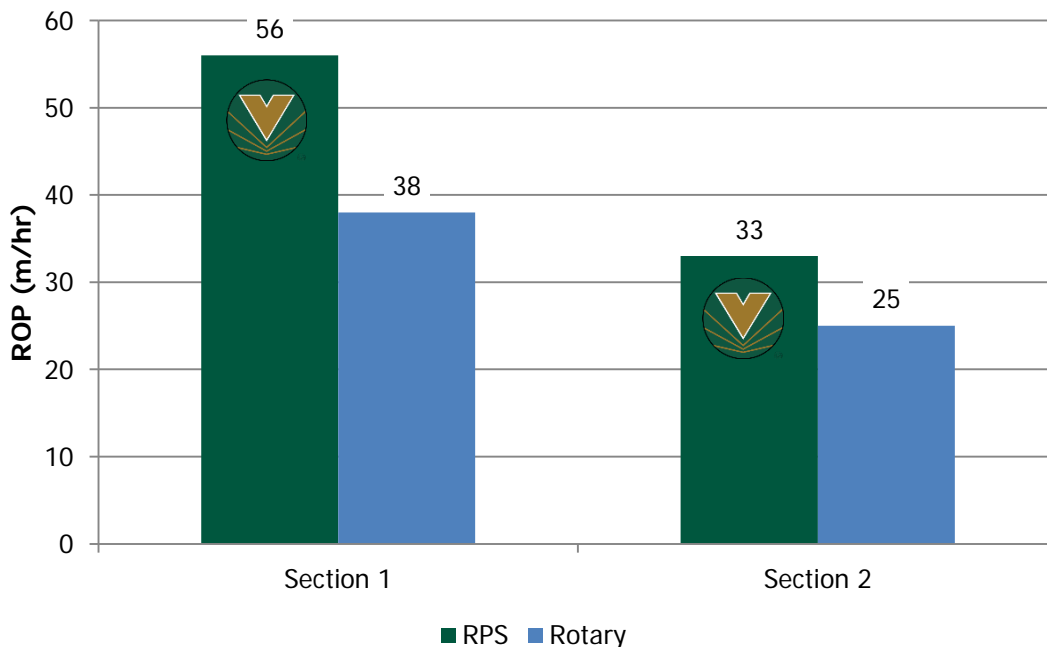


RPS™ Delivers 32% to 47% Greater ROP

12-1/4" (311mm) RPS106, Iron Ore Mine, South Africa

PERFORMANCE: This iron ore mine utilized both standard rotary techniques and Varel's RPS tool (no oil design) when drilling various 12-1/4" blast holes over a 6 month period. The haematite ore body with banded iron formations (BIF) are among the hardest drilling conditions found in the world. The RPS tool provided this customer with an average 39.5% ROP improvement over the standard rotary system with very comparable bit life and eliminated concern of oil contamination in their assay samples.

TECHNOLOGY: Varel's patented RPS percussion tools combine the synergies of both rotary and percussion drilling. Percussion blows combine with rotational forces to deliver impacts similar to chipping or chiseling. These blows are applied 16-30 times a second to smooth out torque resulting in less vibration, straighter bore holes, improved rock fragmentation, and increased ROP.



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