



# Mine Gold. Create Value.

**Austmine 2019 Mining Innovation Conference Presentation**

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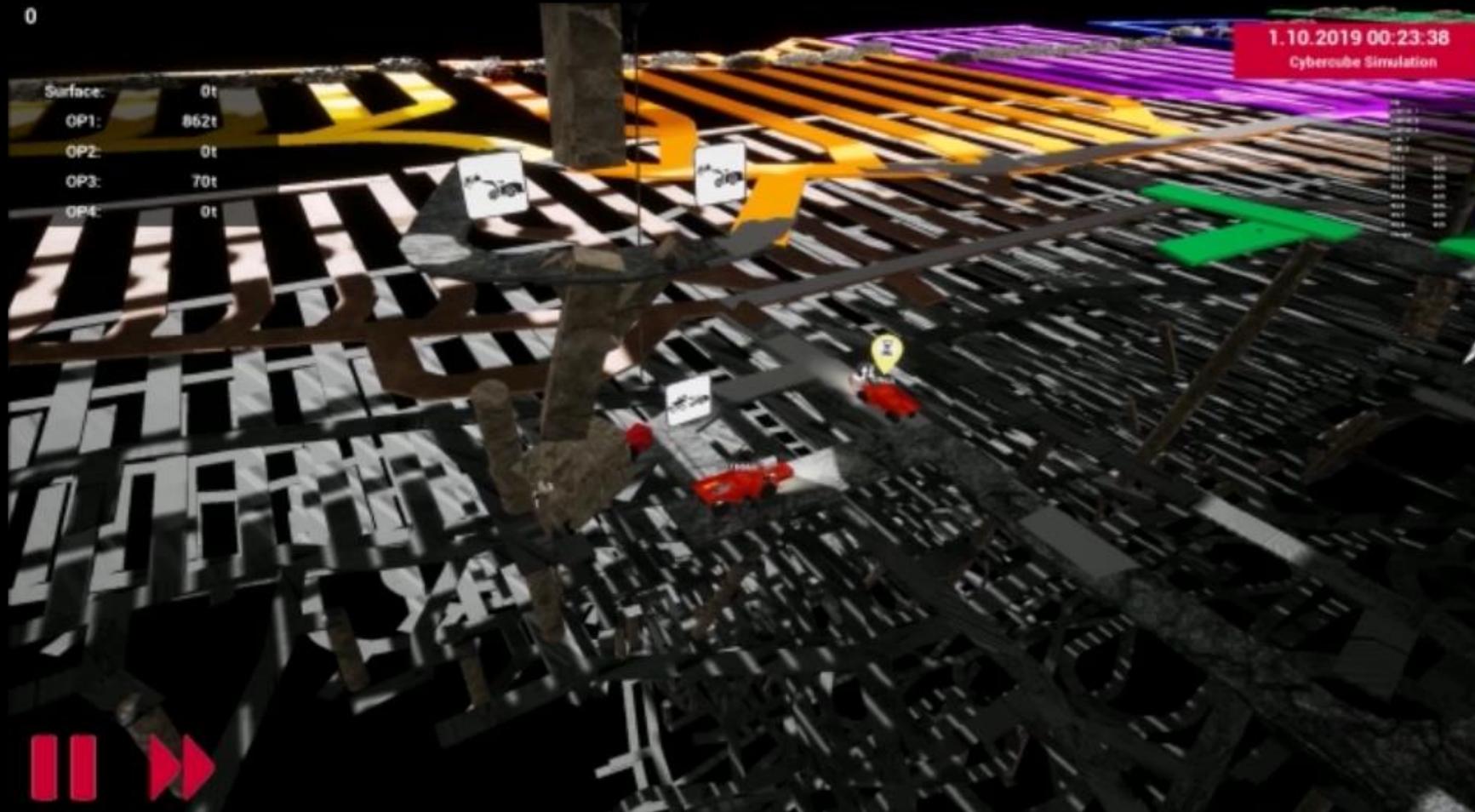
*“I want to find a bold and innovative way to do things the same way its been done for the last 25 years.”*

