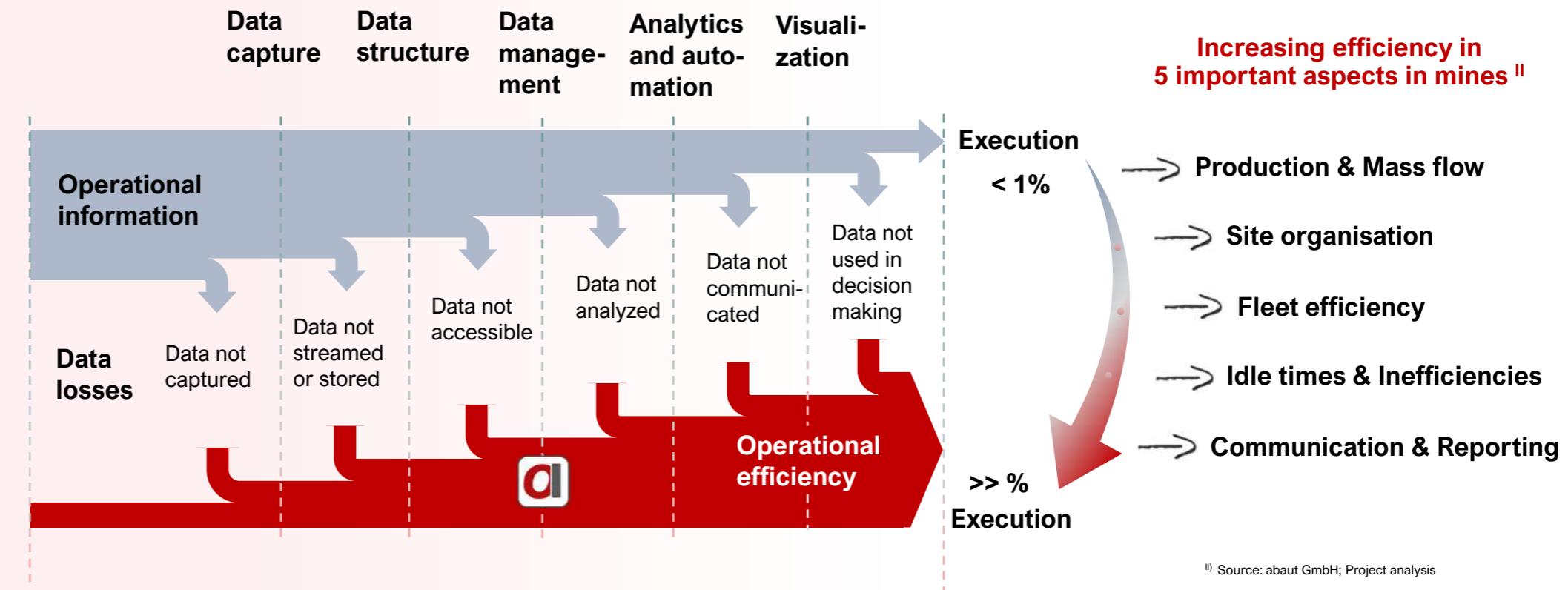
Why process mining analysis in the mining industry?

In mines, quarries and gravel pits, the available data and information are not used for decision-making. With only little effort, relevant operational data can be measured and analysed, offering enormous potential for increased operational efficiency.

Mining companies only use a fraction of their data!

