

# Crushing Optimizing the Process



Improving Processes. Instilling Expertise.

• **SUSTAINABILITY** •

• PROFITABILITY •

• PRODUCTIVITY •

BREAK  
ROCK

Chemical  
Crushing

MOVE  
ROCK

Load and  
Haul

SIZE  
ROCK

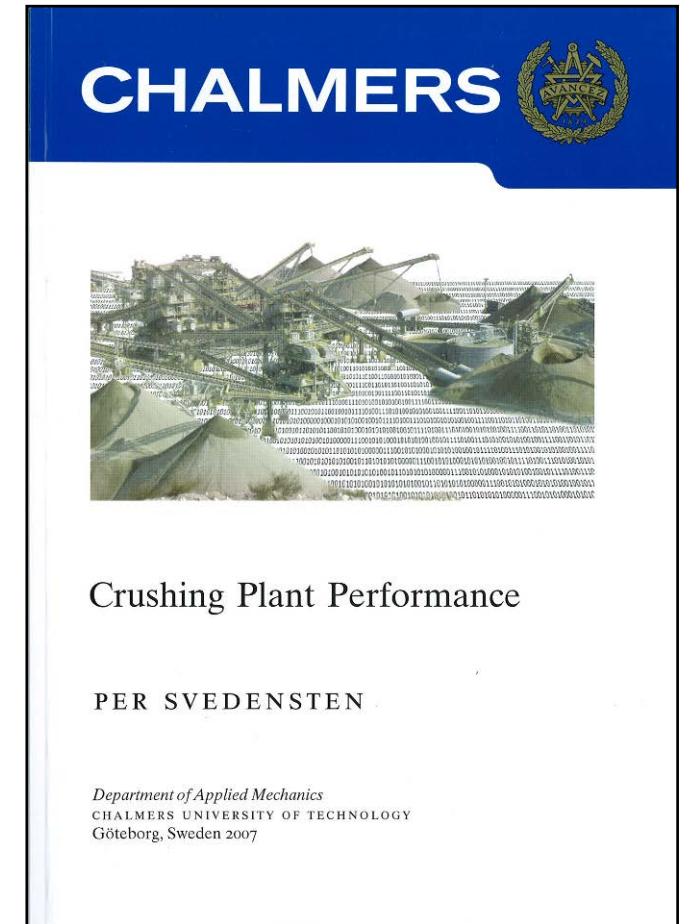
Mechanical  
Crushing and  
Screening

• PLANNING AND METRICS •

• **SAFETY CULTURE** •

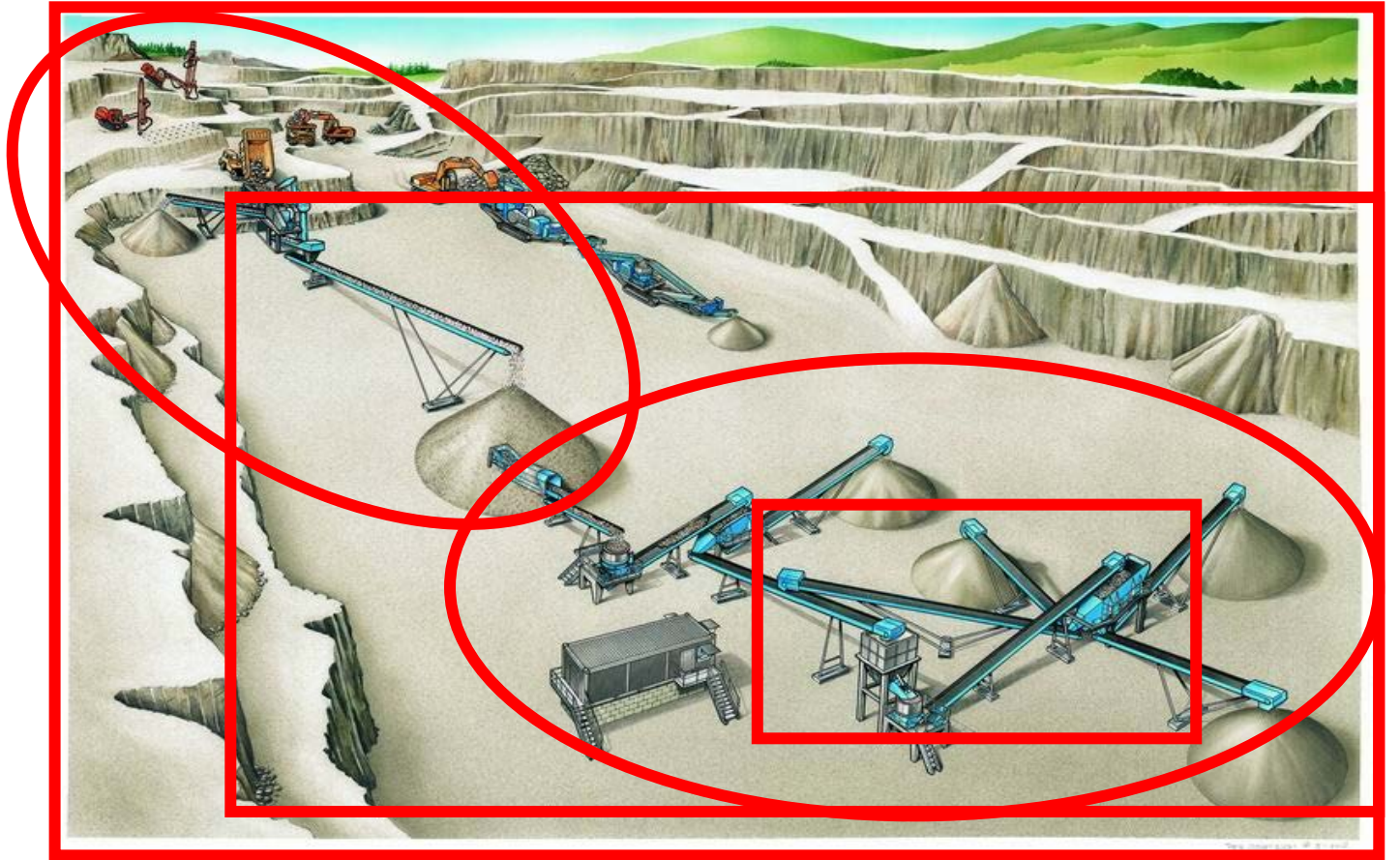
# Optimizing the Process

- Methods to combine and simulate technical and economic performance
- Optimum crushing plant performance is difficult to achieve due the process characteristics. Different compared to all other industrial processes.
- Optimizing method for best performance
- Partly implemented in PlantDesigner 10