# Syama Automation Project

## Mining Smarter with Advanced Technology



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# Syama Automation Project

## Major components



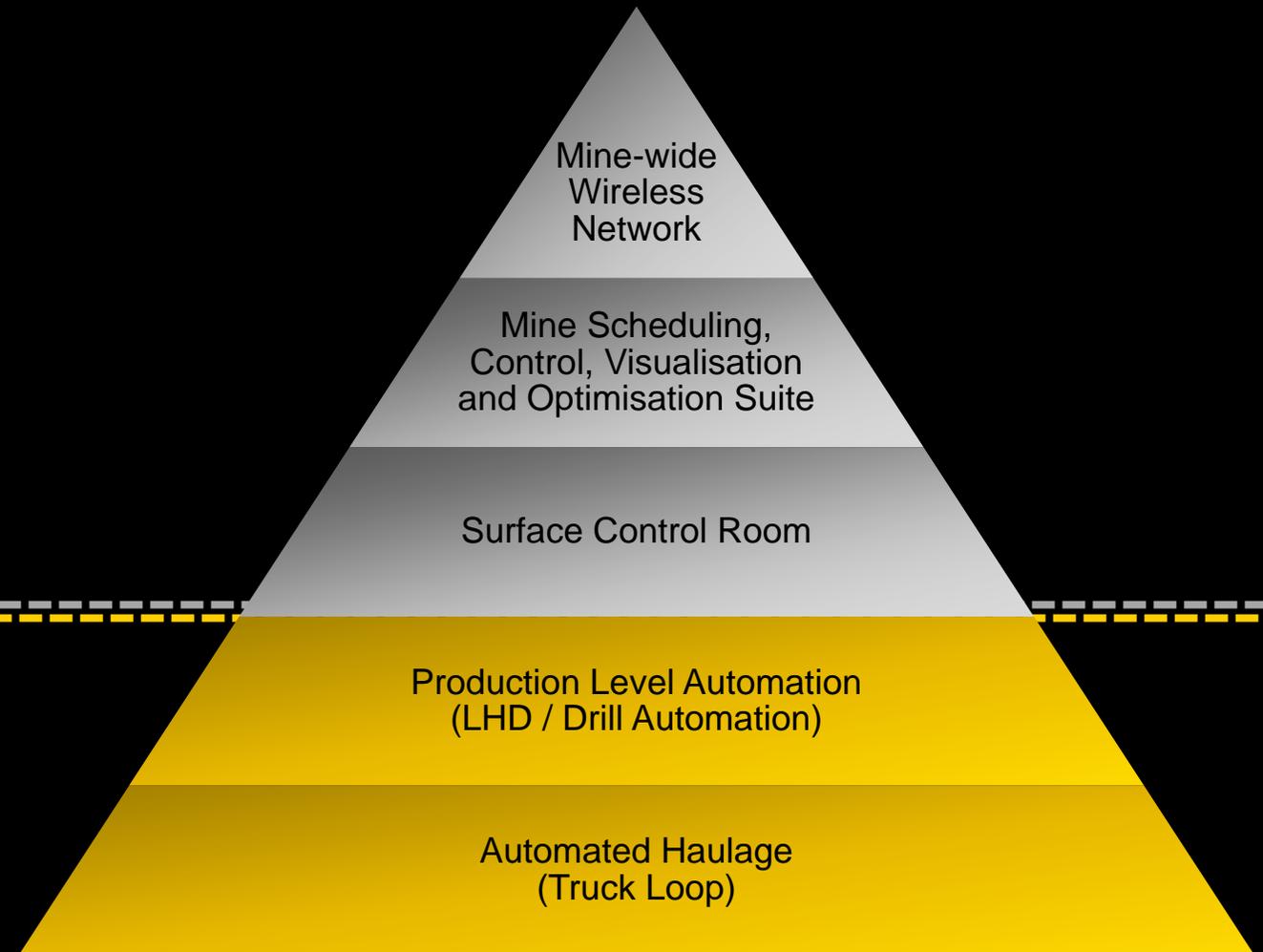
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### PHASE 1: MINE DIGITALISATION

PHASE 1 Capability delivers the completed control room with connection to the underground wireless network and the ability to schedule, control and monitor MANUAL underground activities in real-time.

### PHASE 2: AUTONOMOUS PRODUCTION AND HAULAGE

PHASE 2 Capability delivers AUTOMATED LHD and DRILL Production on the levels and AUTONOMOUS truck haulage from the 1055 level to the surface ROM



# Syama Automation Project

## Phase 1

Control Room + Network + OptiMine = **Efficiency**

**Both declines, and the 1105 and 1130 production levels will be connected to the visualisation system in the control room which will enable:**

- Visualisation of mine and fleet (equipped with tracking units)
- Efficiency gains for production fleet
- Production gains for haulage fleet fitted with OptiMine units
- Remote production drilling
- Real-Time production data
- Real-Time dispatch
- Effective cave management



# Syama Automation Project

## Phase 2

## Automated Haulage Loop - The Main Game

- The Automated Haulage Loop is the “Main Game” in terms of Syama’s delivered benefit from innovation.
- It gives us the ability to haul ore 24 hours a day / 7 days a week.
- Traffic is managed by a centralised server which increases the throughput over manual hauling.
- Higher production rates over more hours per day = more tonnes.



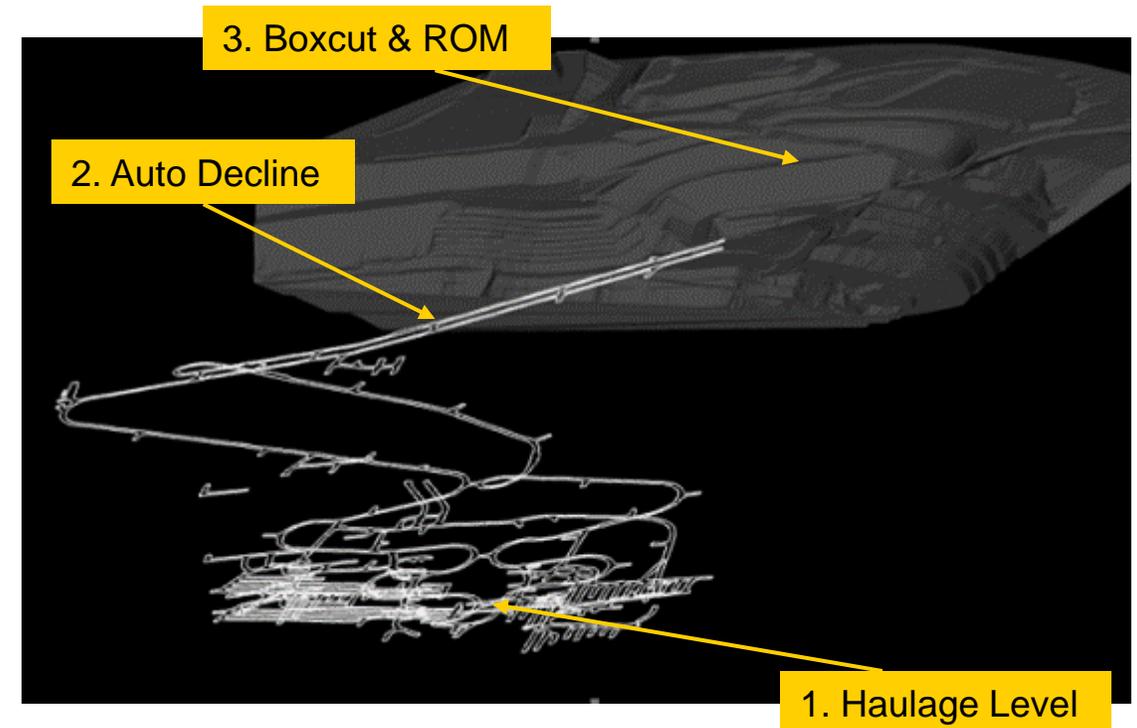
# Syama Automation Project

## Phase 2

## Automated Haulage Loop - The Main Game

The Automated Haulage Loop Consists of three sections:

