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CMA 121st NATIONAL WESTERN  
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# New trends in Material Handling: Autonomous operation of stockyard machines and smart drive applications

Christian Dirscherl

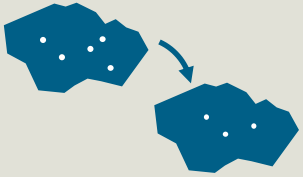
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[siemens.com/mining](https://www.siemens.com/mining)



# Five fundamental drivers in Mining

## Lower Grade



- Continuously decreasing average ore grade
- Less large high quality deposits

## Go deeper



- From open pit to underground mine
- New underground operation

## HSSE



- Health, Safety and Security in harsh environment
- Awareness of environmental care
- Lack of skilled talents

## Costs



- CAPEX efficiency
- OPEX reduction
- Organizations and processes optimization
- Standardization

## Output



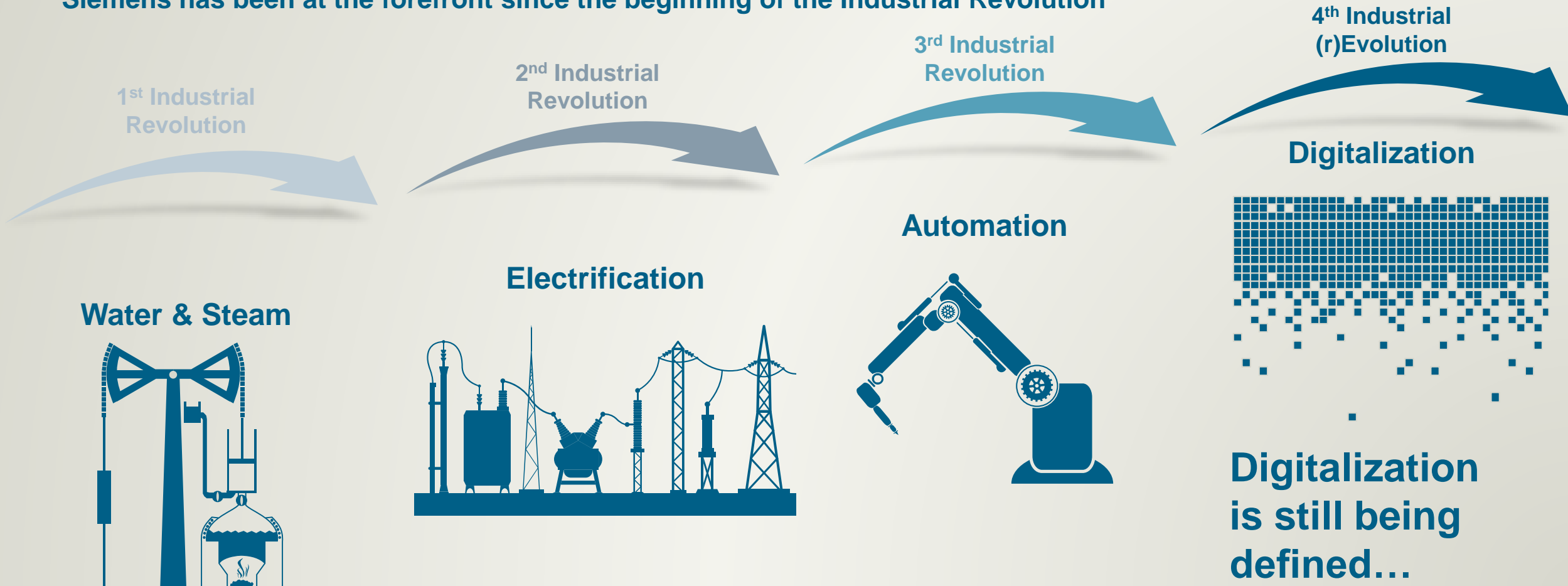
- Increasing ore recovery
- Asset Efficiency & Reliability
- Production and Resources efficiency