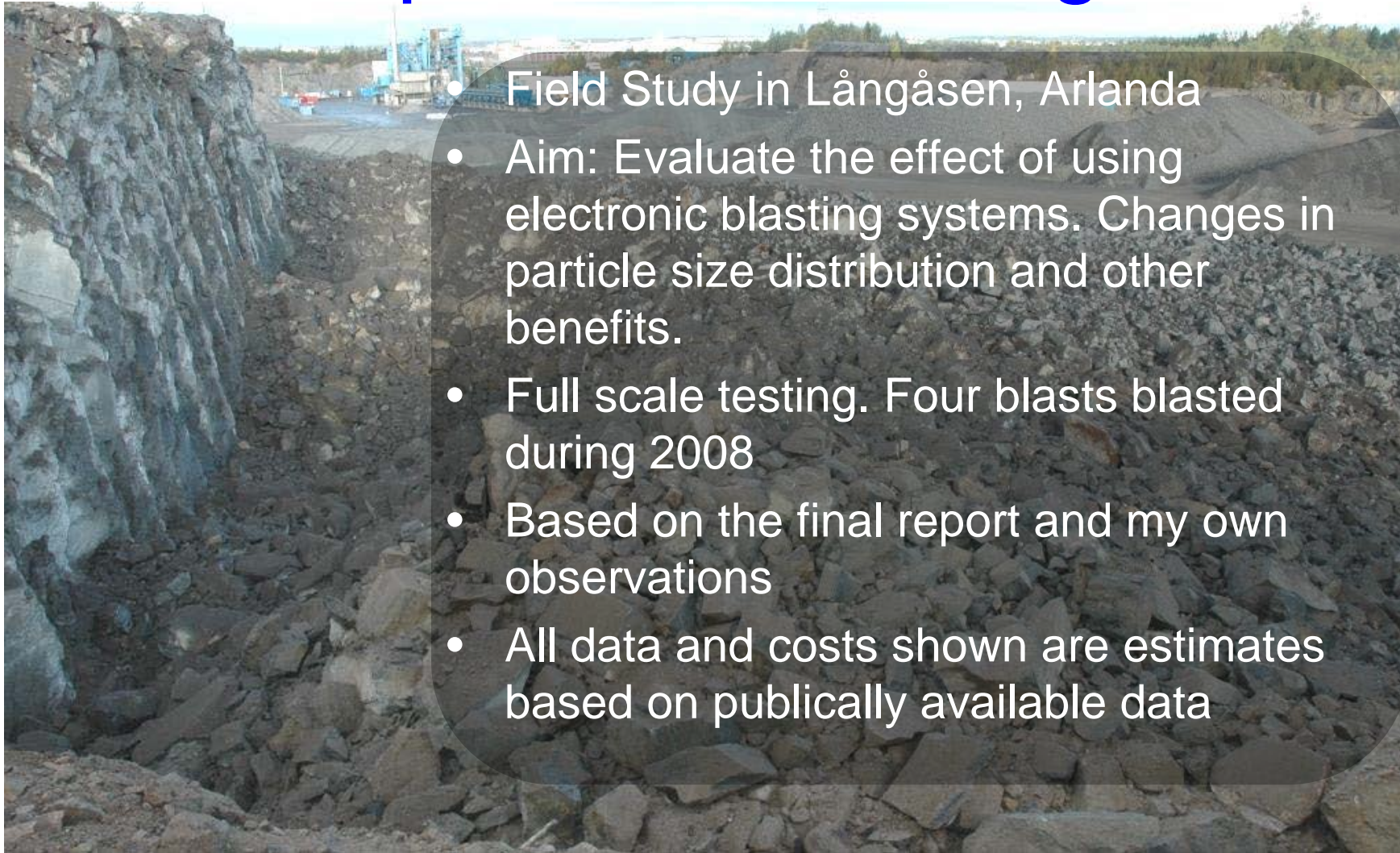
# Crushing Plant Optimization

- Point of interest
  - Crushing stage
  - Crushing plant
  - Quarry Process
- Today:
  - Optimize the feed
  - Optimize the process



# MinBaS II

## Optimized blasting



- Field Study in Långåsen, Arlanda
- Aim: Evaluate the effect of using electronic blasting systems. Changes in particle size distribution and other benefits.
- Full scale testing. Four blasts blasted during 2008
- Based on the final report and my own observations
- All data and costs shown are estimates based on publically available data

# The Study

- Comparisons between the cost and earnings for different blasting strategies.
- Conclusions and recommendations

# The Quarry

## Långåsen, Arlanda



# Blasted Material

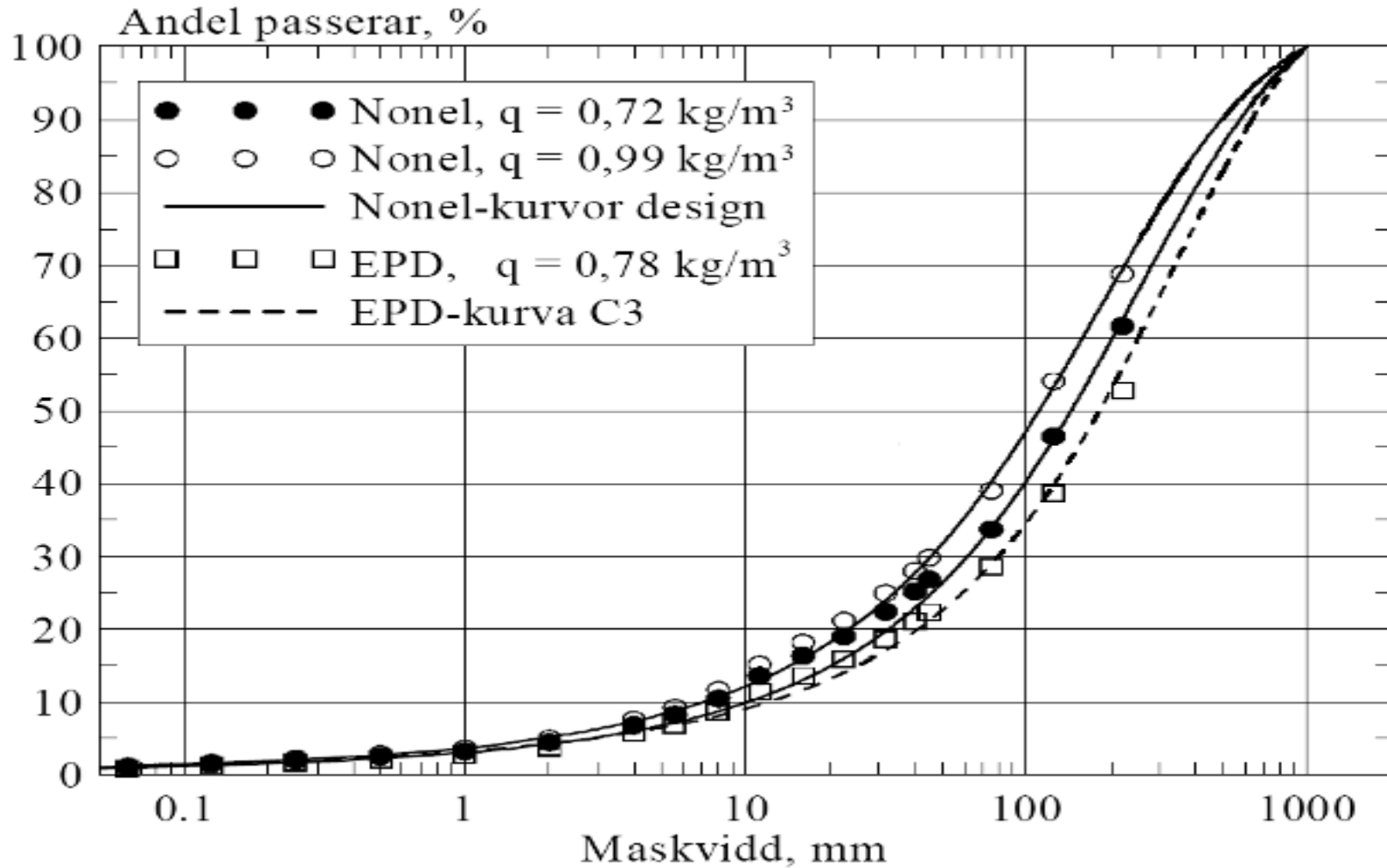
## Test plan

<b>Blast 1</b>	<b>None Electric</b>	<b>None Electric</b>
	1.35 lb/yd <sup>3</sup>	1.85 lb/yd <sup>3</sup>
<b>Blast 2</b>	<b>None Electric</b>	<b>None Electric</b>
	1.85 lb/yd <sup>3</sup>	1.35 lb/yd <sup>3</sup>
<b>Blast 3</b>	<b>Electronic Blasting System</b>	
	1.35 lb/yd <sup>3</sup> 10 ms between holes	
<b>Blast 4</b>	<b>Electronic Blasting System</b>	
	1.35 lb/yd <sup>3</sup> 5 ms between holes	



# Blasting result

## Measuring the Particle Size Distribution



# Blasting result Cost analysis

	<b>Nonel norm. q [\$/ton*]</b>	<b>Nonel high q [\$/ton*]</b>	<b>EPD norm. q [\$/ton*]</b>
<b>Drilling and Blasting</b>	<b>0.90</b>	<b>1.23</b>	<b>0.97</b>
<b>Added cost for detonators</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>0.30</b>
<b>Bolder Management</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.15</b>	<b>0.22</b>
<b>Sum</b>	<b>1.20</b>	<b>1.38</b>	<b>1.49</b>

\*Estimates based on publicly available data

# Loading and Hauling Conditions and Measurements

- Loading and Hauling to primary crusher
  - Wheel loader carries the material from the muck pile to the crusher
- Conducted studies
  - Measurement of wheel loaded loading times
  - Measurement of loaded material [tph]
  - Manual timing during several days