- 1. Haulage Level** – This is where the autonomous trucks are loaded underground by the remotely operated LHDs. The ore is taken from the ore passes which are fed by the production levels.
- 2. Autonomous Decline** – The mine has a segregated autonomous decline with passing bays where the autonomous trucks make their way to the surface.
- 3. Boxcut & ROM** – After leaving the underground mine the trucks tram up the boxcut and to the ROM where they dump.





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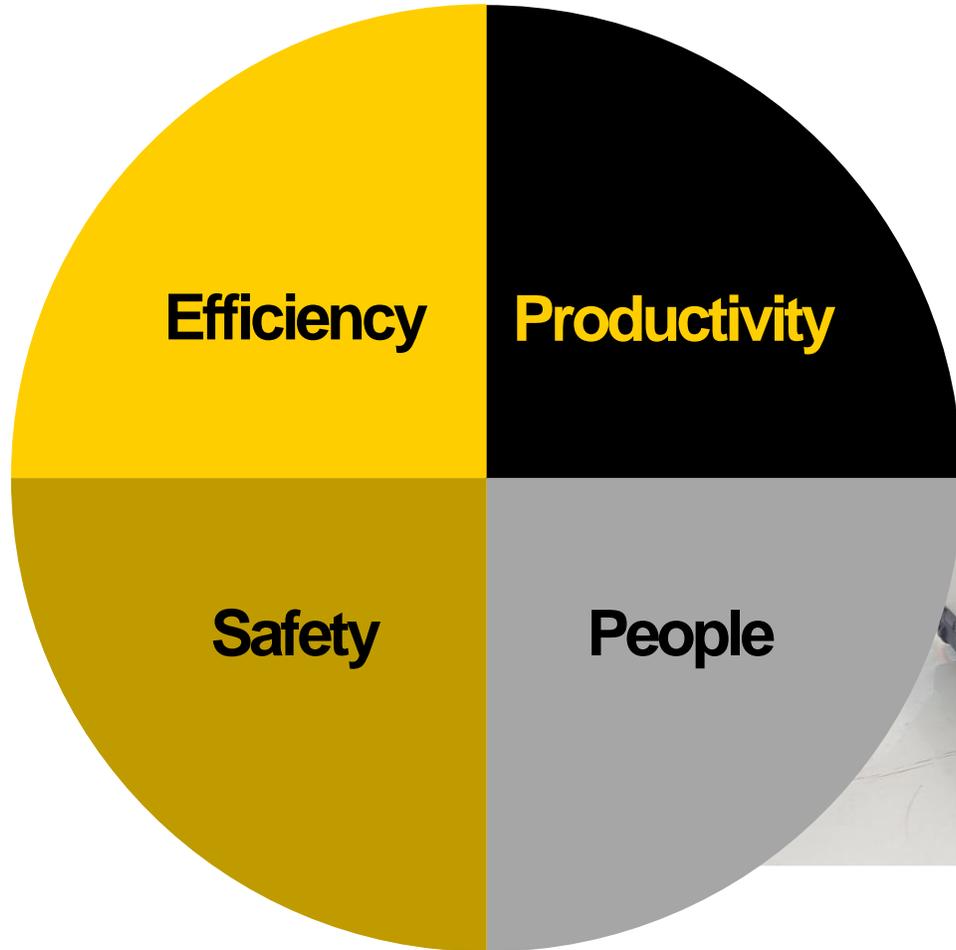
# YOU'RE CRAZY!

Why would anyone try to implement the world's most complex underground mining production automation system in West Africa?



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# The drivers for automation





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# The drivers for automation: Safety

Underground mines present a number of hazards – particularly where there is not a high level of experience. To keep our people safe we will need to limit exposure to hazards:

1. Ground Failure
2. Mud / Fines Rush
3. Vehicle Interactions
4. Whole Body Vibration
5. Dust



# The drivers for automation: Safety

## The past

Our Mission is to identify those things we are doing now that people will look back at in 20 years and ask:



**“How did we allow that to happen?”**



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# The drivers for automation: Safety

## The past: Engineered control

- Hazard and personnel still in close proximity
- Failure of the control leads to the human and hazard in the same place at the same time

Cage the hazard



Cage the Human



# The drivers for automation: Safety

## Moving forward: Out of harm's way



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# The drivers for automation: Safety

## Moving forward: Out of harm's way

**Dr. Joe Cronin**

Resolute's Automation  
Project Manager



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# Dr. Joe Cronin

Resolute's Automation  
Project Manager

# The drivers for automation: Safety

## The Future: Operators separated from the level



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# The drivers for automation: Efficiency

## Increasing operational efficiency by:

- 1.** The ability to control production at a reliable rate.
- 2.** The ability to optimise the production process
- 3.** Real-Time compliance data
- 4.** The ability to feed back real-time data for closed-loop process control
- 5.** Reduction in operator costs
- 6.** Potential to lower damage costs and downtime as control systems become smarter

# The drivers for automation:

## Productivity



### Higher production rates and greater recovery from:

1.

The ability for higher throughput at a greater rate of recovery when operating at optimum parameters

2.

The ability to optimise return over a longer period (full production over shift change, blasting and re-entry)

3.

The reduction in variability due to operators

4.