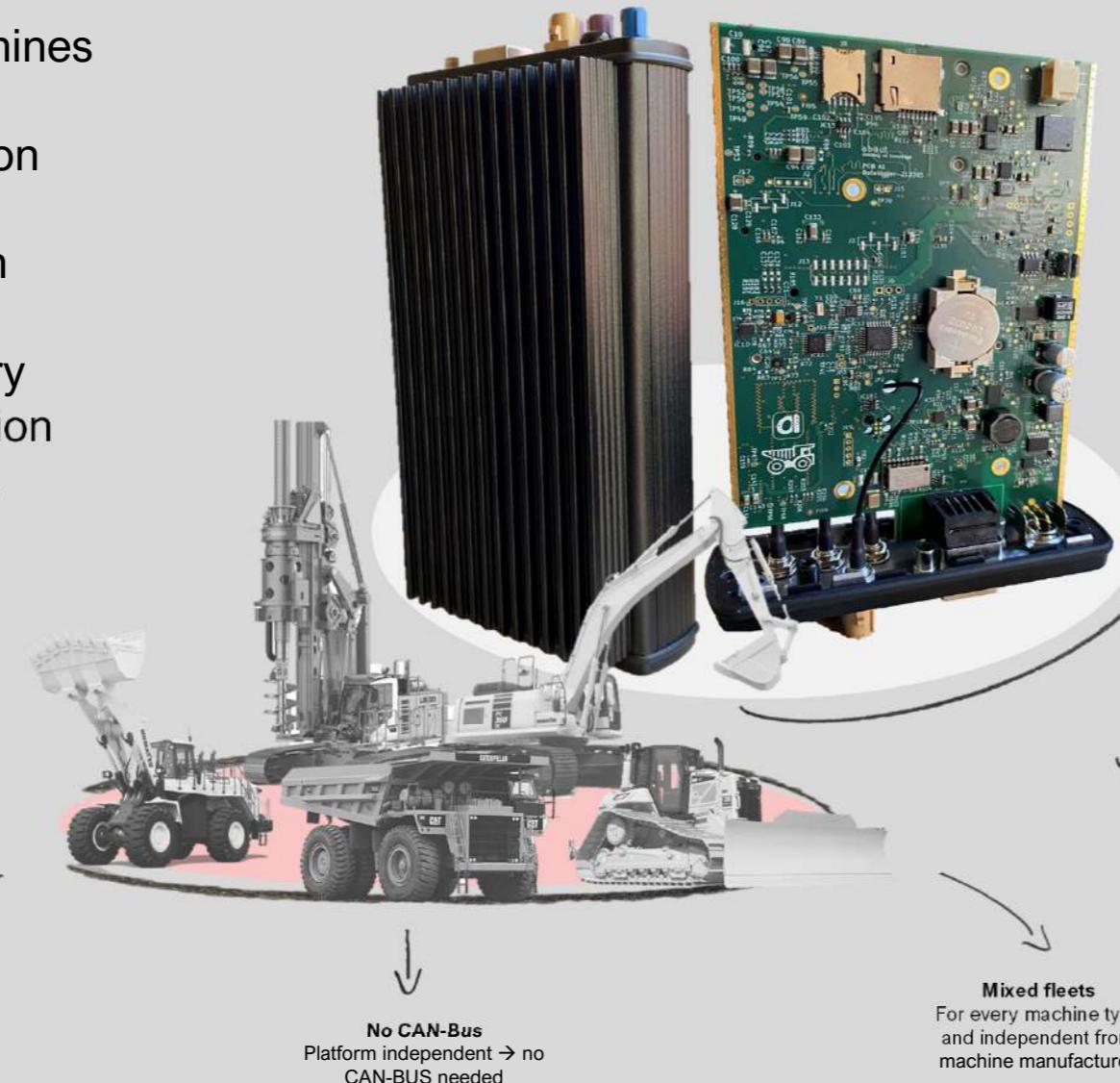
Source: McKinsey;
<https://www.mckinsey.com/industries/metals-and-mining/our-insights/how-digital-innovation-can-improve-mining-productivity>

Innovative IaaS-Solution to tackle the performance gap



Reality capturing

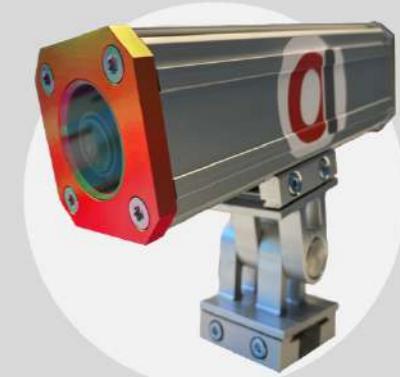
Mobile mining machines are good means to capture processes on site in real time. They are involved in every activity in the mine, reaching every corner of an operation several times a day.