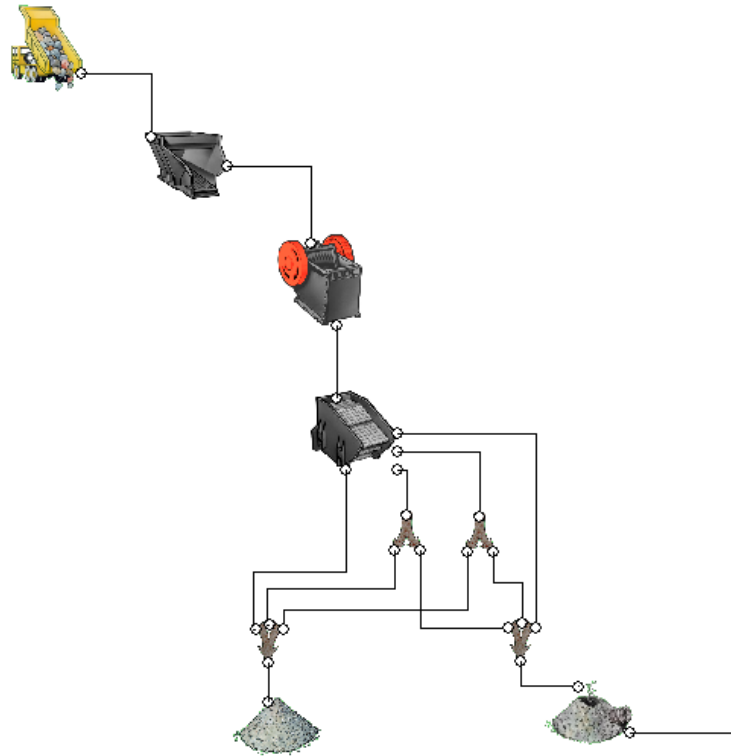


# Loading and Hauling Cost analysis

	<b>Nonel norm. q</b>	<b>Nonel high q</b>	<b>EPD norm. q</b>
<b>Contractor [\$/h*]</b>	448	448	448
<b>Loading Capacity [tph]</b>	298	316	313
<b>Cost [\$/ton]</b>	1.50	1.42	1.43
<b>Sum incl Drilling and Blasting [\$/ton]</b>	1.20+1.50= <b>=2.70</b>	1.38+1.42= <b>=2.80</b>	1.49+1.43= <b>=2.92</b>

\*Estimates based on publicly available data

# Crushing and Screening Plant Setup and Conditions for the Study

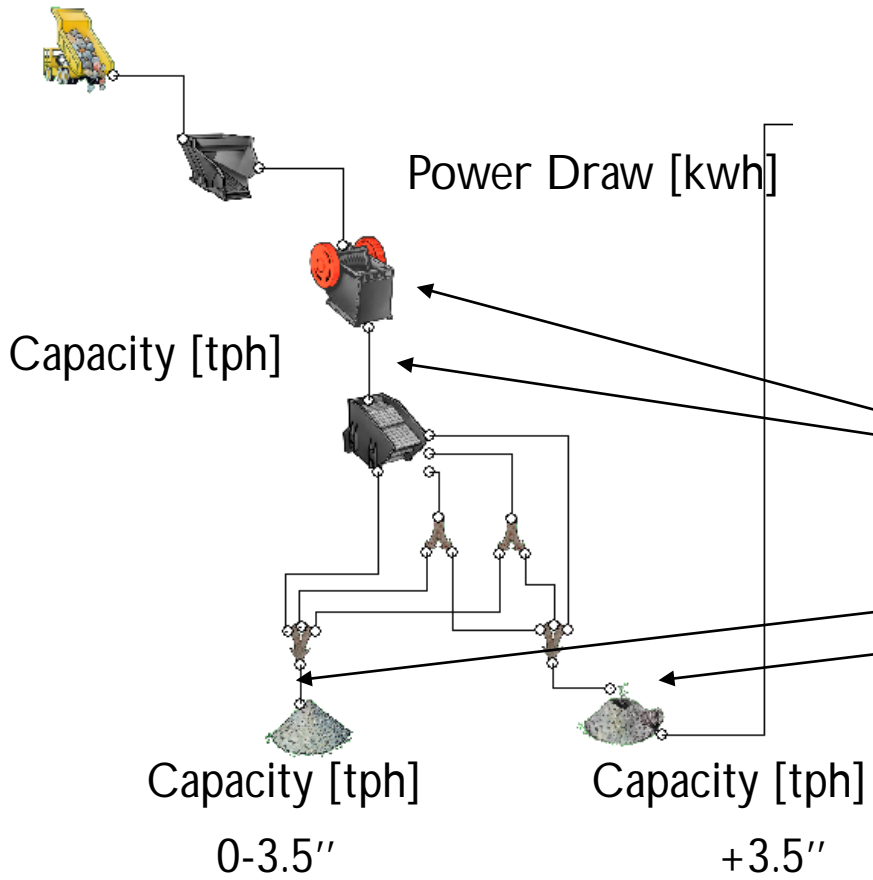


0-3.5"  
(0-90 mm)

+3.5"  
(+90 mm)



# Crushing and Screening Performed Measurements



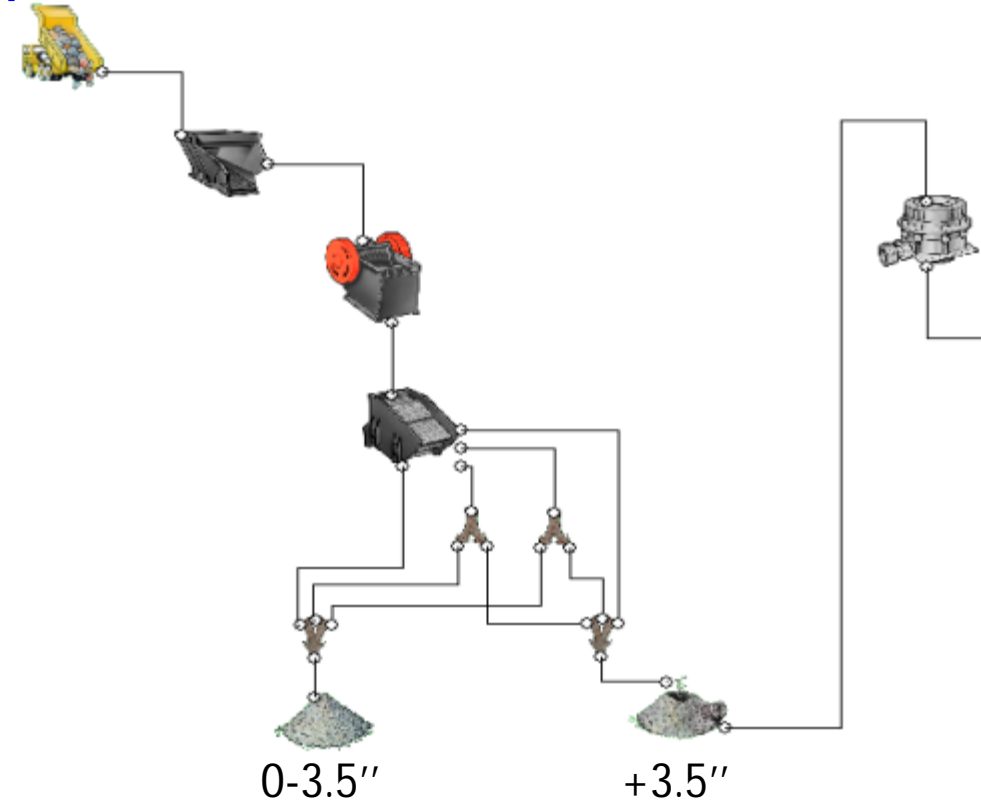
# Crushing and Screening Cost analysis

	<b>Nonel norm. q</b>	<b>Nonel high q</b>	<b>EPD norm. q</b>
<b>Power Draw (kWh/ton)</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.25</b>	<b>0.35</b>
<b>Energy Cost (0.30 \$/kWh)*</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>0.07</b>	<b>0.10</b>
<b>Fixed Cost [\$ /h]</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>746</b>
<b>[\$ /ton]</b>	<b>2.41</b>	<b>2.29</b>	<b>2.28</b>
<b>Cost [\$ /ton]</b>	<b>2.50</b>	<b>2.36</b>	<b>2.38</b>
<b>Sum incl D&amp;B och L&amp;H [\$ /ton]</b>	<b>1.20+1.50+2.50= = 5.20</b>	<b>1.38+1.42+2.36= = 5.16</b>	<b>1.49+1.43+2.38= = 5.30</b>