The ability to selectively produce from drawpoints to optimise grade

# The drivers for automation: Productivity

- Underground productivity is highly variable and dependent on decisions made by personnel and supervisors
- Situational awareness, the ability to communicate and real-time feedback are essential for success

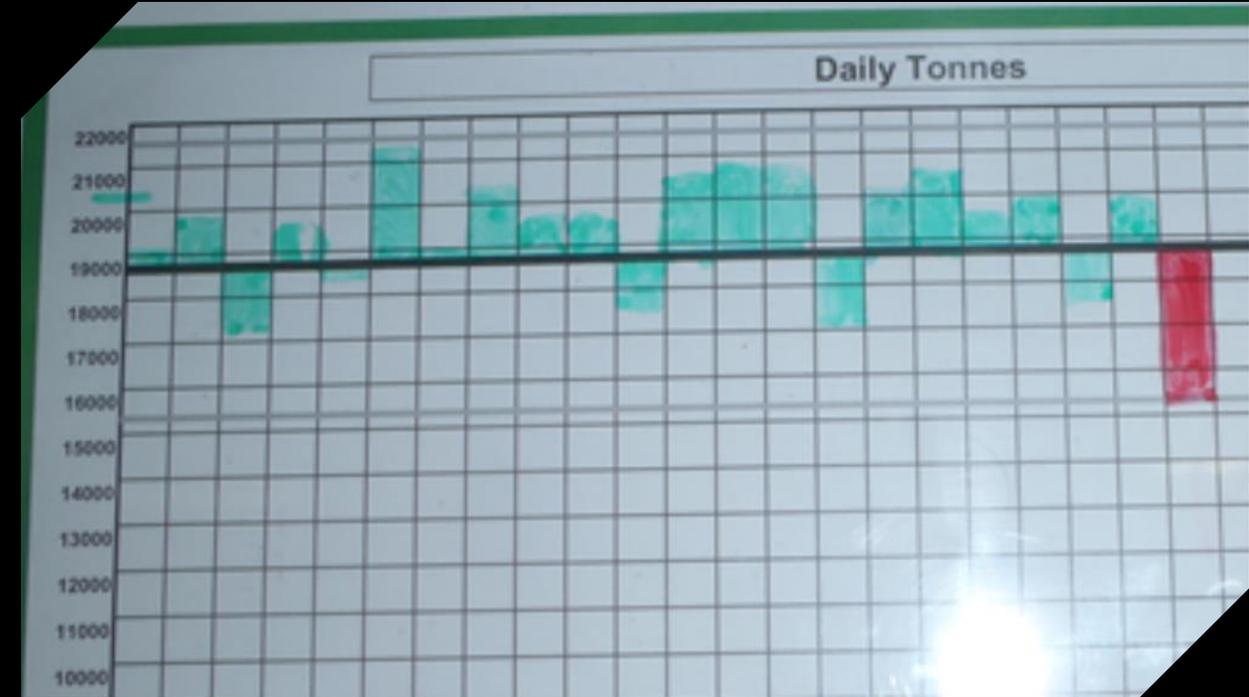


# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## Moving to real-time feedback

We can look back to see how many **Green** and **Red** days we have had, but we don't know WHY!

We need to ask; How are we going right now? What do we need to do to make this day a **Green** day.



“There's a reason the rear view mirror is so much smaller than the windscreen”

