

CSEG TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CITATION: CRAIG FUNK

I would like to nominate Craig Funk for the CSEG Technical Achievement Award. Craig Funk is the Director of GeoServices & Land at Nutrien. He is a professional geophysicist and professional engineer with 10 years of experience in hard- and soft-rock mining, geotechnical consulting, and the oil and gas services industry in a variety of locations, including South Africa, United States, and Canada. Craig joined PotashCorp in 2008 and progressed into the current role at Nutrien where he oversees exploration, mineral and surface lands, mineral properties reporting, and geoscience applications and special projects. Craig studied at the University of Saskatchewan where he earned a B. Sc. in Engineering Geophysics and an M. Sc. in Geophysics.

Craig's lengthy career has led him to contribute to many practical geoscience applications. One of his notable contributions was while in Calgary working for Halliburton. He worked to develop a data management software for remote hydraulic fracture mapping and reservoir monitoring. It was used on thousands of successful hydrocarbon projects around the world. Another more recent contribution was while working at Nutrien in Saskatchewan. He worked collaboratively with geophysicists and engineers to develop a borer mounted ground penetrating radar (GPR) package to help miners better understand the geology above them in the mined-out rooms. The GPR instruments have been mounted on their Continuous Boring Machines (borers). The borer mounted GPR units give the operators real-time images of the salt-back while they mine. The purpose for this is to have an early warning of developing hazards at the mining face before the ground becomes unstable. Craig has authored many papers and presented at a variety of conferences on the application of GPR in potash mines for improved ground fall hazard recognition.

Craig Funk is also a long-time member of the CSEG and has volunteered for the Foundation Outreach and ESfS programs.

Submitted by Neda Boroumand