abaut edge

- Inertial measurements
e.g. intelligent data generation
- Edge Artificial Intelligence
e.g. GDPR-conform images (person blurring on edge)
- WiFi & Bluetooth
Machine2Machine communication
- Cellular modem
Internet connection & localisation (2G/3G/4G)
- OTA
New algorithms and features directly from the cloud
- Ready for ...
360° camera, stereo camera, lidar, ...

abaut mView



abaut sView



Automated movement pattern recognition

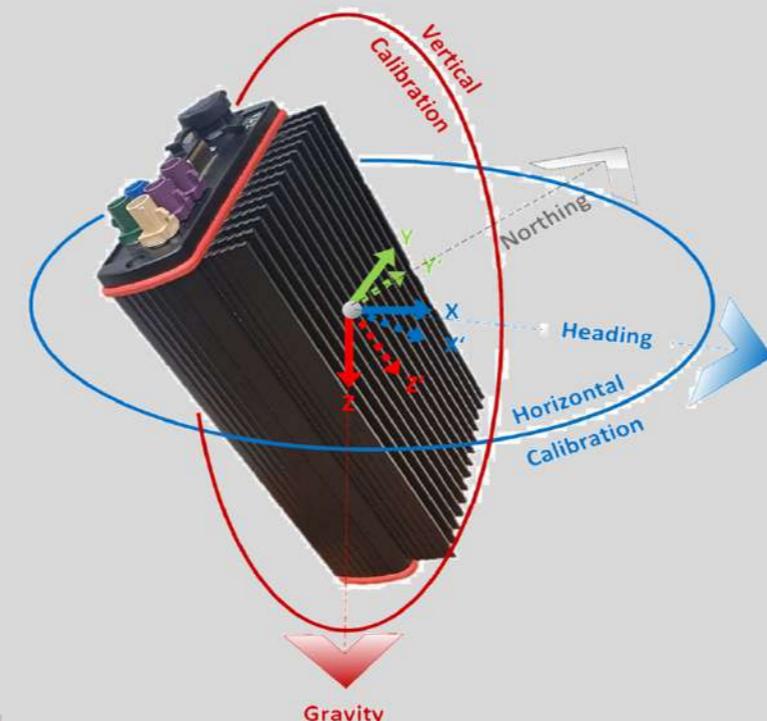
Each time a machine performs an activity such as

- loading, unloading, driving
- digging, manoeuvring, dumping
- preparation work
- idling

