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PDAC attendees get a grip on vibration reducing, rock-drill prototype

Natural Resources Canada's CANMET Mining and Mineral Sciences Laboratories is working with its partners to develop and commercialize the first vibration-reducing handle for pneumatic rock drills because many operators of these drills are affected by Raynaud's Syndrome (white hand disease) and other vibration-related problems, such as carpal tunnel syndrome. CANMET-MMSL provides research and advice to the mining and minerals industries, and to government regulators. Tests suggest the handle can reduce the harmful vibrations transmitted to the worker by 60%, according to Natural Resources Canada. Delegates at the PDAC Convention will be able to try the prototype and compare its innovation with a conventional one.