\*Estimates based on publicly available data

# Production Total cost \$/h

	<b>Nonel norm. q</b>	<b>Nonel high q</b>	<b>EPD norm. q</b>
Production rate [tph]	298	316	313
<b>Cost [\$ /h]</b>	<b>1600</b>	<b>1676</b>	<b>1723</b>

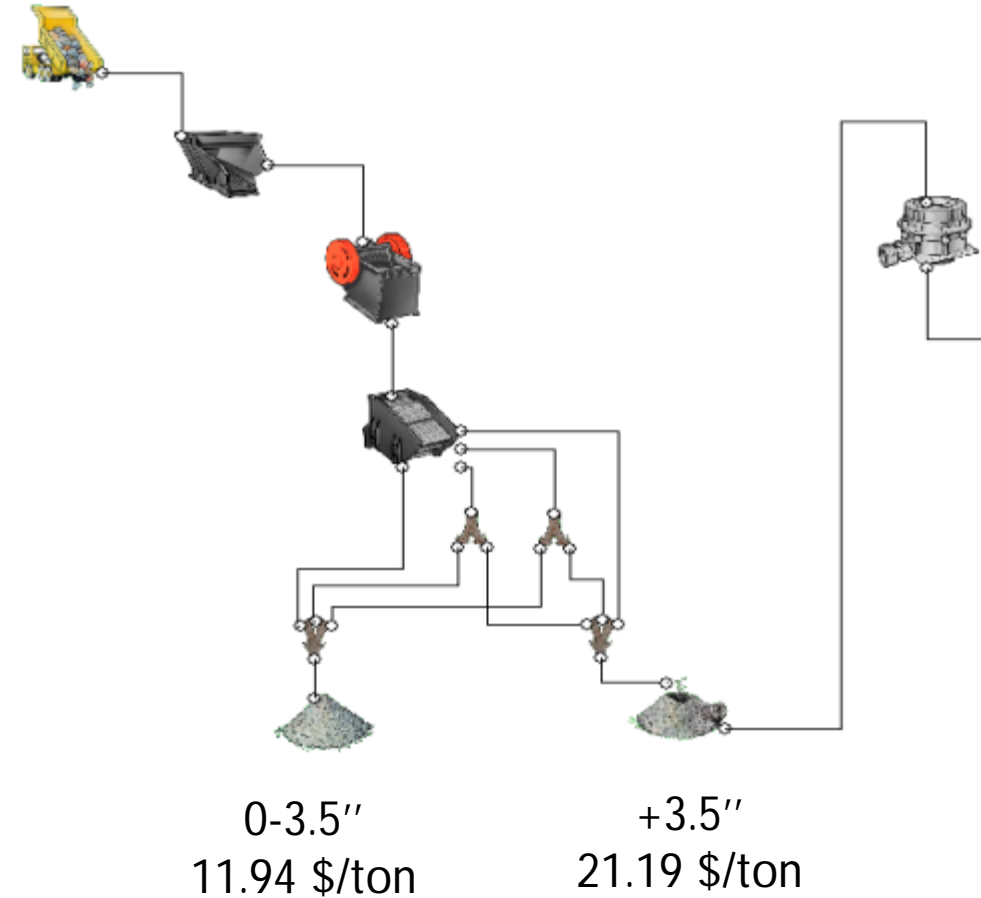


Distribution between 0-3.5" and +3.5" is partly controlled by the blasting result



# Procuton Product Price

Fraction [mm]	Price [\$/ton]	Crushing stage	Ave. Price [\$/ton]
0-90	11.94	1 (Prim.)	11.94
0-4	19.25	3-4	21.19
4-8	20.75		
8-11	23.73		
11-16	22.53		
16-32	20.15		



\*Estimates based on publicly available data

# Production Revenue sek/h

	Nonel normalt q	Nonel high q	EPD normalt q
Production [tph]	298	316	313
Production 0-3.5" [tph]	186	206	189
Price 0-3.5" \$/ton*	11.94	11.94	11.94
Production +3.5" [tph]	112	110	124
Ave. Price +3.5" \$/ton*	21.19	21.19	21.19
Revenue \$/h	4595	4791	4885



\*Estimates based on publicly available data

# Production Cost and Revenue\*

	Nonel norm. q	Nonel high q	EPD norm. q
Production rate [tph]	298	316	313
Cost [\$ /h]	1343	1412	1425



\*Based on publicly available data

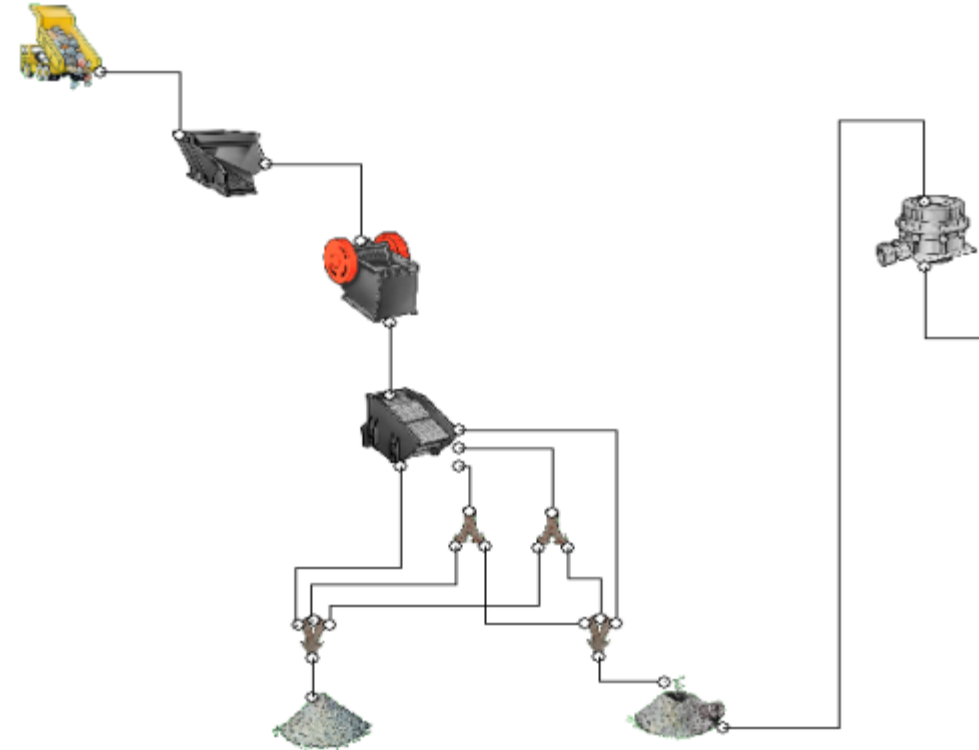
Distribution between 0-3.5" and +3.5" is partly controlled by the blasting result

# Conclusions

- From the tested blasting alternative Electronic Blasting System is the most beneficial.
- Extensive investigations and analysis are necessary in order to determine the optimal solution. Many areas are effected by the blasting result.
  - Drilling and Blasting
  - Bolder Management
  - Loading and Hauling
  - Crushing and Screening
- Only studying the costs is not sufficient in order to optimize the process. Most expensive solution did also generate the most profit.