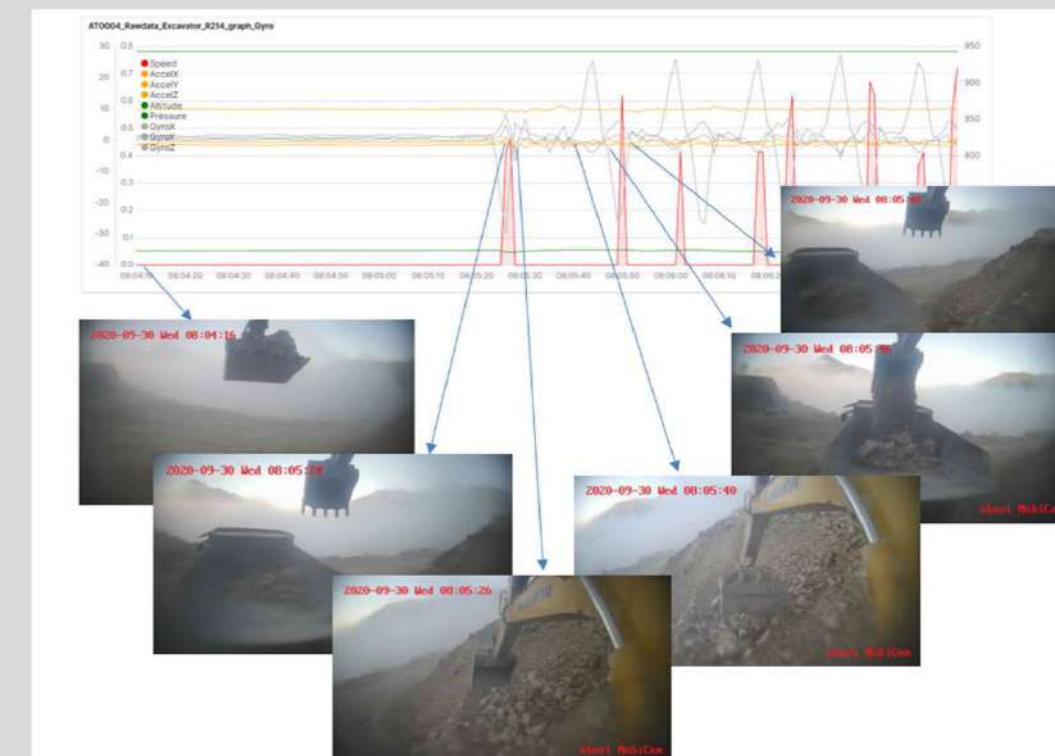
it leaves a specific „footprint“...



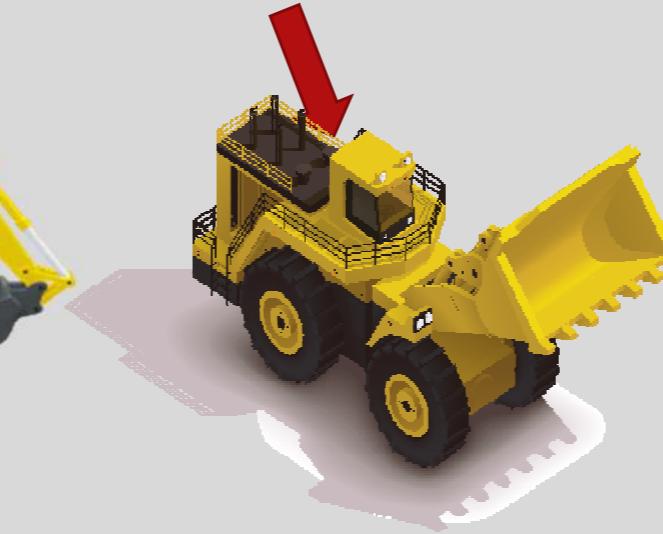
... that is captured by the intelligent sensor edge module ...



