

TAILINGS BRAZIL 2026

26/05/2026

terça-feira

08:00

Auditório

Registration

09:00

Auditório

Opening Cerimony

09:30

Auditório

Panel 1 - Dams: Safety, Engineering and Governance

Summary: The panel will discuss the strategic role of tailings dams in enabling mining activity and its relevance to economic and social development. The technical fundamentals of dams, their functions in the safe storage of tailings, and their potential for multiple uses, such as the retention and utilization of water resources, including after the closure of mining operations, will be addressed. Finally, current challenges and opportunities to strengthen dam safety, rebuild society's trust, and ensure that mining continues to contribute safely and sustainably will be discussed.



Mara Pova Mota -

Moderador(a)



Juliana Martins. -

Painelista

11:00

Auditório

Break

11:30

Auditório

Keynote Lecture 1 - Safety Regulation: Between Risk, Innovation, and Responsibility

Summary: Safety regulation represents society's ongoing effort to keep the risks inherent in technological advancement under control, without stifling its potential to generate development, wealth, and social transformation. It is a delicate balance. This keynote lecture will examine the structural dilemmas faced by safety regulators in different sectors and countries, based on case studies presented by regulators and analyses grounded in multidisciplinary research. The discussions will cover tensions between technical rigor and economic viability, prevention and innovation, institutional independence and political pressure. The exhibition will address the main tools available to contemporary regulation — certification, safety cases, prescriptive rules and risk-based approaches, professional regulation and self-regulation — assessing their scope, limitations and evidence of effectiveness.

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12:30

Auditório

Lunch break

14:00

Auditório

Panel 2 - Assertive and Transparent Communication with Stakeholders

Summary: The panel proposes a qualified reflection on the relationship between the external communication and the mining sector, with a specific focus on tailings disposal structures. Based on an understanding of how mining activity becomes a media topic, this event will discuss the criteria for newsworthiness, the challenges of technical coverage, and the impacts of communication in contexts of risk, crisis, and high social sensitivity. The challenges involving technical and institutional areas in their interaction with the external public will also be analyzed—such as the translation of complex technical content and the contextualization of information. Finally, practices that can contribute to improving communication will be discussed, such as using language appropriate to different audiences, greater proactivity and timeliness in disseminating information.

15:00

Auditório

Panel 3 - Technical Integration as a Pillar of Safety: Promoting Good Management in the Interface between EoR, Designers, and Independent Reviewers

Summary: Excellence in the management of tailings disposal structures is the result of solid technical governance, based on clarity of roles, integration of skills, and structured communication among the key stakeholders: the Engineer of Record (EoR), the designers, and the international independent reviewers. This presentation will demonstrate how the effective management of interfaces between these professionals can become a competitive advantage, strengthening safety, operational predictability, project quality, and institutional credibility.

16:00

Auditório

Break

16:20

Auditório

Panel 4 - Brazilian Advances in the Governance and Regulation of Mining Tailings Safety

Summary: Brazil has promoted a profound modernization of its legal, regulatory, and institutional framework focused on the safety of tailings disposal structures, consolidating a more rigorous, preventive model aligned with international best practices. Laws, regulations, and standards have established stricter rules for the licensing, operation, and inspection of tailings disposal facilities, in addition to reinforcing criteria for safety, transparency, and social control. The advances range from requiring objective technical criteria for defining the Self-Rescue Zone (ZAS), to implementing continuous, automated, and real-time geotechnical monitoring, and improving governance, transparency, and technical accountability, with the participation of independent consultants, an external Engineer of Record, and many others. This panel will discuss the impacts of these regulatory changes on the organizational culture of companies, the performance of regulatory bodies, and the consolidation of Brazil as an international benchmark in governance applied to the safety of tailings disposal in mining.

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quarta-feira

08:00

Auditório

Registration

09:00

Auditório

Panel 5 - Mixed Solutions for Tailings Disposal: Safety, Technical Suitability, and Environmental Responsibility

Summary: The lecture will address when it is possible to use mixed solutions for the disposal of mining tailings, combining dams and tailings piles as complementary alternatives, adopted judiciously when technically and environmentally feasible. The discussion will cover how the specific characteristics of tailings types and different regions directly influence the definition of the best disposal technology, reinforcing the principle that there is no single or universally applicable solution.

10:30

Auditório

Break

12:30

Auditório

Lunch break

14:00

Auditório

Panel 6 - Licensing and Increased Safety in Tailings Disposal

Summary: The lecture will address the evolution of the environmental licensing process applied to mining, with a special focus on regulatory, institutional, and technical changes aimed at increasing safety in tailings disposal. The discussion will cover advancements in risk analysis, design criteria, monitoring and control, as well as the strengthening of governance and transparency following regulatory improvements. A reflection will be promoted on the need for balance, highlighting how licensing can act as an instrument to induce best practices, without compromising the competitiveness of the sector and the economic and social development of the country.

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Auditório

Panel 7 - Advances and Best Practices in Geotechnical Engineering of Dams and Tailings Piles

Summary: The panel will discuss technological advancements applied to geotechnical tailings disposal projects, with an emphasis on solutions that enhance the safety, reliability, and resilience of the structures. Innovations in construction methods, dam raising technologies, drainage and seepage control systems will be discussed, as well as the use of advanced numerical modeling, automated instrumentation, remote sensing, and real-time monitoring. Improvements to calculation models and forecasts associated with extreme weather events will also be discussed, especially scenarios involving heavy rainfall, including probabilistic analyses, hydrological simulations, and stability assessments under critical conditions. The panel will seek to integrate perspectives from the design, operation, and risk management sectors, highlighting how the incorporation of new technologies has contributed to raising safety and sustainability standards in the disposal of mining tailings.

16:00

Auditório

Break

16:20

Auditório

Panel 8 and Closing Remarks - 50 Years of IBRAM - Advances in Geotechnical Engineering in Mining, Current Challenges, and the Contribution of Women in Geotechnics

Summary: This lecture will discuss the evolution of dam engineering in mining over the last 50 years, with an emphasis on new technologies, construction methods, and safety criteria. Relevant technical milestones will be presented, as well as the challenges that still face geotechnical engineering, such as risk management, continuous monitoring, the sustainability of structures, and adaptation to increasingly stringent regulatory requirements. In an integrated manner, the growing participation of women in geotechnical engineering will be addressed, highlighting their professional contributions and career experiences in a sector historically dominated by men.

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