# Conclusions – Guidance for previous processes

- Feed to the primary crusher matters more than just boulders
- The effect of different feed gradations (blast results) are difficult to detect without measuring actively.
- Communicate effects upwards in the process



# What about Optimizing the Crushing and Screening Process?

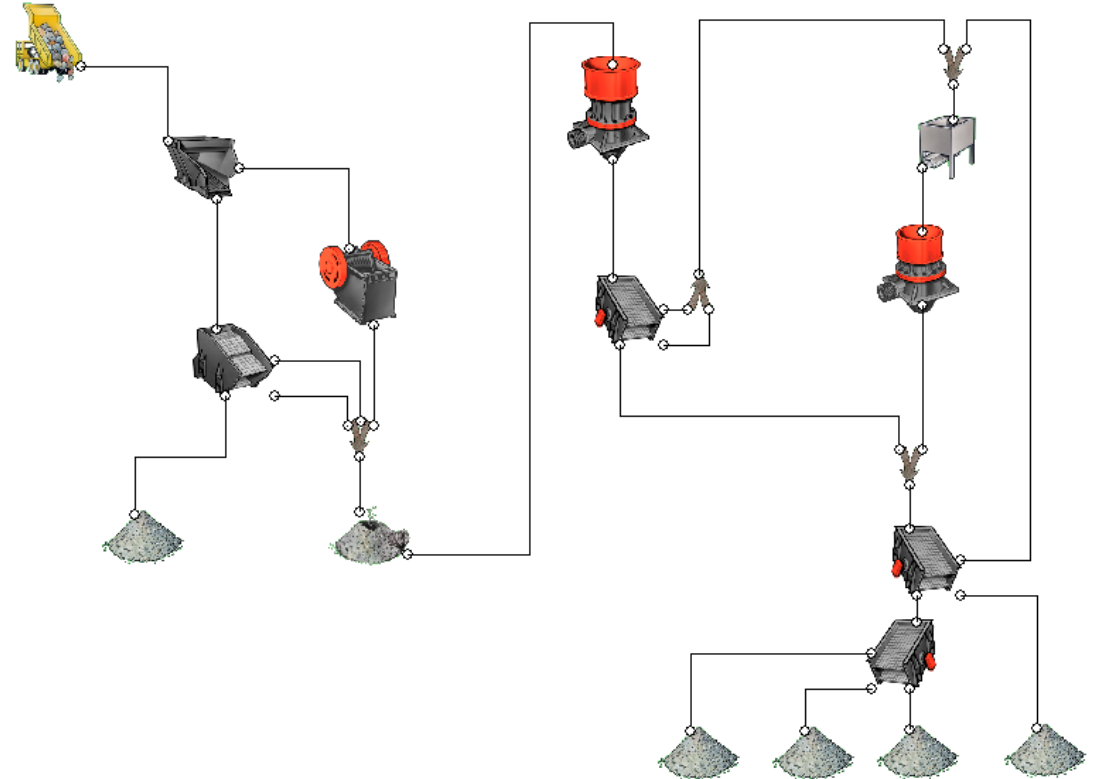
- Optimizing a single crusher can be done manually as seen earlier
- Optimizing several crushers?
  - Combination of equipment setting
  - Production situation, what products are demanded and what are not?



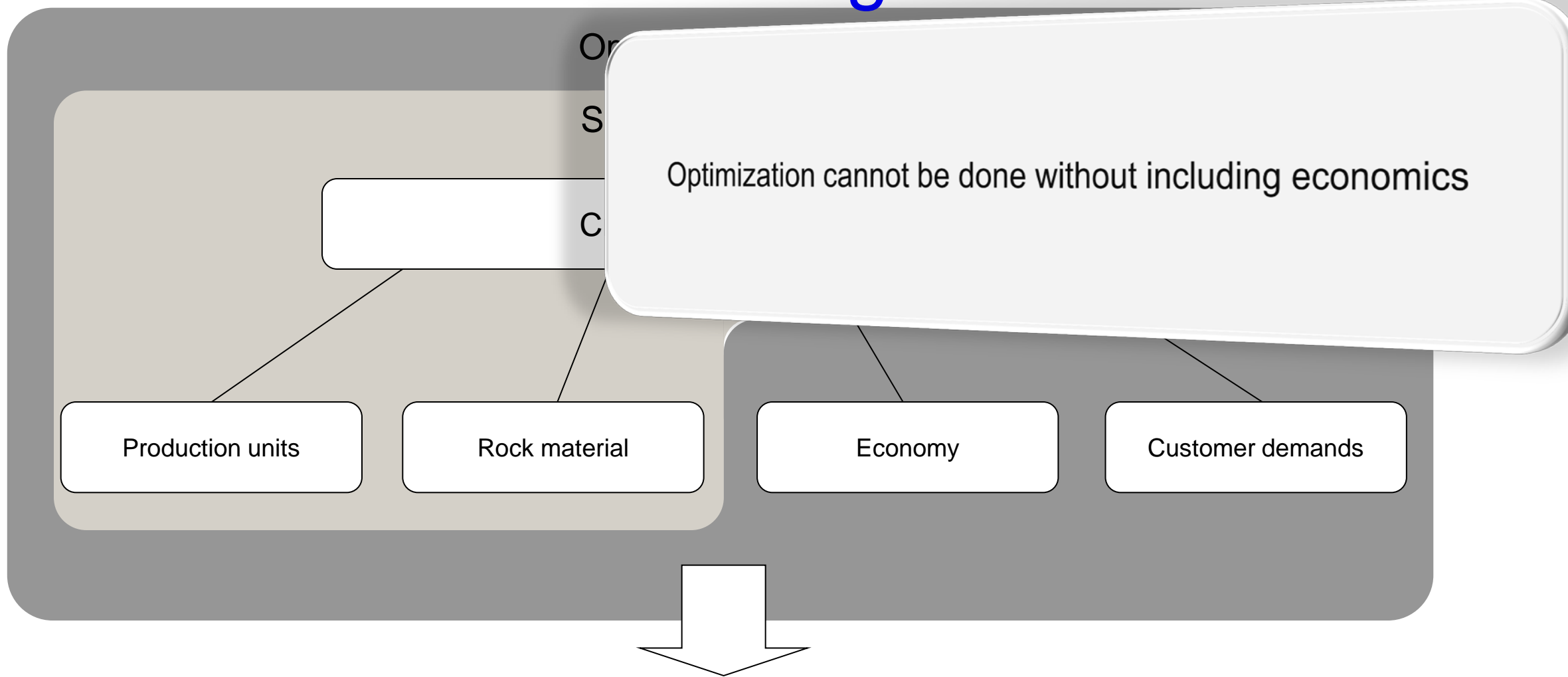
# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## Objective of project

- To optimize the crushing plant using computer optimization
- Use sampling to calibrate the computer model in order to increase model accuracy
- Optimize with the goal to maximize gross profit