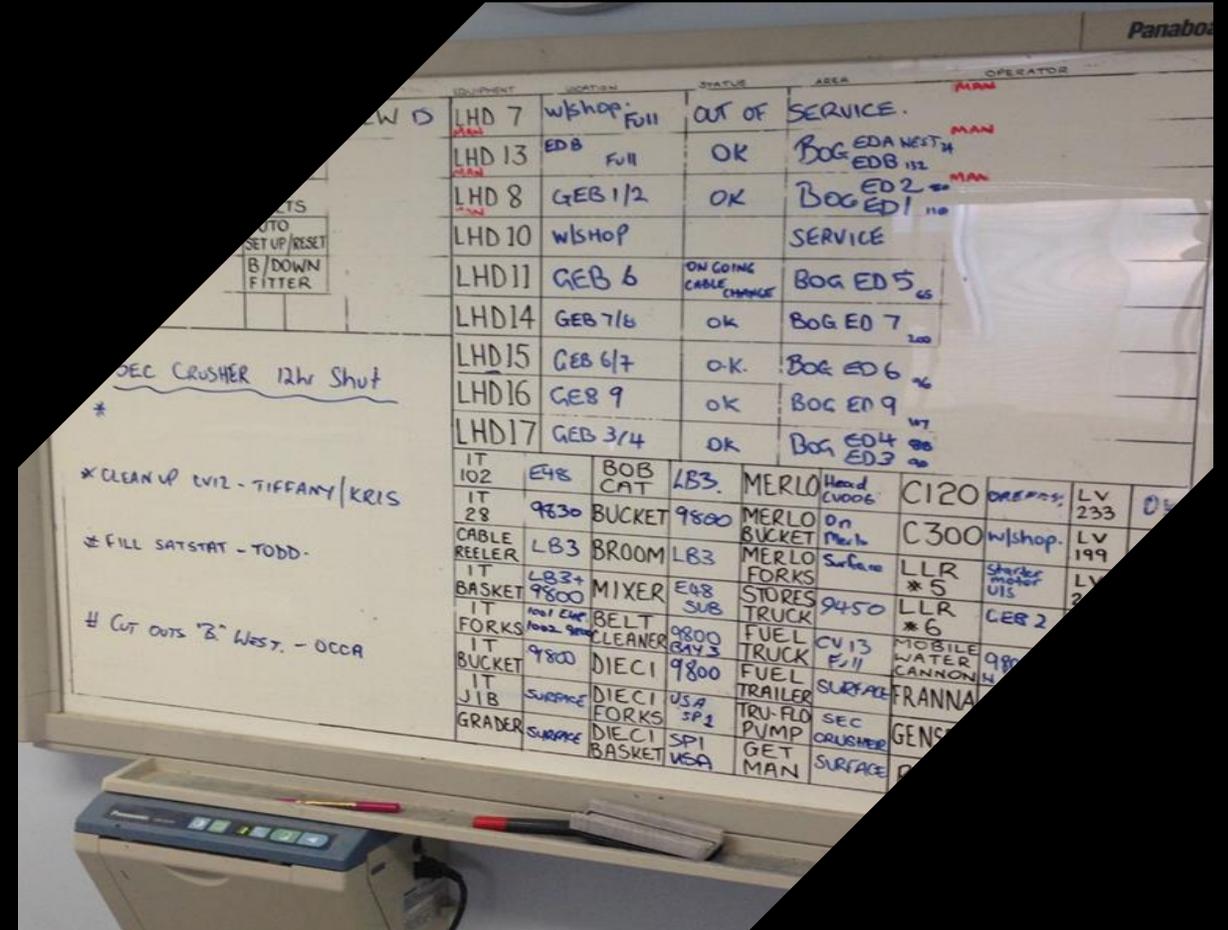
*Old Swedish Saying*

# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## Moving from open loop to close loop control

### OPEN LOOP: How We Work Now

- Within the first hour, breakdowns will force us to change the plan.
- Too complex to analyse the effect of our decisions in real time.

