

# DESIGN OF A FLEXIBLE ROCKFALL BARRIER USING EXPLICIT DYNAMIC MODELS IN FEM SOFTWARE

Speaker

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Supervisors

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# INTRODUCTION

- Inchalam Bekaert wants to include flexible barriers in its range of products.



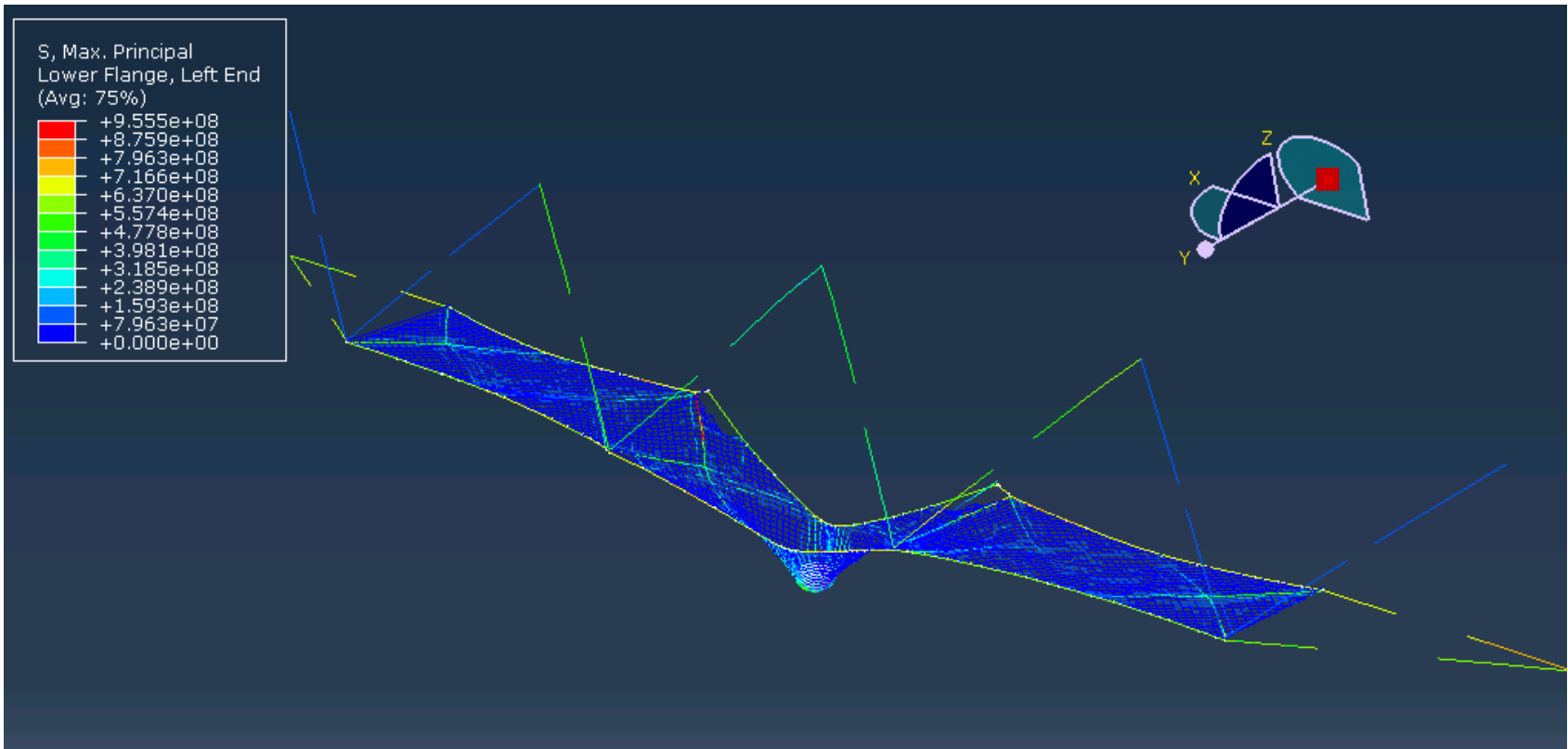
- Complexity of the problem
  - High number of elements moving and interacting among them at the same time.
  - Experimental tests imply high costs of material and labor and a big place to carry them out.
- Solution
  - Finite Element Software /Discrete Element Software

## AIMS

- Understanding of the dynamic mechanism of a barrier in a high-velocity impact.
- Selection of the most optimal interception structure among the supplied by the manufacturer, which have never been used with this aim.
- Design of an innovative brake device.
- Design of different alternatives for the posts and anchorage plate.