# Modelling



Yield the most profitable production strategy and meet the market demand



# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

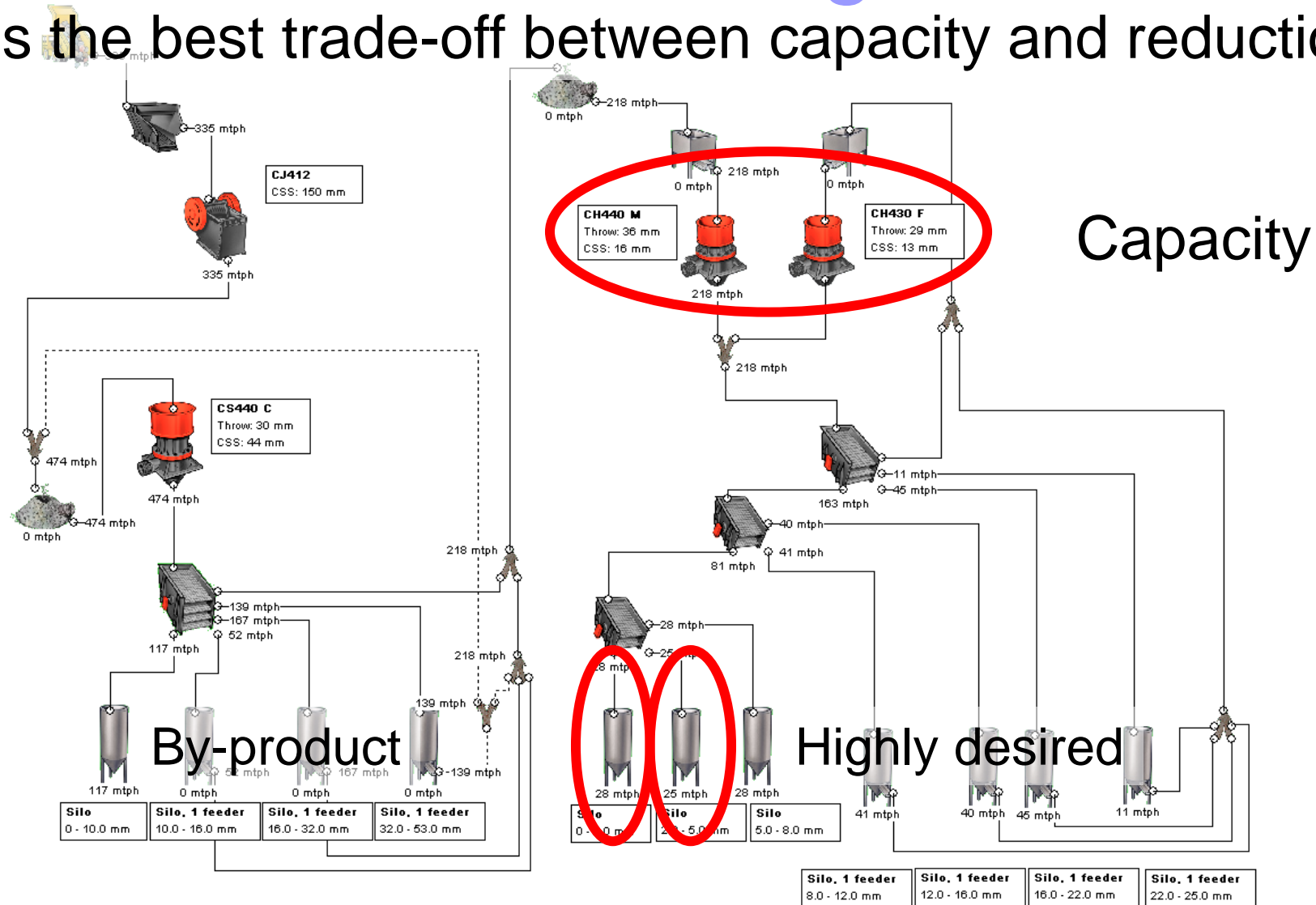
## Calculation approach

- Included in cost the calculation
  - Raw material
  - Depreciation
  - Interest
  - Energy cost
  - Wear parts replacement
  - Service cost
  - By-product production
  - Personnel
- Income calculation
  - Sellable products
  - Product demand
- Other factors included that effects the gross profit
  - Availability
  - Utilization

# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## Plant Challenges

What is the best trade-off between capacity and reduction?



# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

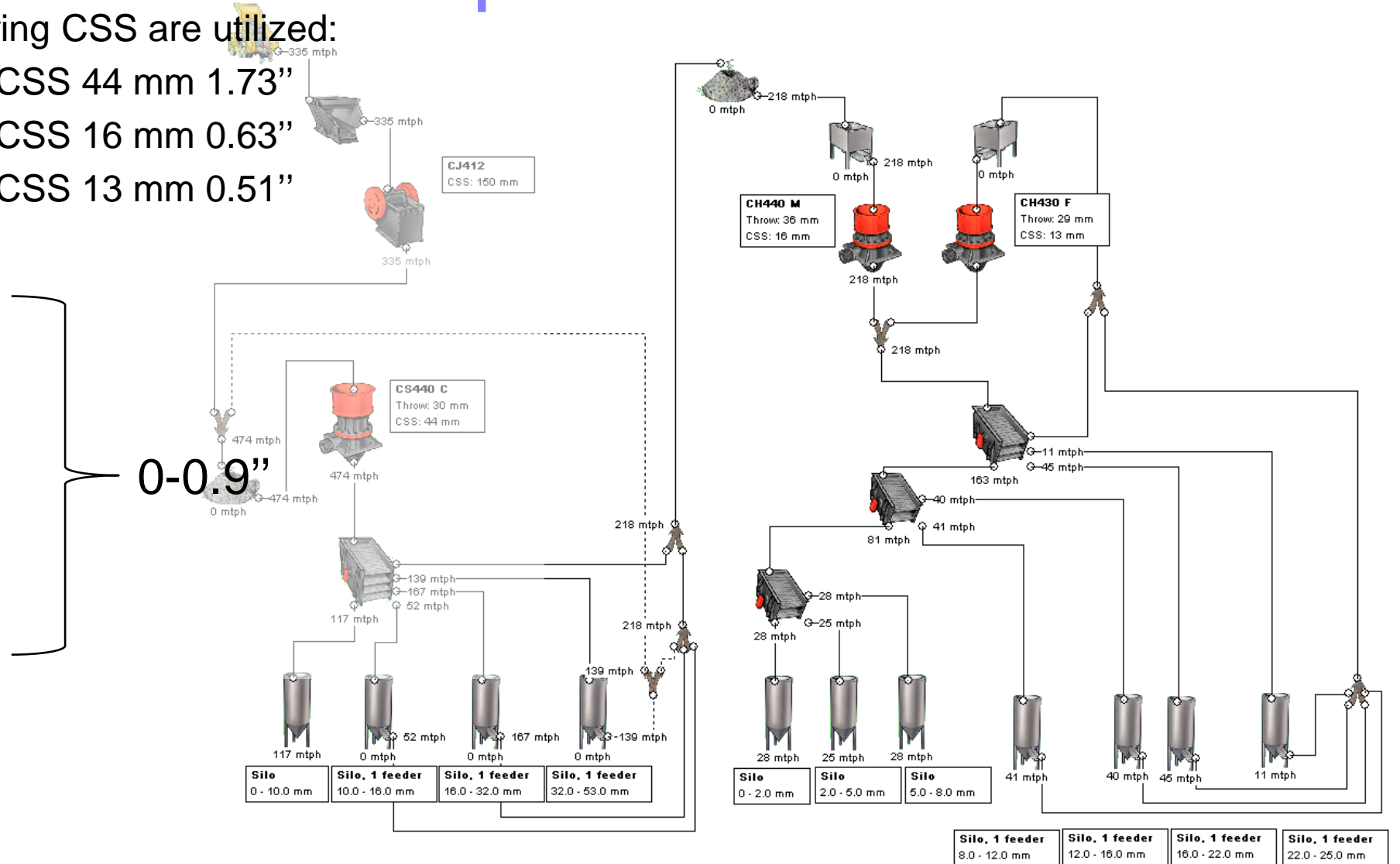
## Test plant

In normal production following CSS are utilized:

- Secondary crusher – CSS 44 mm 1.73"
- Tertiary crusher – CSS 16 mm 0.63"
- Quaternary crusher – CSS 13 mm 0.51"

