



Humanity's ever-increasing hunger for mineral raw materials, caused by a growing global population and ever increasing standards of living, has resulted in economic geology becoming a subject of urgent importance.

This book provides a broad panorama of mineral deposits, covering their origin and geological characteristics, the principles of the search for ores and minerals, and the investigation of newly found deposits. Practical and environmental issues that arise during the life cycle of a mine and after its closure are addressed, with an emphasis on sustainable and "green" mining.

The central scientific theme of the book is to place the extraordinary variability of mineral deposits in the frame of fundamental geological processes.

The book is written for earth science students and practicing geologists worldwide. Professionals in administration, resource development, mining, mine reclamation, metallurgy, and mineral economics will also find the text valuable.

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A companion website with additional resources is available at: www.wiley.com/go/pohl/geology

Cover image: PHILIPPE PSAILA/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY. Talc quarry. This is the talc quarry in Luzenac, France, the largest talc quarry in the world. It is at an altitude of 1800 metres in the Ariège region of France. Founded in 1905, it produces 400,000 tonnes of talc in a year. The stepped layers show where the quarrying has dug into the ground, leaving behind roads to enable minerals to be brought from the lower levels to the upper levels. Talc (hydrated magnesium silicate) is a very soft mineral that is the main component of talcum powder. After being quarried, the rock is crushed into powder form and is also used in paper, plastics, cosmetics and paints.

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