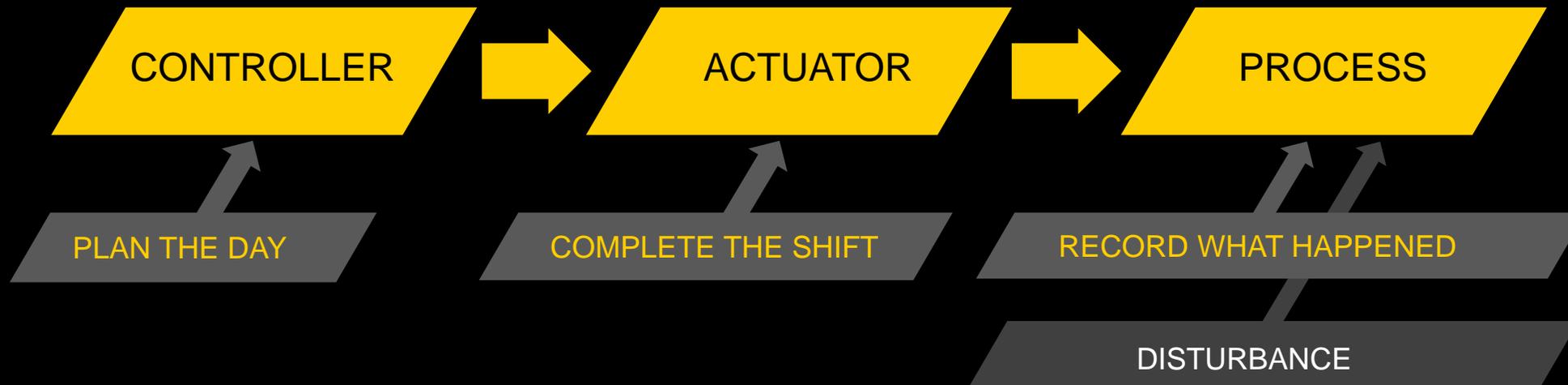


# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## The past

Moving from open loop to closed loop control

**OPEN LOOP:** how we have worked in the past

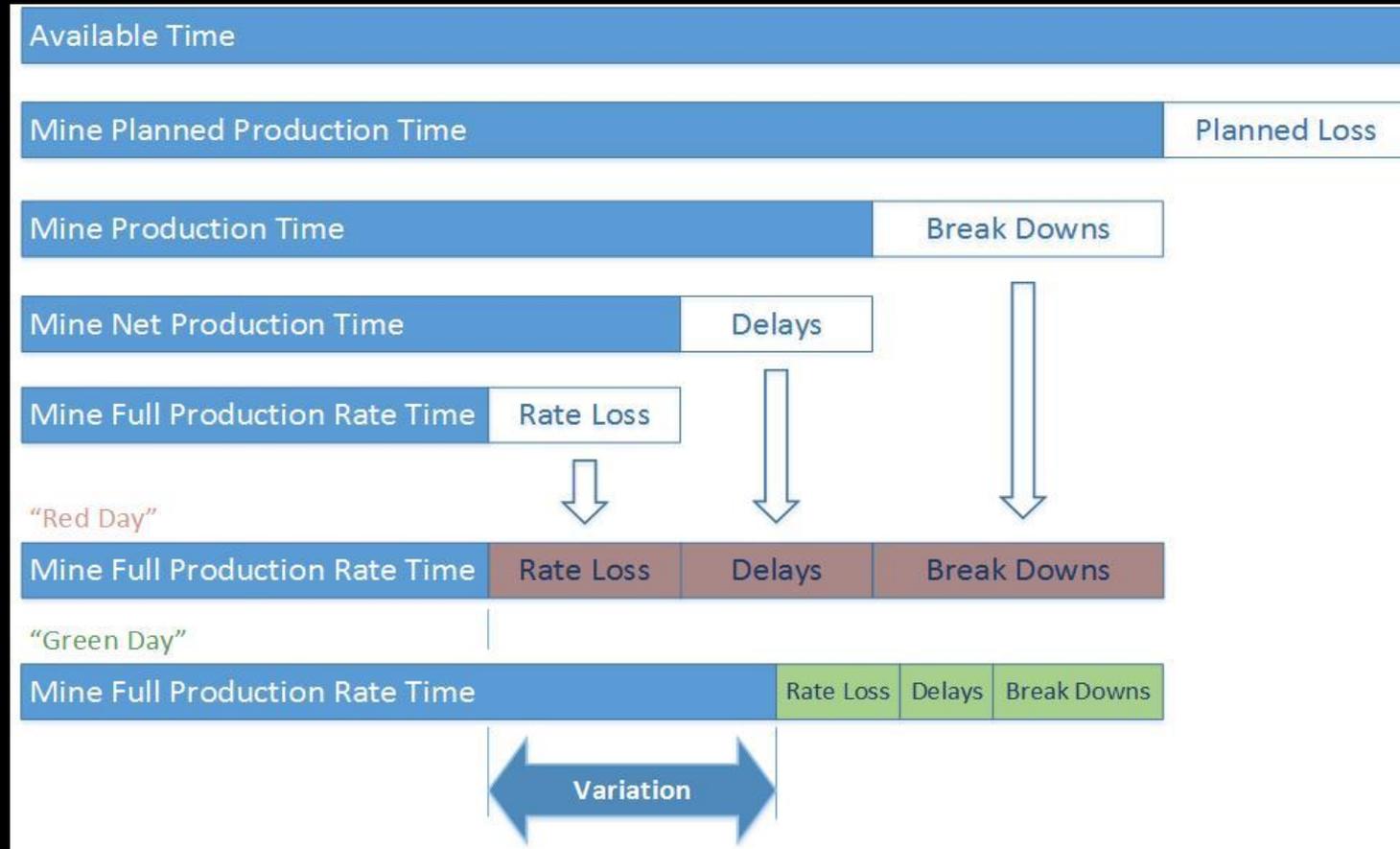




# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## The ability to control the output

### VARIATION IN UNDERGROUND PRODUCTION



# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## The ability to control the output



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*Variation* in underground production represents a loss of control of our process:

1. DATA
2. SAFETY
3. COSTS
4. SCHEDULING
5. PRODUCTION
6. RISK



# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## The ability to control the output



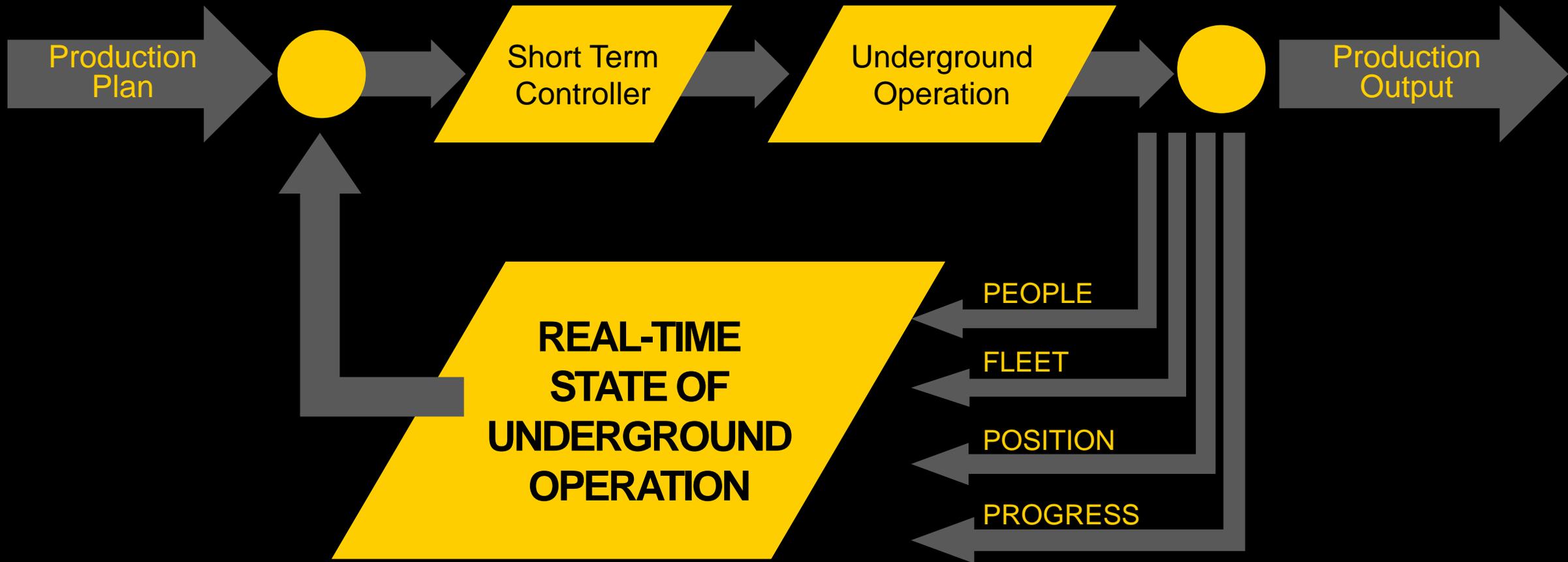
### VARIATION reveals itself in

1. Higher INJURY rate
2. Higher operating COSTS
3. Lower and less predictable PRODUCTION
4. Lower UTILISATION OF ASSETS
5. Lower EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

# The drivers for automation: Productivity

## The future

**CLOSED LOOP:** how we will work in the future



# The drivers for automation: People



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**The drivers for automation:**  
**People**