### Products:

- 0-2 mm
- 2-5 mm
- 5-8 mm
- 8-11 mm
- 11-16 mm
- 16-22 mm

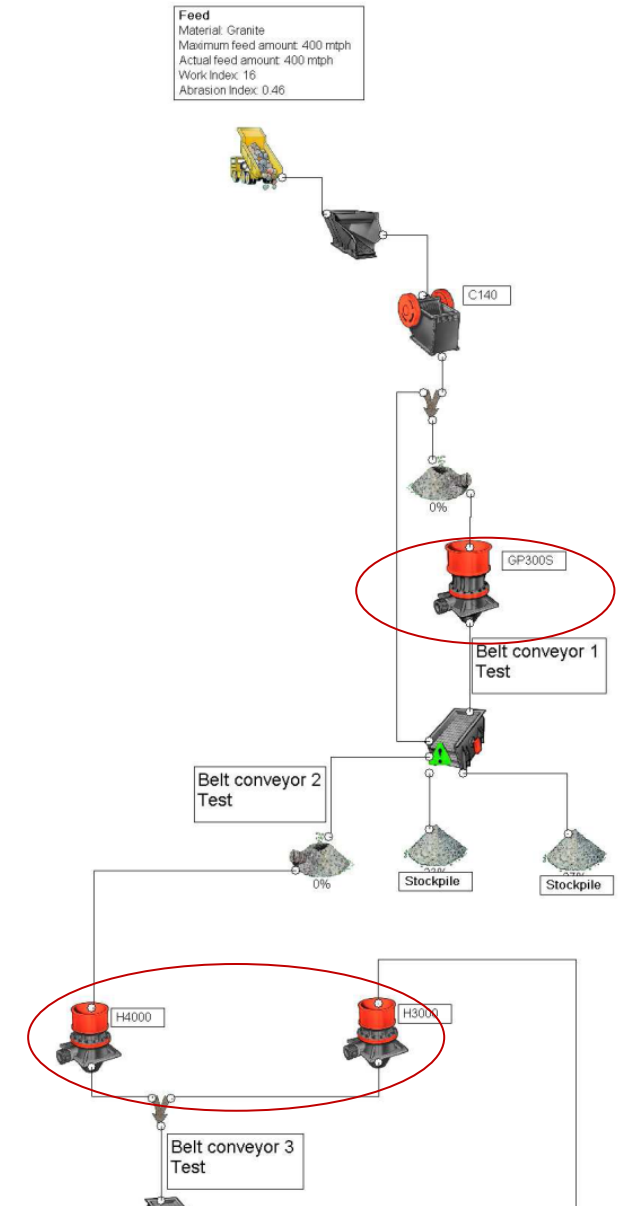


# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## Test plan

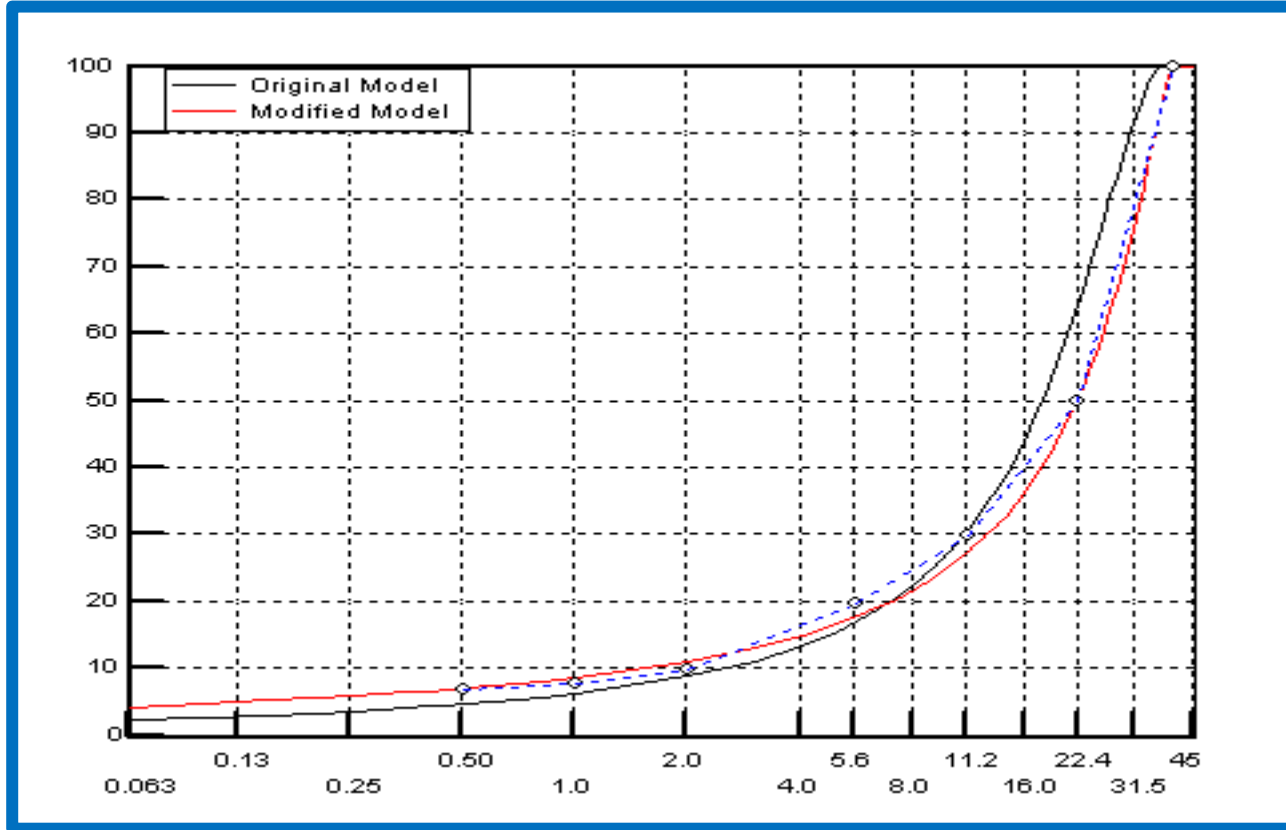
Objectives for the first test session:

- Measure particle size distribution to calibrate the simulation model
- CSS at original settings

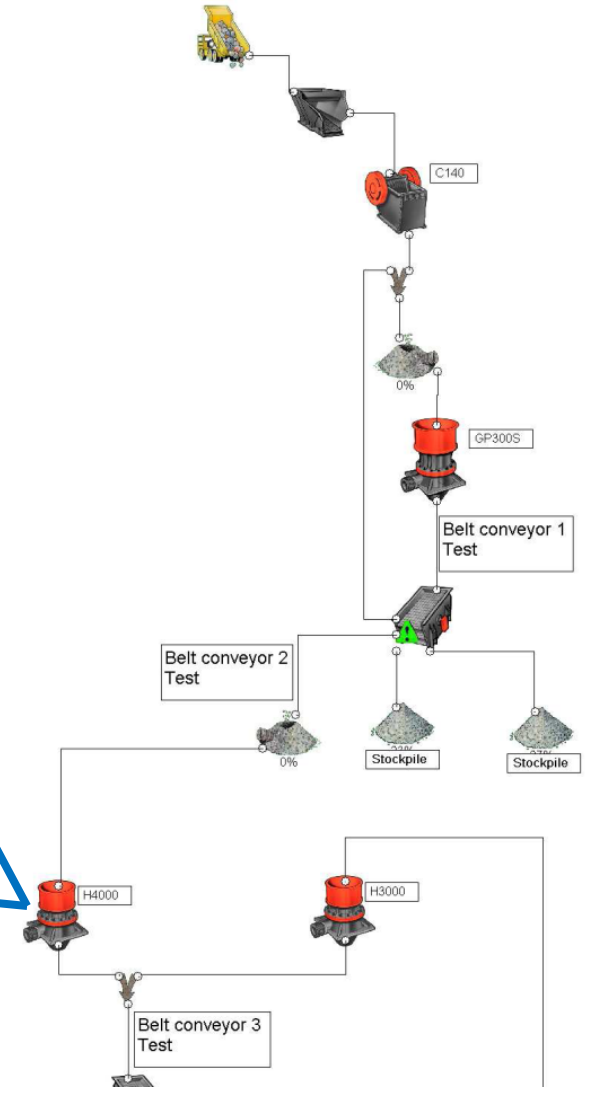


# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## Model Calibration



**Feed**  
Material: Granite  
Maximum feed amount: 400 mtp  
Actual feed amount: 400 mtp  
Work Index: 16  
Abrasion Index: 0.46



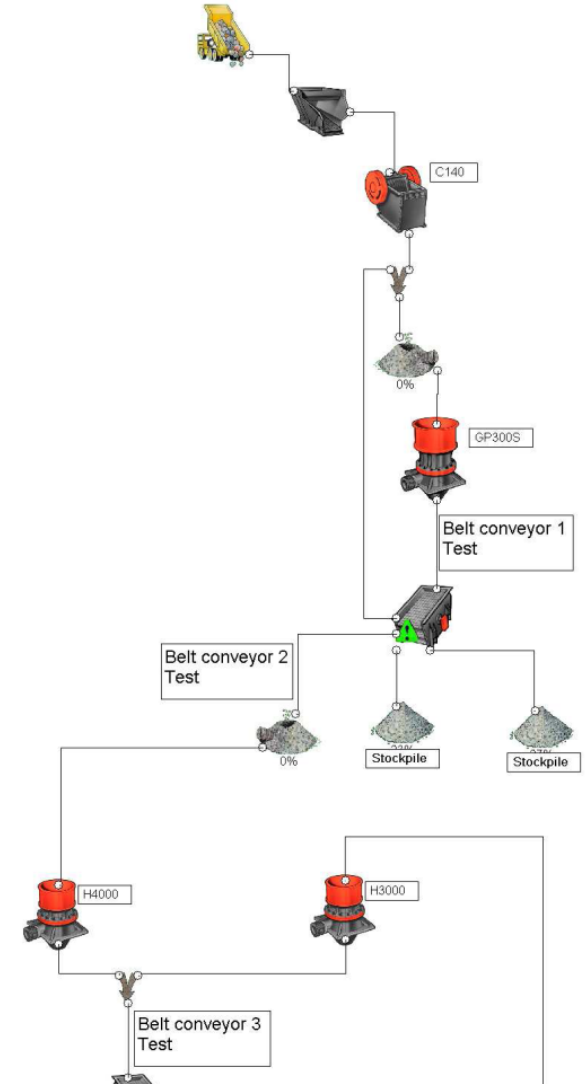
# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## Running the TCO optimization module

The computer tool automatically finds the best solution using an optimization algorithm