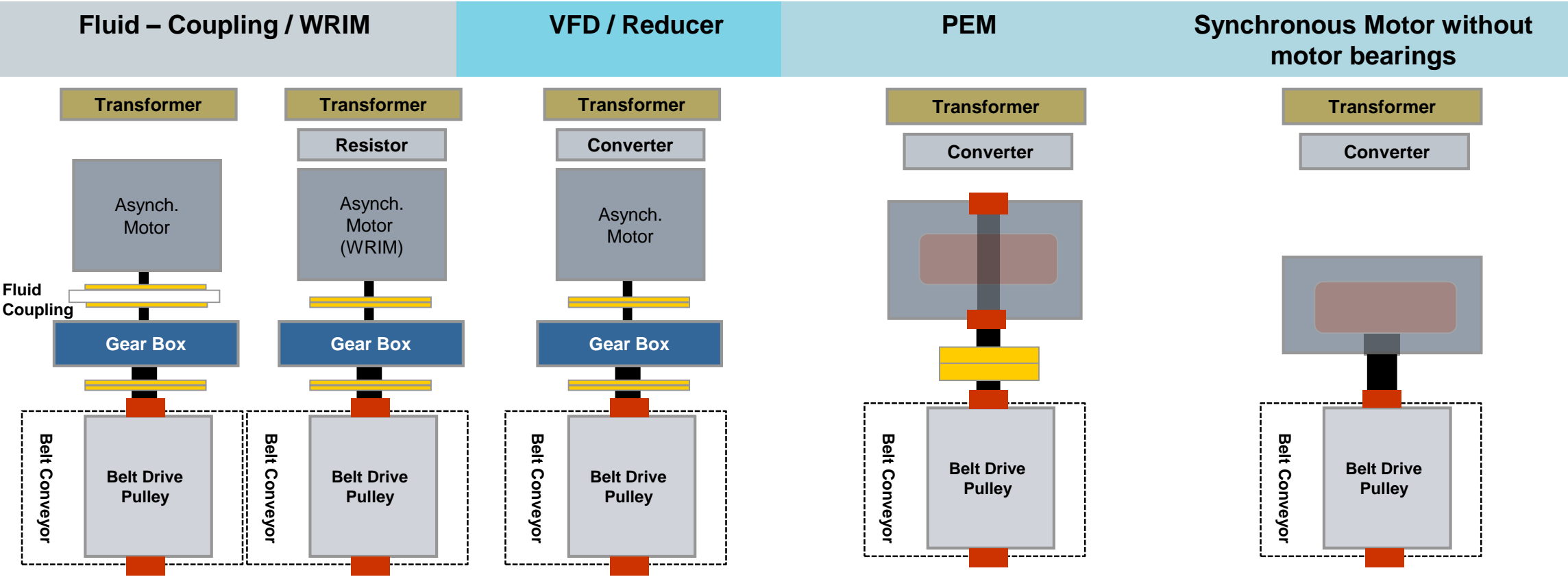
- **Increased productivity and output by optimized processing**
- **Long plant lifecycles with highly fragmented data landscape**
- **Continuous, safe, secure and reliable operations**

# The Digital (r)Evolution



Siemens has been at the forefront since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution





Sensors: e.g. temperature sensors, vibration sensors, air gap sensors  
for gearboxes, motors, bearings, foundations, electrical equipment, cooling systems

# Asset Health Analytics for Conveyors

## Introduction

Asset Health Analytics is:

- a software platform for Condition monitoring extended with Forecast abilities
- focused on (a) securing and (b) improving the machine/ process operations
- consisting of four modules:
  - I. Monitor equipment condition incl. data pre-processing
  - II. Data storage („historian“, „data-base“)
  - III. Analytics (compare/ solve/ AI etc.) of machine/ process real data
  - IV. Information (graphic & message) to the user (machine/ process operator as well as expert)