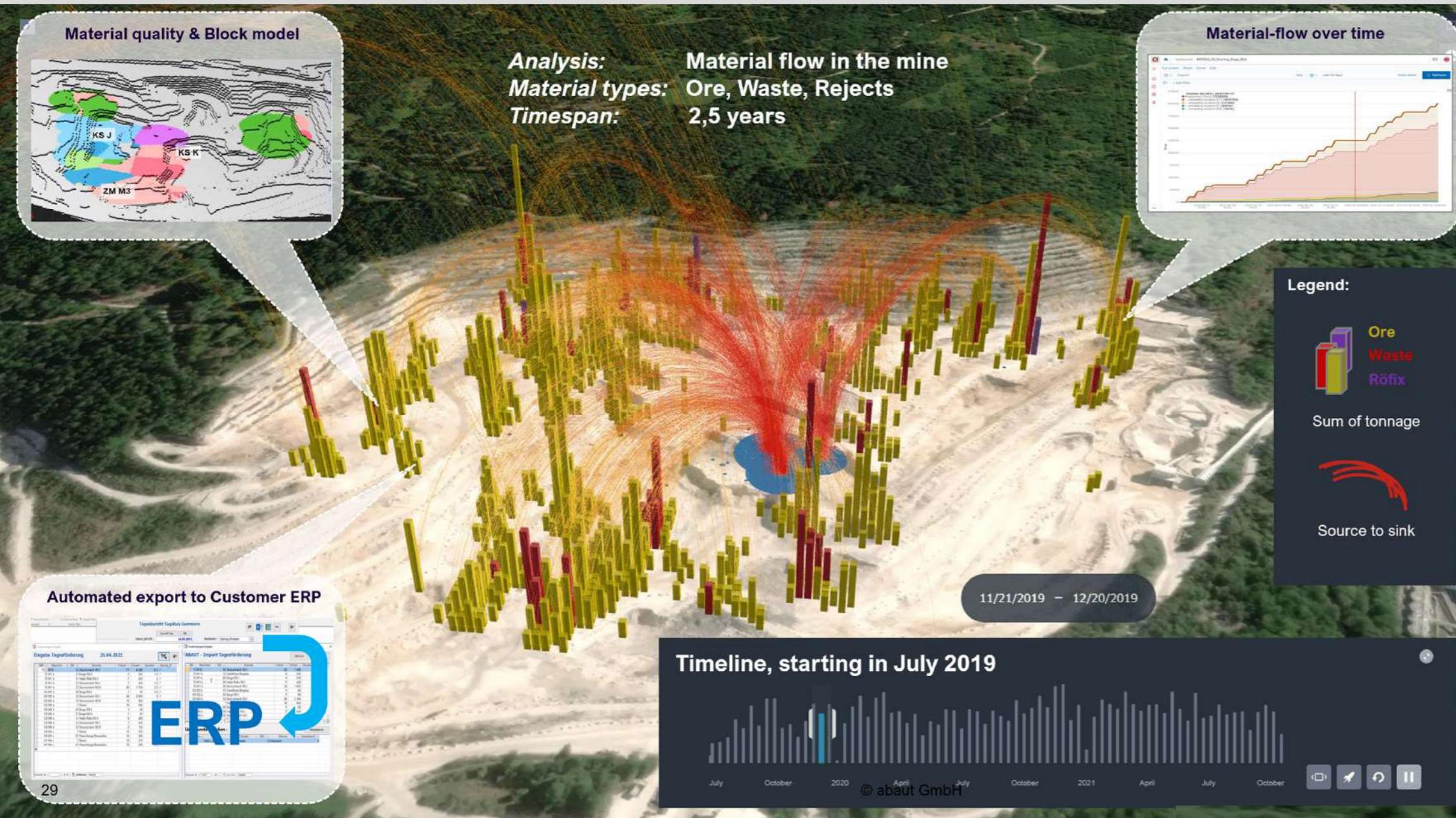
... and used to identify the movement patterns and the correlated performed activities with the help of AI algorithms.



Mounting in any heavy machinery



Fully automated monitoring & material flow reporting



Material flow monitoring

- Following the transports of all types of material in the quarry in near-real time
- Tracking of loading & unloading activities, transport routes and participating machines
- Activities-recognition of machines used (movement pattern)