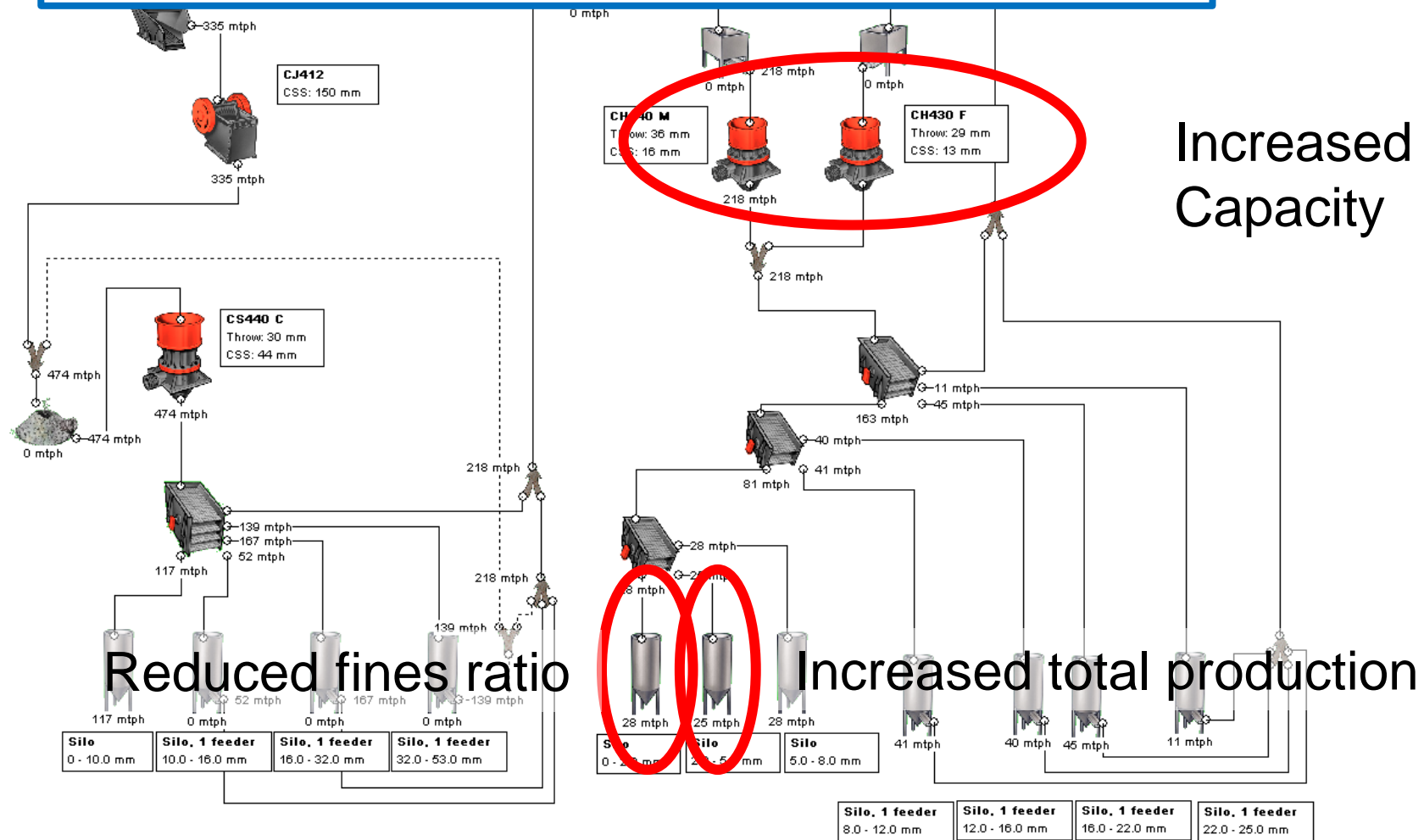
The solution that yields the best profit:

- Secondary crusher – CSS 50 mm (44), 1.96'' (1.73'')
- Tertiary crusher – CSS 20 mm (16) 0.78'' (0.63'')
- Quaternary crusher – CSS 14 mm (13) 0.55'' (0.51'')



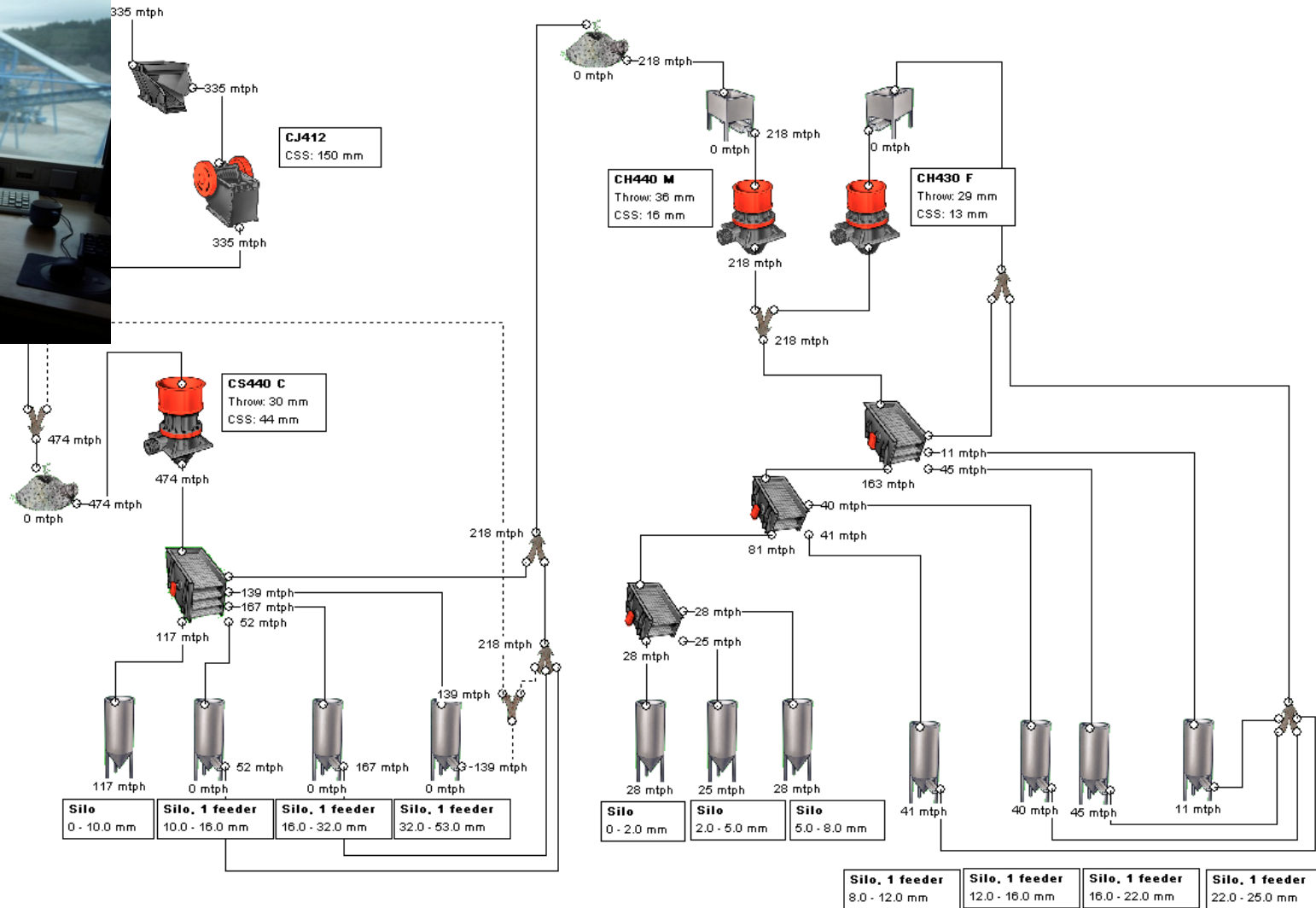
# Crushing plant optimization using TCO Results

Result: +11 % in Calculated Gross Profit



# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## How can it be done?





# Crushing plant optimization using TCO

## Conclusion

- Optimization must be a combination of technical and economic analysis
- Computer optimization can improve productivity
- Model calibration increases accuracy
- Minimizing cost does not necessarily maximize profit
- Combined performance of different machines should be considered. Solves the trade-off between capacity and reduction

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