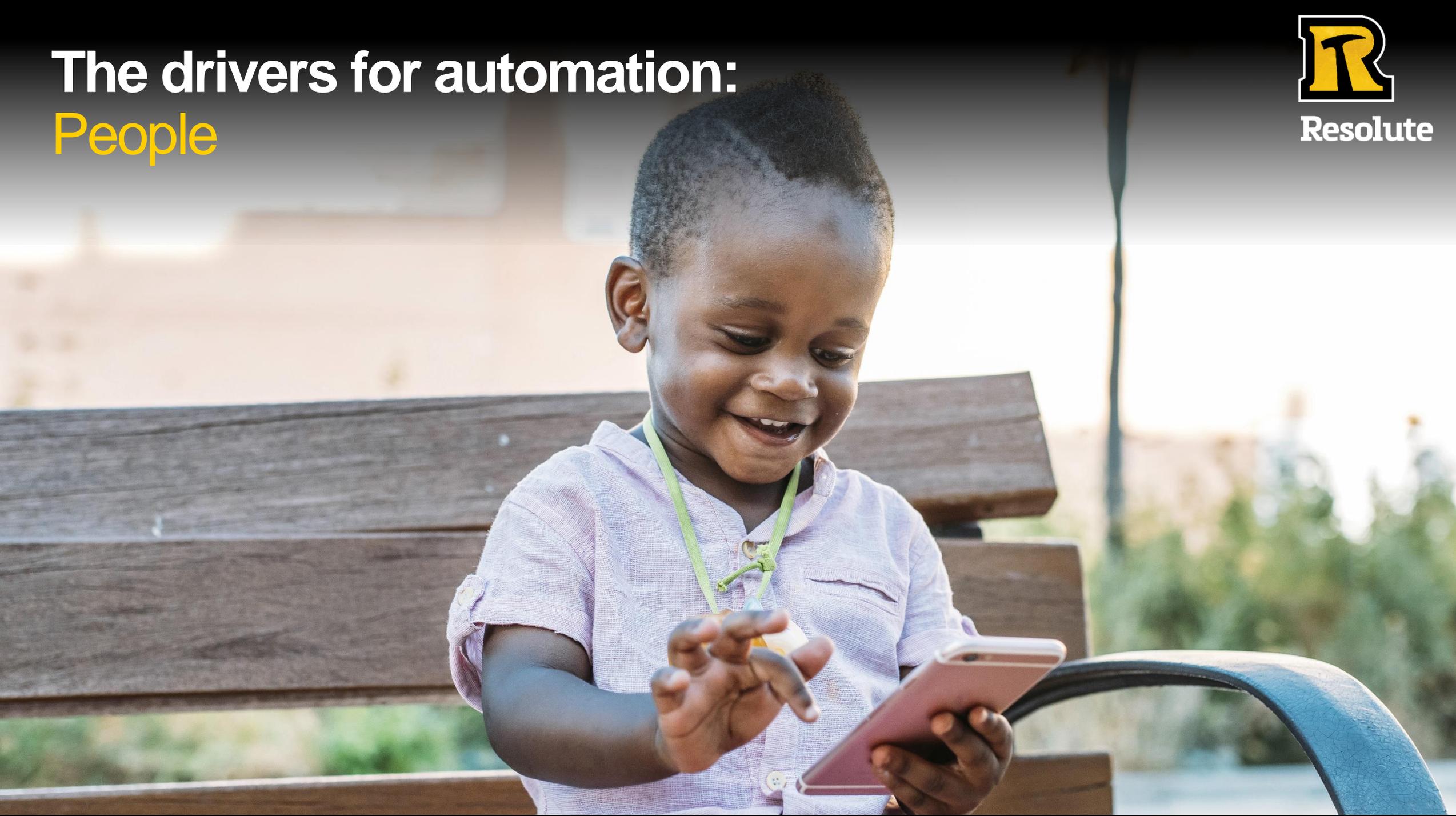
**The Malian  
Talent  
Development  
Program**