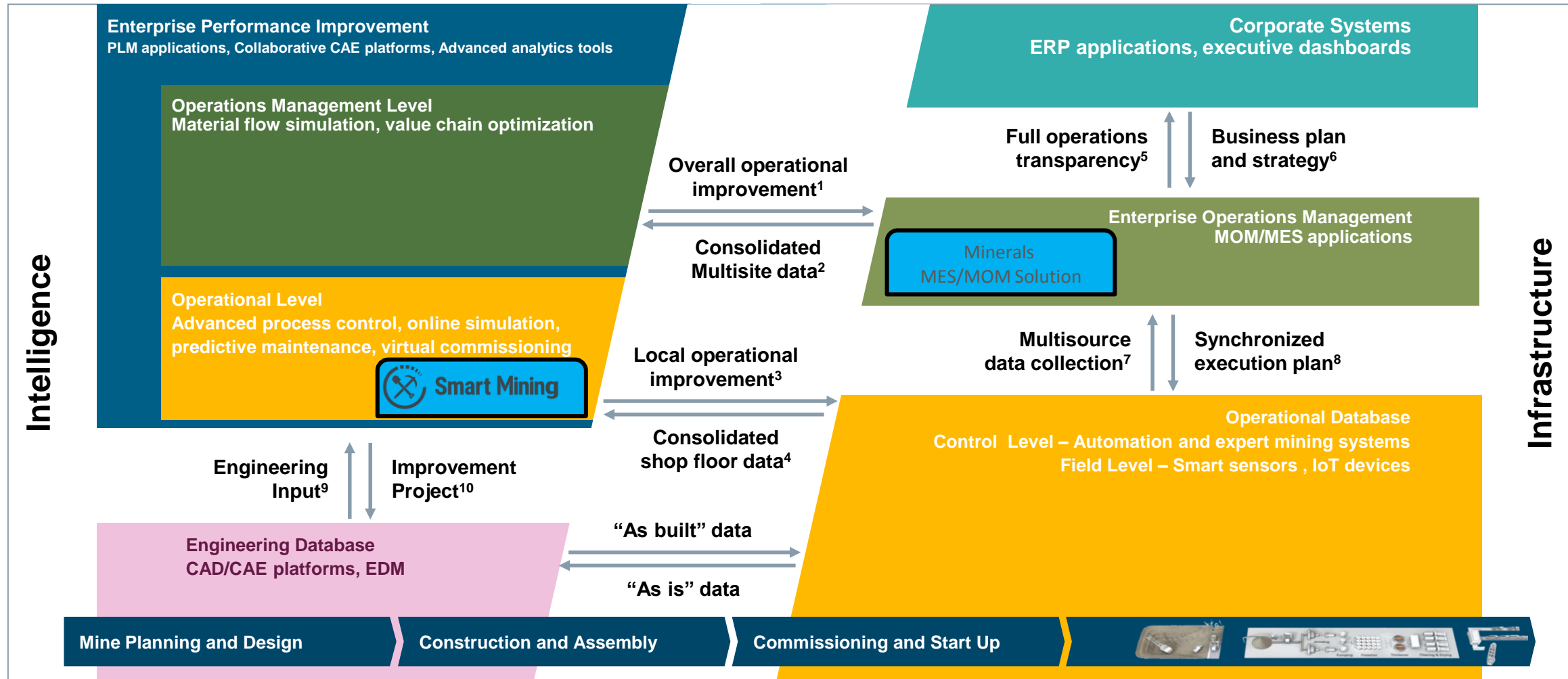
Field

Cloud

Cloud

Cloud

# Minerals Digital Architecture Concept

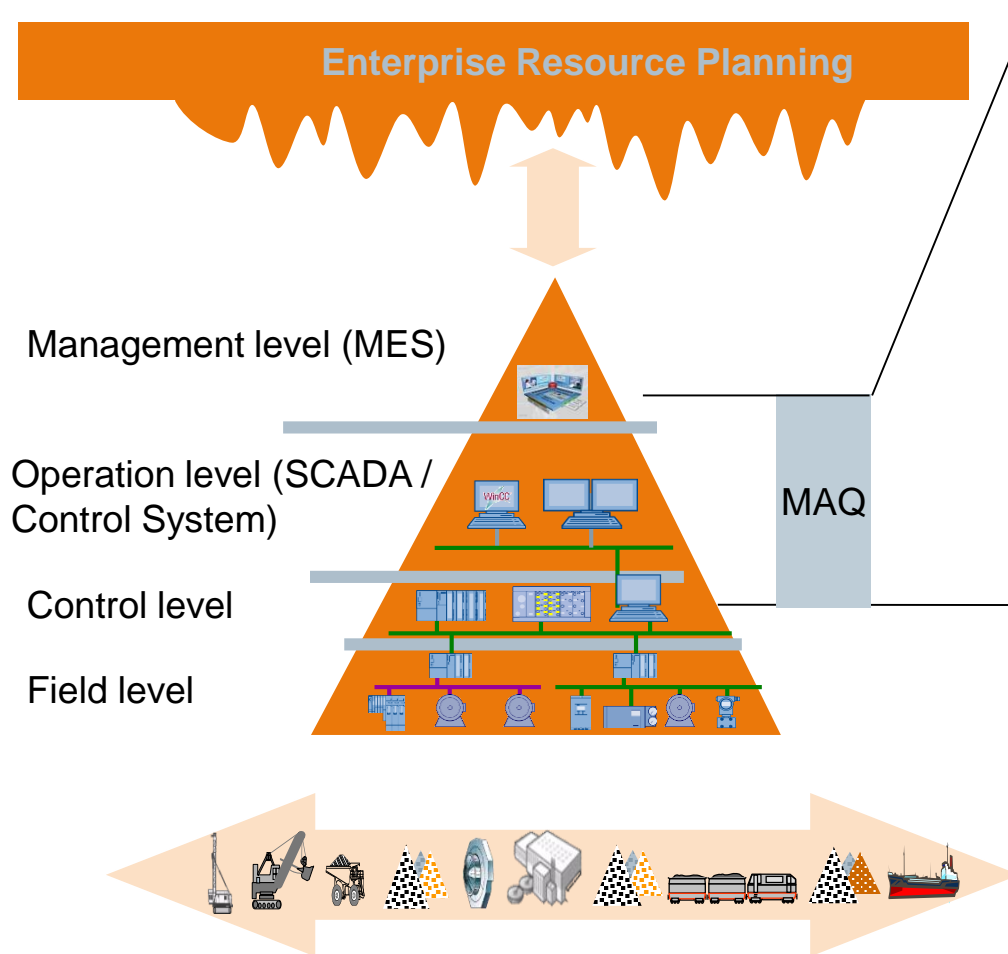


<sup>1</sup> E.g. planning, advisement; <sup>2</sup> E.g. production points, logistics infrastructure, stock availability; <sup>3</sup> E.g. set-point, configuration, training, inspection plan); <sup>4</sup> E.g. process data, equipment health; <sup>5</sup> E.g. Real-time production KPIs, stock availability per site;

<sup>6</sup> E.g. sales orders/forecast, operational targets; <sup>7</sup> E.g. Pit-to-port, multisite, multisystem; <sup>8</sup> E.g. Control command, schedule, work instruction, training plan; <sup>9</sup> E.g. process and equipment design and datasheet; <sup>10</sup> E.g. conceptual model, innovation program, R&D output

# Advanced Stockyard Management System

## SIMINE MAQ



### What is MAQ?

- Located between CONTROL & MES level
- **Advanced bulk material handling system** for ports, power plants, steel plants, open pit mines and other bulk material sites:
  - **Material and quality tracking and monitoring**, including material blending & separation and adjustment of delivery rates to upstream processing
  - **Real time material inventory**,
  - **Driver- (man-) less** machine operation including stacking & reclaiming methods (coneshell, chevron, bench reclaiming, other) , so called “**MOM**”
  - **With a precise 3D – stockyard image**,

### MAQ :

- Is **highly modular** designed and **easily adaptable** to **different** transport technologies
- prepared for **heterogeneous automation systems** (various brands installed at different points of time)
- Qualified for **green field projects** as well as for **modernizations** venture
- Combining many years of **experiences in bulk material** management with **state-of-the-art IT- technology**



