

**2005 SME Pittsburgh Section
John T. Boyd Memorial
Young Engineer Award**

Jaisen N. Kohmuench
Eriez Manufacturing



Dr. Jaisen N. Kohmuench is the recipient of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, & Exploration, Inc. (SME) Pittsburgh Section's 2005 John T. Boyd Memorial Young Engineer Award. This award is given to bring recognition of engineering professionalism to young people working in the mining industry.

Jaisen was introduced to the mining industry while working towards a Bachelors of Science degree in engineering at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (Virginia Tech). He graduated from undergraduate studies in 1995. A Masters of Science degree quickly followed in 1997. Still at Virginia Tech, Jaisen received his Doctorate in 2000 with an emphasis in minerals processing.

While working on his master's thesis, Jaisen investigated the effectiveness of traditional and advanced coal cleaning technology on trace elements, such as Mercury, Cadmium, and Selenium. He effectively managed and conducted bench-scale evaluations to determine the optimum circuitry for the rejection of these trace elements prior to combustion.

Jaisen's doctoral work centered on improving the efficiency of water-based separators, such as coal spirals, teeter-bed separators, and flotation devices. As a doctoral student, he was sponsored by Eriez Manufacturing from Erie, PA. Working with Eriez, Jaisen was integral in the development of several patented technologies including Eriez' CrossFlow and HydroFloat separators. Jaisen was also heavily involved with Eriez' CoalPro column flotation technology.

After graduation in 2000, Jaisen was hired by Eriez to work as a process engineer. His duties included developing new separation technologies. As such, Jaisen was responsible for all laboratory work for new minerals processing products. This work included froth flotation, classification, density separation, and magnetic separation evaluations. To this end, Jaisen has conducted multiple in-field pilot-scale test evaluations. He also commissions full-

scale equipment.

In 2001, Jaisen became Eriez' Project Specialist. His extended duties included submitting and acting as Principal Investigator for several state and federally-run research projects in support of product development. More recently, Jaisen spearheaded the re-introduction of the Microcel flotation system into the Australian coal market.

In 2005, Jaisen was asked to serve as the chairman of the Eriez Advisory Board. This board was created as a means for employees to voice recommendations and concerns to upper management. In late 2005, Jaisen was promoted to Project Supervisor and now routinely manages both domestic and international projects.

Jaisen joined SME while still a student at Virginia Tech. In fact, during the 1994-1995 academic year, Jaisen served as Vice-President of the Burkhart Mining Society, the student chapter of SME at Virginia Tech. As a member of SME, Jaisen has been part of several committees including serving as Chairman of the Applied Separation Technologies unit committee. He is also actively involved at SME meetings and regularly submits technical papers and conducts presentations. To date, Jaisen has authored and/or co-authored over 30 papers.

Jaisen currently resides in Erie, PA., with his wife Kathryn and his two children, Jake and Nicolas.