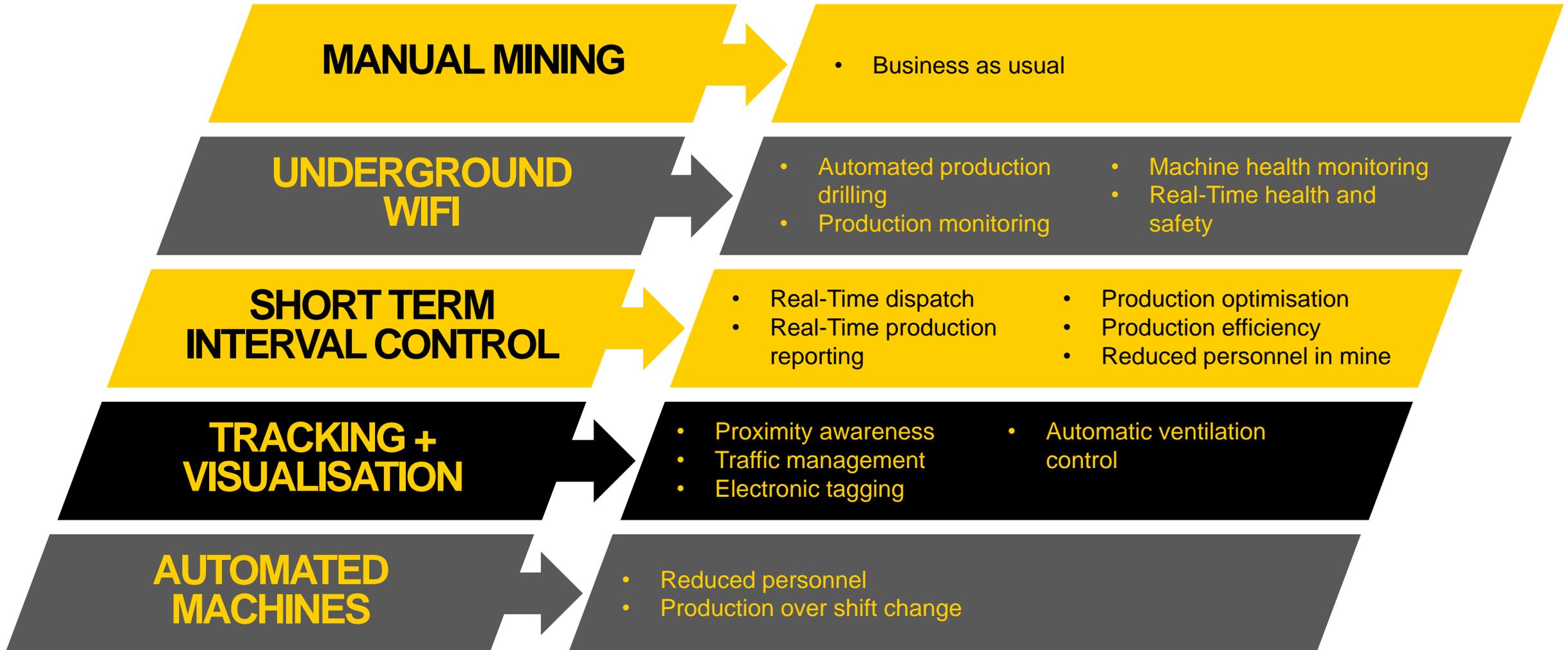
# The drivers for automation: People



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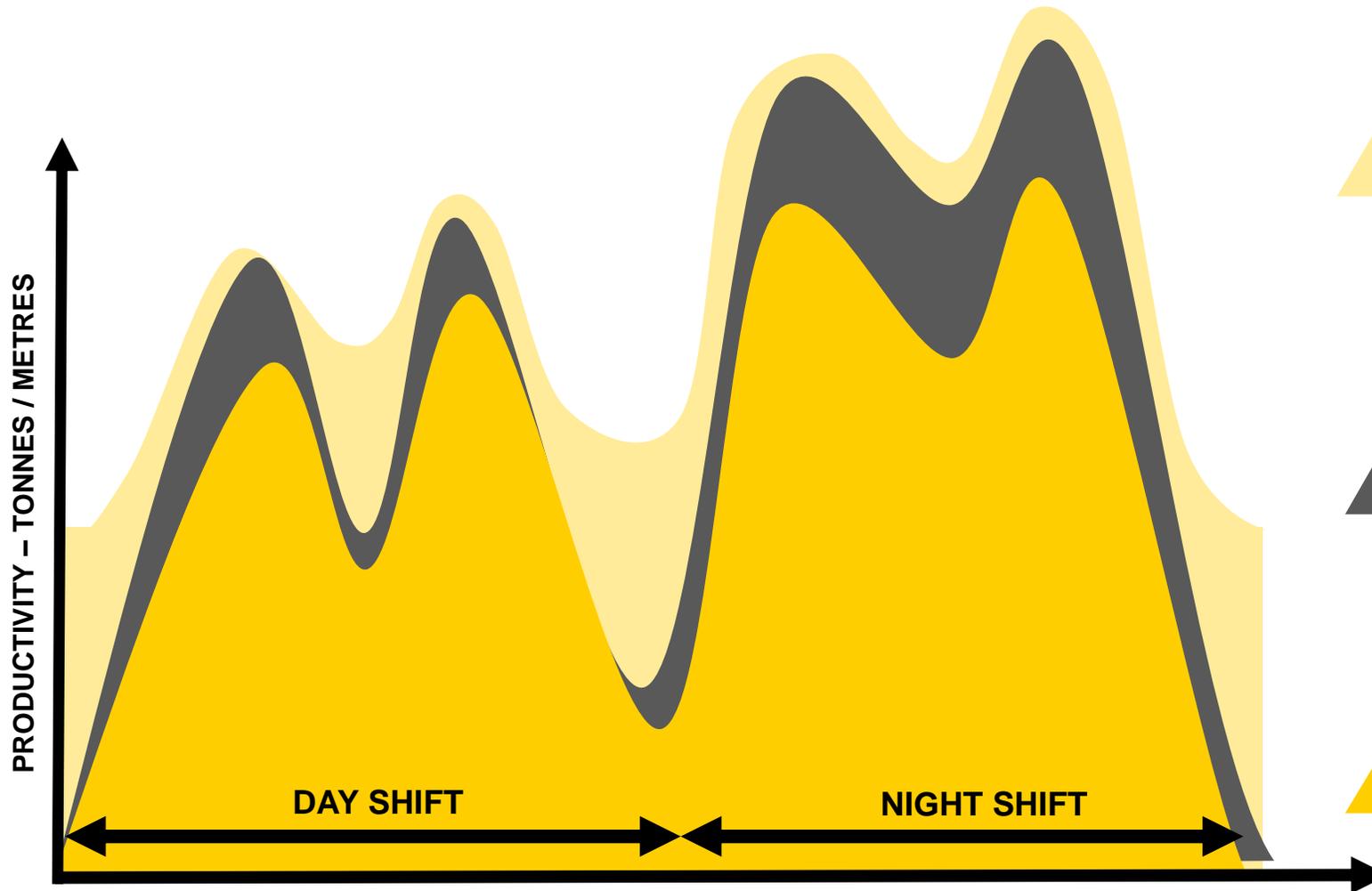


# Capability based technology strategy



# Optimised automated production

## Additional production from technology



### **AUTOMATED MINE** 15% - 20% Gain

- Remotely Operated Machinery
- Autonomous Drilling
- Autonomous Haulage

### **DIGITAL MINE** 10% - 15% Gain

- Tracking and Visualisation
- Task Scheduling and Optimisation

### **MANUAL MINE**

# Early Results:

## Automated drilling



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**21%**

Increase in  
drill meters  
per day

+

**>10%**

Increase in  
drilling  
accuracy

+

Decrease  
in manual  
intervention

=

**Safe,  
productive  
and low  
cost  
operation**

# Syama Underground Mine



**The World's first purpose built fully automated underground gold mine**

You would be **CRAZY** not to !



**Resolute**

**Mine Gold.**

**Create Value.**