### Autonomous operation

- Stockyard machines (e.g. Stacker/Reclaimer/...) for fully autonomous operation
- Material Tracking
- 3D Imaging through mathematical model in combination with 2D/3D sensors
- Collision protection

### Benefits of Autonomous Operation


- Simulation and forecasting of material flow
- Material and Quality Management
- Blending of different qualities
- Increased Safety
- Machine wear & abrasion will be decreased by e.g. avoiding of overloading → reduced maintenance costs





Reference LEAG, Germany

# Fully Autonomous Stockyard for Stockyard Power Plant Boxberg

- 
- Stockyard equipped with 4 autonomously operating stackers/reclaimers including belt conveyor system and fully automated train loading
  - Material and Quality management including blending
  - In operation since 2009



# Reference Boxberg

## Fully automated stockyard

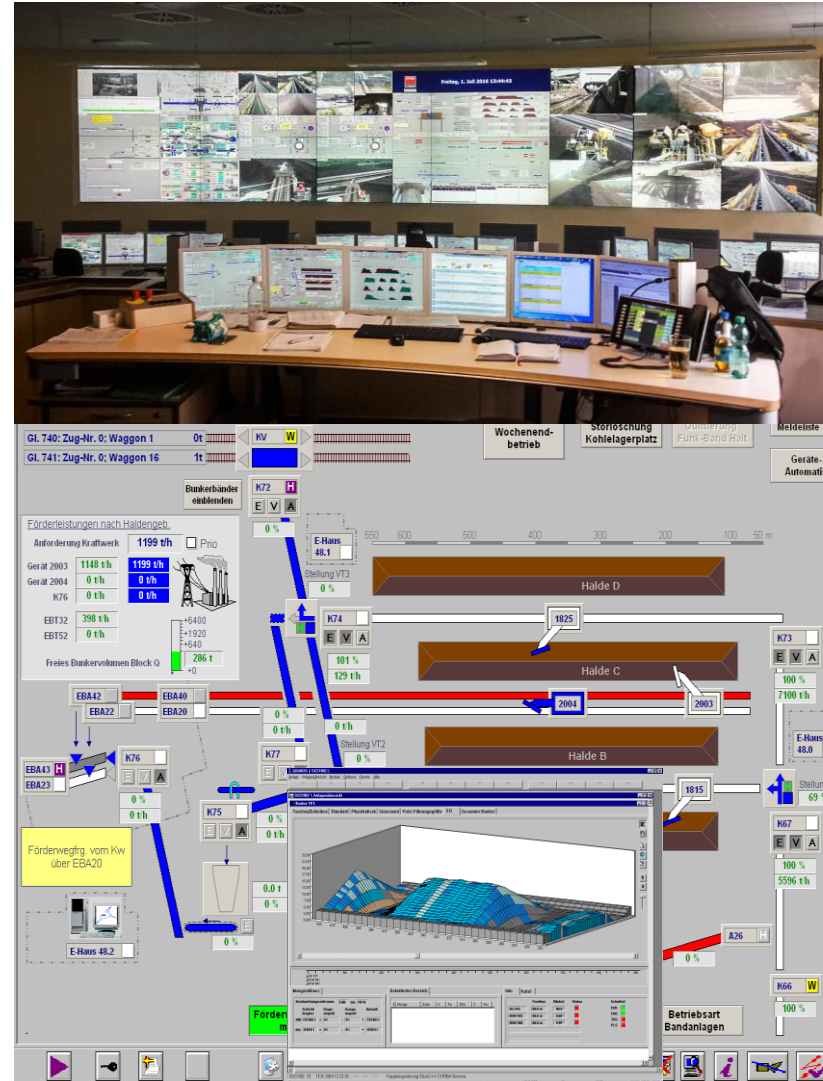
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### Description

