



**Institut Polytechnique UniLaSalle**

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# Field trip Report

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LaSalle France Student Chapter  
Mineral Resources

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Years 2016 – 2017

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## 1. Student Chapter presentation

The student chapter is a professional association of engineer students, supported by academic advisors, representing the Economic Geology program of the *Institut Polytechnique UniLaSalle*. Its role is to organize and participate in company visits and conferences in order to meet professionals in mines and quarries.



Economic geology  
Student chapter LaSalle France

SEG-SGA

Figure 1 : Student Chapter LaSalle France logo

## 2. Field trip organization

A Field trip has been organized as part of a magnesite work-shop. The event was organized by the Leoben SEG and last 4 days in the University of Leoben in Austria.



SEG Student Chapter Leoben



WORKSHOP

**Magnesite**

**From Mining to Refractory**

April 19-22, 2017

at Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria

### Topics

- Economic geology and deposit types of magnesite deposits
- Company presentation of RHI: mining operations, processing, refractory
- Theory and practise of magnesite-based refractories
- Other mineral deposits related to magnesite

### Field trips:

- ⚡ **RHI Breitenau**  
Operating open pit magnesite mine
- ⚡ **Styromag Oberndorf**  
Operating underground magnesite mine
- ⚡ **Kraubath**  
Closed magnesite mine in ultramafic rocks

### Lecturers

- **Roland Nilica**  
RHI Strategic Projects - Corporate R&D
- **Christoph Piribauer**  
RHI Project Manager R&D
- **Walter Prochaska**  
Chair for Geology and Economic Geology, Montanuniversität Leoben
- **Johann Raith**  
Chair for Resource Mineralogy, Montanuniversität Leoben
- **Oskar Thalhammer**  
Chair for Resource Mineralogy, Montanuniversität Leoben
- **David Misch**  
Chair for Petroleum Geology, Montanuniversität Leoben
- **Hannes Pluch**  
VA Erzberg

### Registration fees

(incl. handouts, lunch, coffee breaks and social events)

	Early Registration	Late Registration
Students	<sup>1)</sup> 80*/90 €	<sup>2)</sup> 90*/100 €
Academics	<sup>1)</sup> 150*/200 €	<sup>2)</sup> 200*/250 €
Industry members	<sup>1)</sup> 500*/600 €	<sup>2)</sup> 600*/700 €

**Registration** [segunileoben@gmail.com](mailto:segunileoben@gmail.com)

- <sup>1)</sup> Regular Deadline: March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017
- <sup>2)</sup> Late Deadline: April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Subject to change without prior notice

\* member of SEG or SEG Student Chapter.

Montanuniversität Leoben, Chair for Resource Mineralogy, Peter-Tunner-Straße 5, 8700 Leoben, Austria

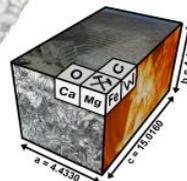


Figure 2: Field trip in Leoben programm

The two first days were devoted to lecture courses:

- Geology and magnesite ore deposits characterization.
- How to prospect magnesite ore deposits.
- Mineral processing for magnesite as refractory mineral

The different lecturers were: Roland Nilica and Christoph Piribauer for RHI; Walter Prochaska, Johann Raith, Oskar Thalhammer and David Misch for Montanuniversitat Leoben; Hannes Pluch for VA Erzberg.

Regarding two last days, members get lucky to visit two mining sites: the first one was dedicated to the visit of Styromag Oberdorf underground mine and the second one to RHI Breitenau open pit mine.



Figure 3: From left to right: Lucas THIRION, Yooan QUERE, Claire CHARLES, Nathan ROUCHES and Raphael BENHAMOU. This photo has been taken in front of the **Styromag Oberdorf underground mine**.



Figure 4: All the workshop participants in the **Styromag Oberdorf underground mine**.



Figure 5: Example of magnesite sample in the Styromag Oberdorf underground mine.



Figure 6: This photo has been taken in front of the RHI Breitenau open pit mine.



Figure 7: Geological explanations with a RHI Breitenau engineer, before visiting the RHI Breitenau open pit mine.

### 3. Conclusion

This field trip in Austria was an interesting experience for all of us. This expedition showed us different ways to process in our duty to give access and to share knowledge with our members in the domain of economic geology.

We learned many things about the economic geology legislation in Austria (and compare with the French legislation) but also about the different companies we have met: RIH Breitenau and Styromag Oberdorf.

It was a great opportunity for the LaSalle France Student Chapter to visit open pit and underground mines. Everything we learned serves us every day during our economic geology classes.