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Processing options depending on the various loading methods

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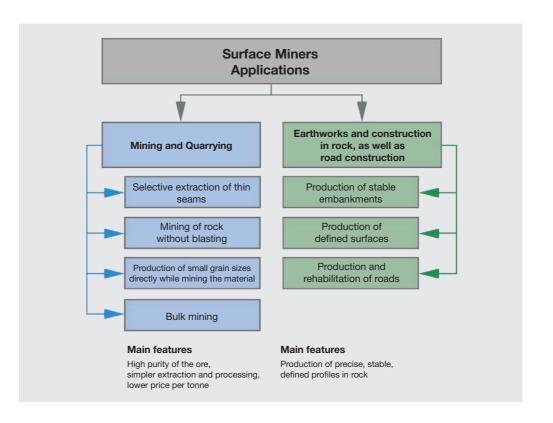
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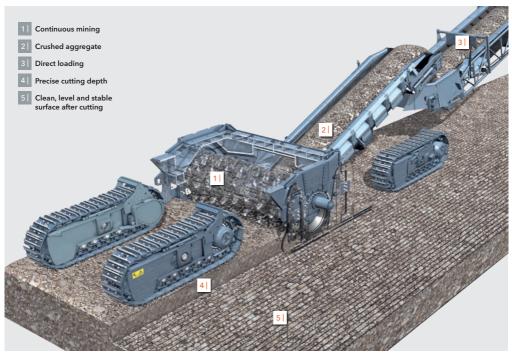
1.1 Summary

WIRTGEN Surface Miner technology yields the following essential advantages:

- > Mining without blasting
- > Simplified mining

- > Better quality of the removed material due to highly selective mining processes (ROM = Run-of-Mine)
- > Robust, clean cut edges and benches





Surface Miners cut, crush and load the material in a single operation with just one machine





Surface Miners simplify the complex process of extracting and processing minerals. It is a production system that extracts, crushes and loads the material in a single operation.

Advantages:

- > Higher system availability
- > Lower operating costs
- > Only one machine is needed for several work steps; this simplifies coordination and planning of the mining process, machine use, operation and maintenance.

1.2 Selective mining

One of the most important features of the Surface Miners is their ability to work selectively. Thin seams interspersed with intermediate rock layers can be cut precisely and economically, for example.



Thin coal seams can be mined selectively with Surface Miners

Mining companies throughout the world are exploiting the advantages of WIRTGEN Surface Miner technology with its extremely precise control of the cutting depth to extract high-quality mined material (ROM) in coal mines, limestone mines, bauxite mines, phosphate mines and gypsum mines.

Selective mining with Surface Miners ensures that thin seams of high-grade minerals and overburden can be mined separately.

Advantages:

- > Better quality of the cut material
- > Higher exploitation of the deposit
- > Improved overburden-to-mineral ratio
- > Less processing required

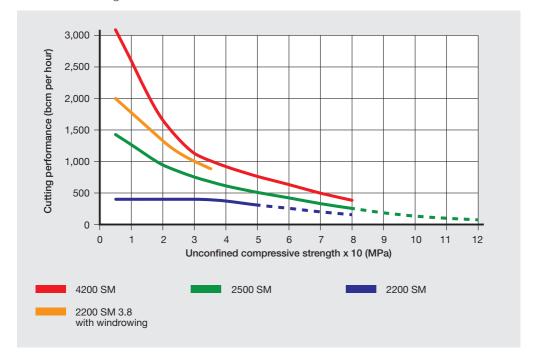
2.1 Performance ranges of Surface Miners in crushable material

The performance, tool wear and consequently the cost-efficient mode of operation of Surface Miners are decisively dependent on the mechanical properties of the rock to be cut.

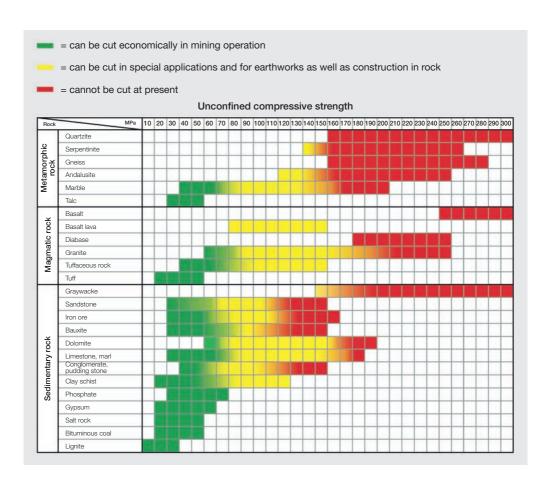
In the following diagram, the performance ranges of the Surface Miners and cuttability of the various types of rock are plotted as a function of the unconfined compressive strength of the respective rock types.

The maximum cutting performances listed in the table "Performance ranges" apply for the respective unconfined compressive strengths and for highly fissured, crushed materials. The actual performance achieved may differ considerably from the values listed here. Further details on cutting performance can be found in the diagrams in chapter 6. Please contact our specialists at WIRTGEN for an estimate of performance and operating costs.