- Manual and automatic operation of transport equipment, like conveyor belts, including selection of transport routes
- Adjustment of delivery rate to stockyard and train loading
- Material tracking** (quantity and quality)
- High resolution 3D image**
- Separation & **Blending** calculation
- Reconciliation by 2D or 3D scanning**
- Full automation – driverless operation - of Stacker and Reclaimer equipment including job management**
- Stacking & reclaiming methods like Coneshell, Chevron, advanced block stacking or bench & long travel reclaiming
- Full collision avoidance system
- Simulation system of coal handling



2 different pits with  
different coal qualities



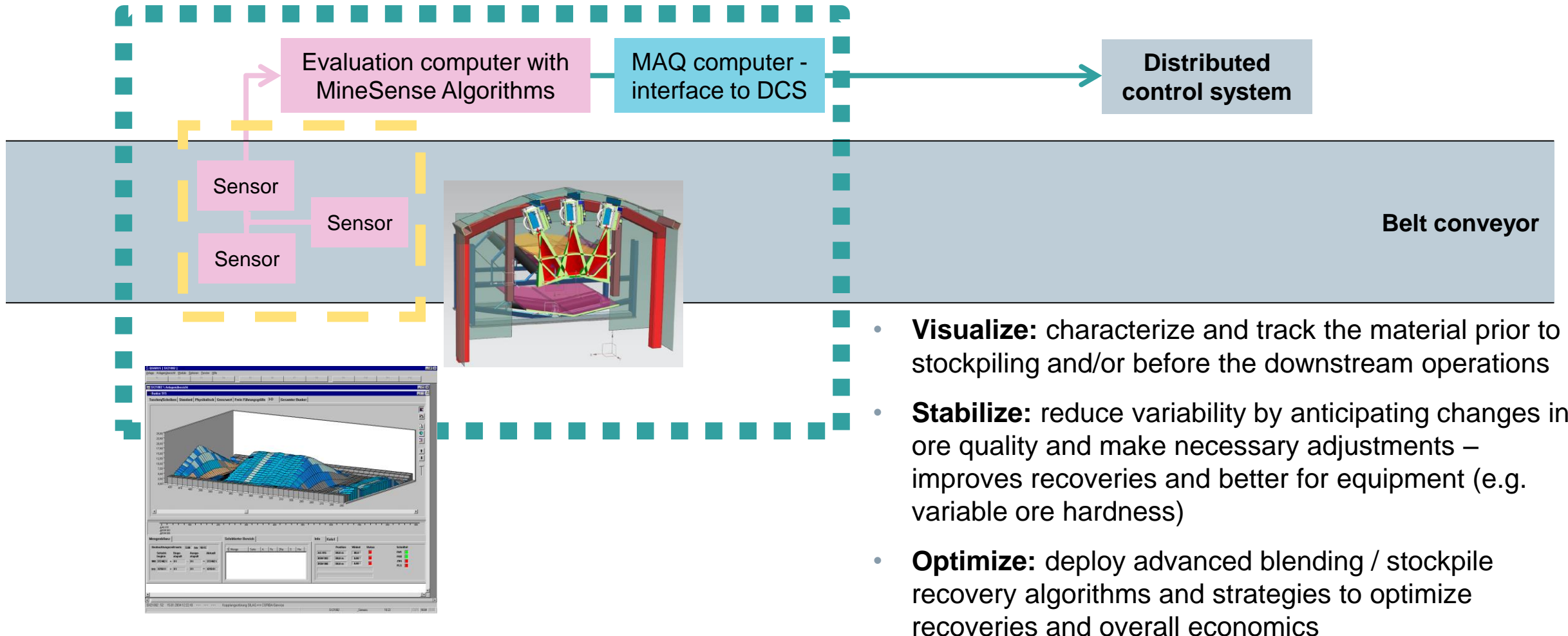
Coal Power Plant

Train Loading Station



# SIMINE MAQ powered by MineSense - Real-time measurement of ore grade & characteristics for conveyors

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## Summary Smart Mining

### Benefits

Higher availability, increased safety, lower OPEX, increased production

- More intelligence (Fingerprint Analysis, Mathematical Models, Artificial Intelligence)
- Autonomous Operation
- More real time data available, higher transparency

→ **Potentials to improve processes/applications**

# Thank you for your participation!



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