

**Ore-Max Issued US Patent for Improved Heap Leach Technology  
Max-Emitter Proven to Increase Mine Efficiency, Production & Profits up to 25%**

*Portland, OR, April 1, 2005:* Ore-Max, U.S.-based manufacturer of percolation systems for the heap leach mining industry, has successfully designed, tested and been issued a patent for its leading product, the Max-Emitter. With a 330 degree flow path and a screen area that is 10 – 20% longer than the competition's, the Max-Emitter has exceeded initial design expectations with a virtually plug-free design. Gold and copper mines that have used the Max-Emitter have been able to increase the efficiency, production and profits of their mines from 5-25%; equating to hundreds of thousands of dollars of added profitability.

Key to the value of this new product is in educating the industries on what profits (ore) remain in the ground due to unknown or unaddressed emitter plugging problems. "Most mines don't know that they have a plugging problem, or assume that the plugging they're experiencing can't be solved" states Brandon Beard, VP for hydrometallurgical operations. "But that's exactly what the Max-Emitter has been designed to address and proven to solve. With a minimal investment, mine owners can experience a 5-25% improvement in their production and profits. And with the price of gold being at an all time high, that percentage equates to incredibly large amounts of money to mine owners and operators."

By successfully designing the Max-Emitter, Ore-Max engineers solved a couple of problems that plagued conventional emitters and the mines themselves. First, the velocity of the leach solution was reduced, making it harder for particles to enter the emitter and stick in part of the screen. Secondly, the unique screen design also insured that part of the screen would remain on top (where it is harder to plug), even if the tube twisted.

In the field, the Max-Emitter was put to the test in a wide variety of different climates, altitudes, and mining conditions. In hot, dry Tucson, it increased copper extraction by 25%. In the higher elevations and cooler weather of Chile, it increased extraction by 13% while allowing the electrowinning tank to operate at 100% capacity for the first time in years.

The emitter has also proved itself in gold operations. On the Carlin Trend, it improved recovery by 10%. In a recent field study, the Max-Emitter-equipped operation produced 6,000 extra ounces of gold for every 1 million tons of 0.030 (oz/ton) grade gold ore put on a leach pad. This is a productivity increase of 20%, generating additional revenue of \$2.4 million a year. Even an insignificant five percent improvement produces an additional 1,500 ounces of gold a year.

To learn more about the patented Max-Emitter or how not to leave 25% behind, go to [www.ore-max.com](http://www.ore-max.com) or call (503) 692-5353.