Performance ranges of the Surface Miners



2.2 Assessment of rock cuttability

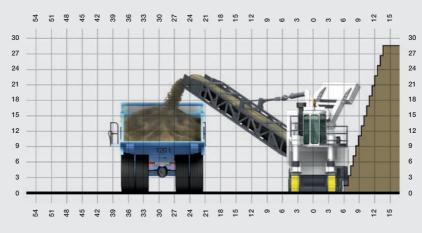


This general summary can be used to estimate the cuttability of a rock type. Queries concerning the cuttability of rock and the cutting performance to be expected with a Surface Miner should be addressed to WIRTGEN, together with data and information on the type of native rock and the open-cast mine.

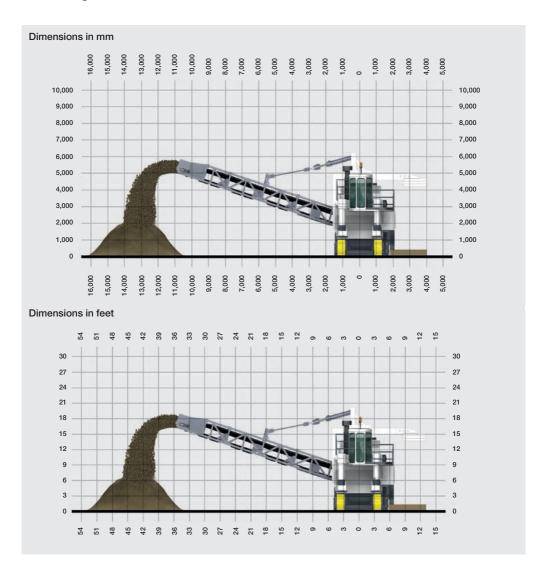
Loading material onto trucks when working along embankment steeper than 54° (discharge conveyor slewed max. 45°)

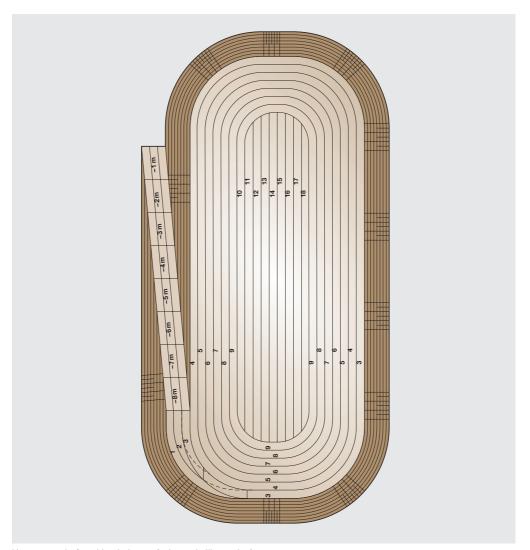


Dimensions in feet

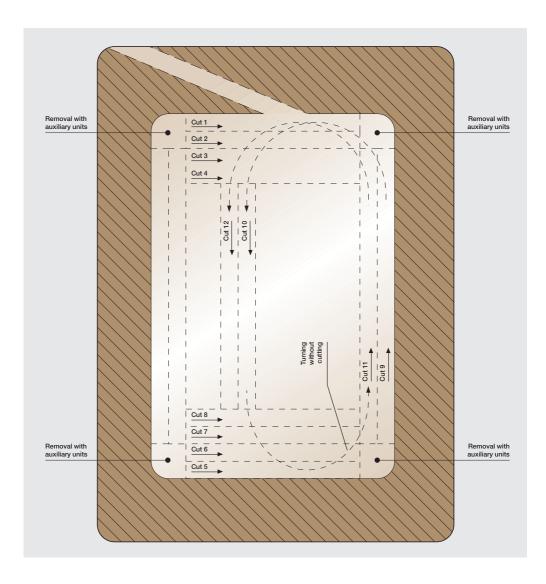


Sidecasting material





Harvest mode / working in layers (schematic illustration)



9.3 Indirect loading

9.3.1 Sidecasting

Sidecasting means that a stockpile is produced by dumping the material removed in one or more cutting operations on a stockpile via the miner's discharge conveyor. Depending on the slewing angle of the discharge conveyor, the material of between three to five adjacent cuts can be dumped on top of one another. Depending on the height of the resultant pile, the material can easily be picked up again by a front loader.

Advantage:

When sidecasting the material, the Surface Miner can continue cutting regardless of whether a truck is available for loading.



2200 SM - Sidecasting



2200 SM - Sidecasting

9.3.2 Windrowing

When working in windrowing mode, the cut material is deposited directly behind the machine without using the discharge conveyor system. This makes the cutting process independent of any loading processes (onto trucks). However, the material must subsequently be re-handled by a front loader.



2200 SM - windrowing mode



Surface Miner - windrowing mode