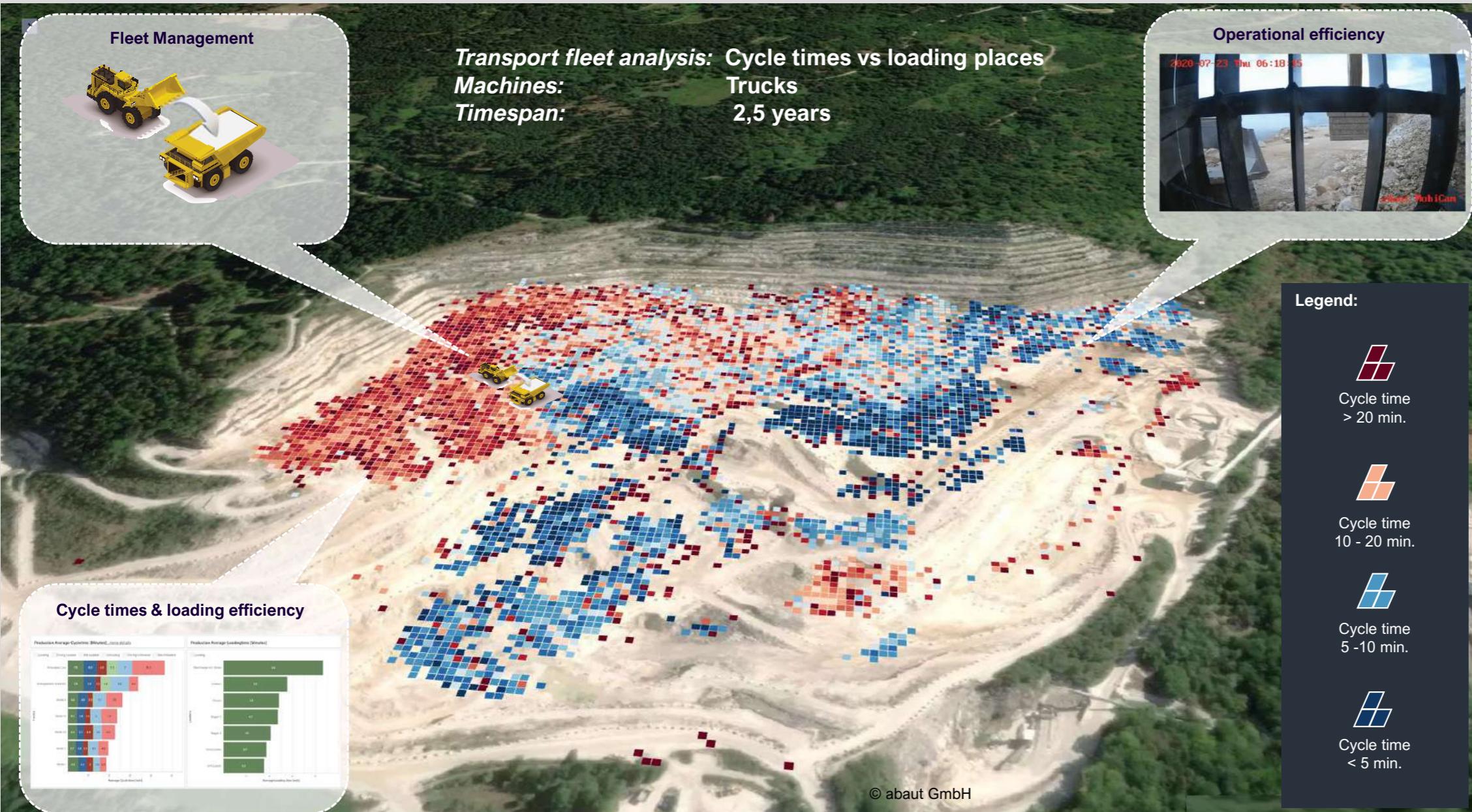
Quality management

- Connecting loading place and time with block model and material quality

Standard reporting

- Dashboard
- Automated export to Customer ERP-System

Fleet management & operational efficiency



Fleet management

- Matching loaders & trucks for increased machine utilization
- Fleet size and composition by analysing cycle times and loading performance

Operational efficiency

- Detecting inefficiencies like idle times, unneeded driving, preparation work
- Road maintenance
- Speeding events

Supporting investment decisions on mobile machinery

Loading performance



Single machine analysis: loaded tons and path
Machine: Volvo wheel loader
Timespan: 2,5 years

Transports – Road conditions



Lifetime monitoring

- Operating time, ON, OFF, Idling
- Activities analysis: Availability & utilization

Lifetime performance analysis



Legend:



Sum of tonnage



Path of machine
> 15 km/h



Path of machine
< 15 km/h

Performance indicators

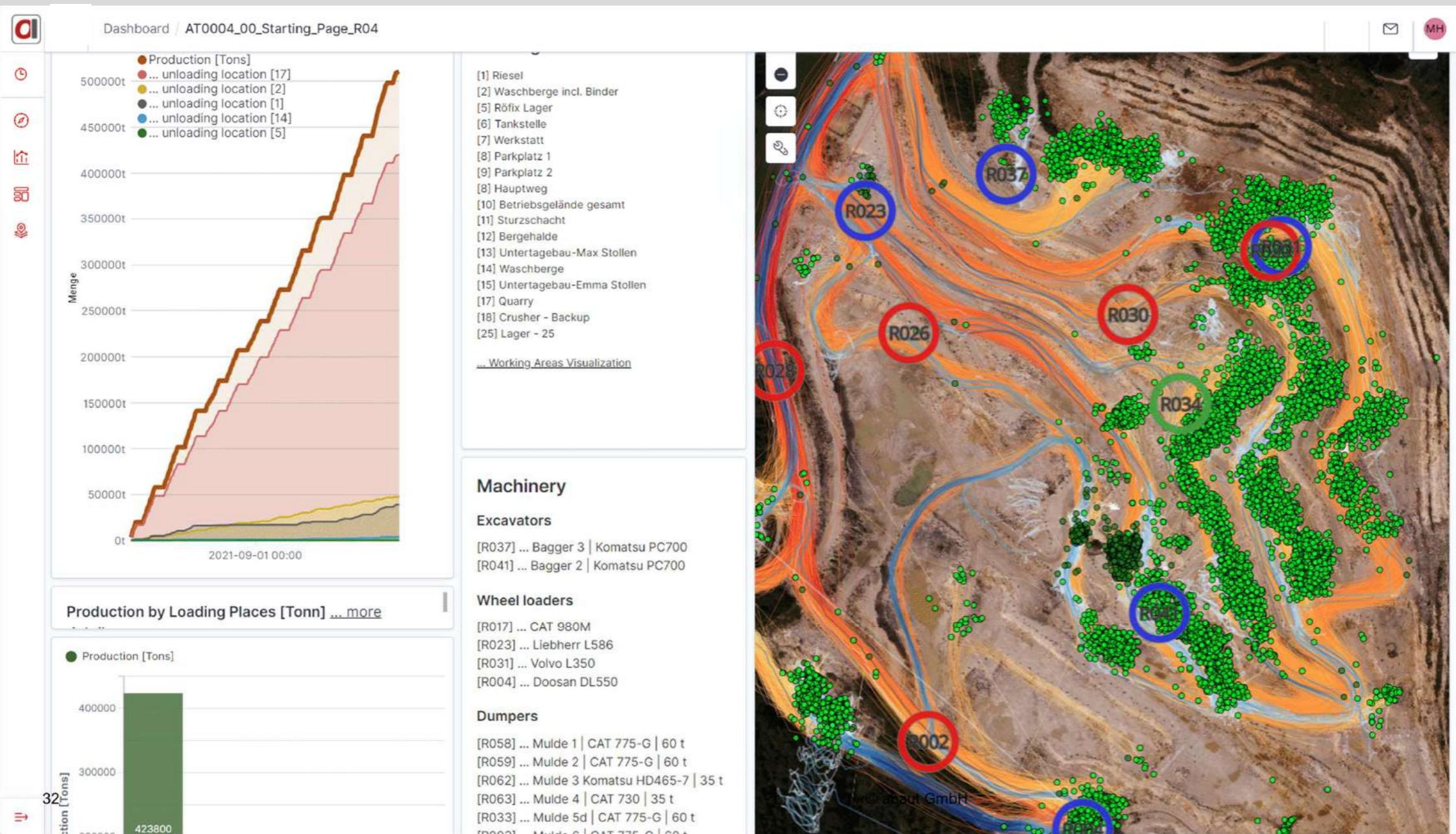
- Loading performance
- Hauling performance
- Speeding events

Working conditions

- Road conditions vs machine behaviour (accelerations)
- Muckpile characteristics



Dashboard for mine monitoring and analysis



Web-Dashboard

- For all decision makers in mining and mine foremen
- Information in near-real-time
- Any language
- Easy to access

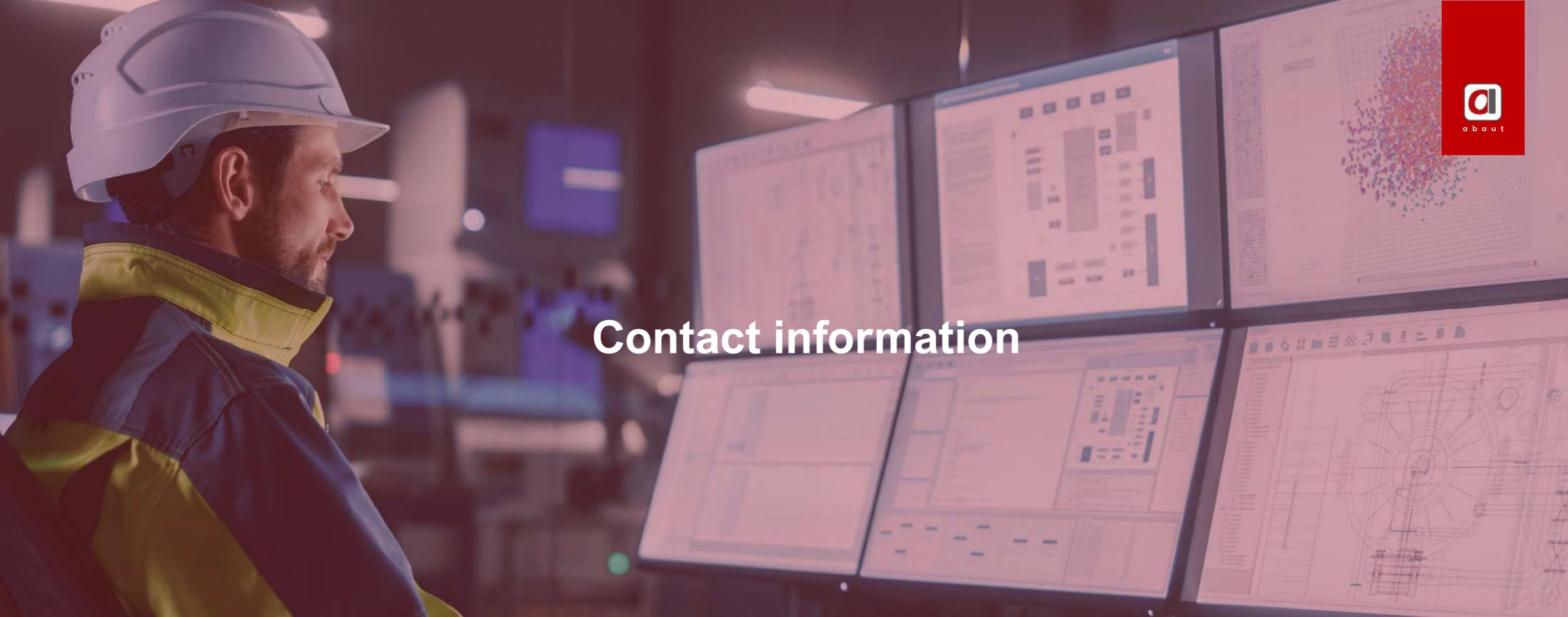
Flexible for all users

- Machine monitoring
- Material flow
- Filters for time, machines, locations and activities
- Aggregated vs detailed information

Automated recognition of vehicle types

in construction, mining and logistics





Contact information

Dr. Markus Häupl (Mining)

✉ markus.haeupl@abaut.de

☎ + 43 676 789 8475