# RESULTS

- Full-scale tests on 2 barriers of different geometries were successfully simulated using Abaqus Explicit.



# RESULTS

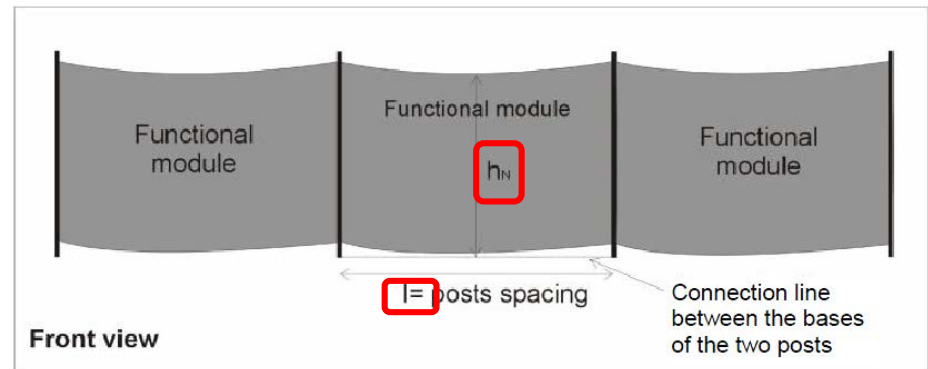
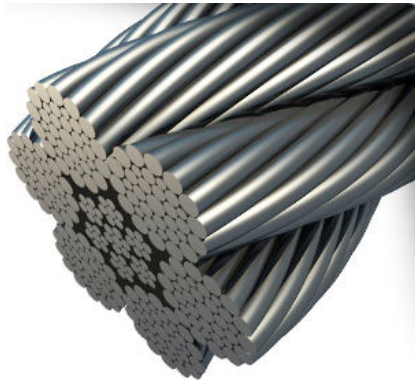
- Parametrical analysis of different geometrical variables → Influence in its energy retention capacity

Grid size  
200x200  
150x150  
300x300

Net diameter  
 $\phi$  6 mm  
 $\phi$  8 mm  
 $\phi$  10 mm

Module high  
2,5 m  
4 m  
6 m

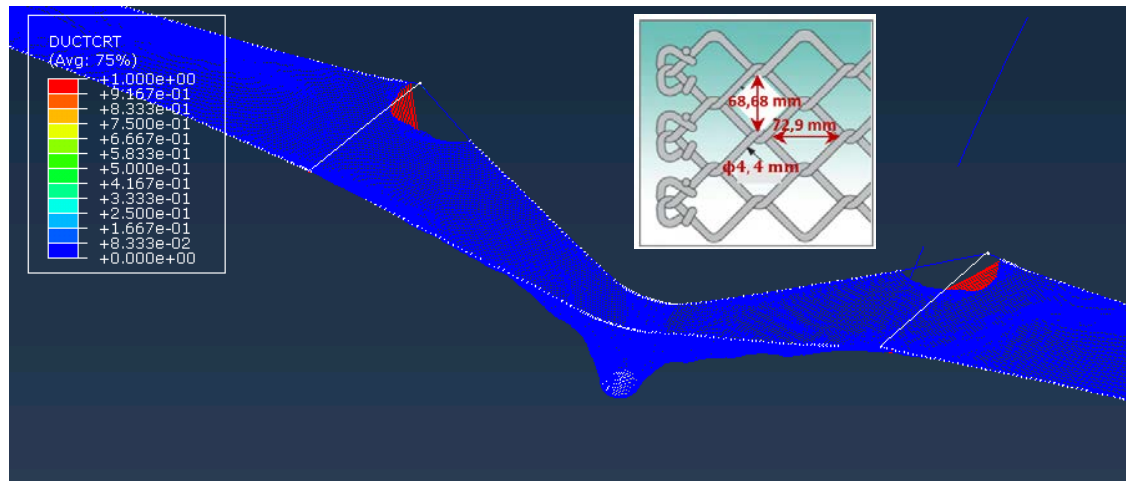
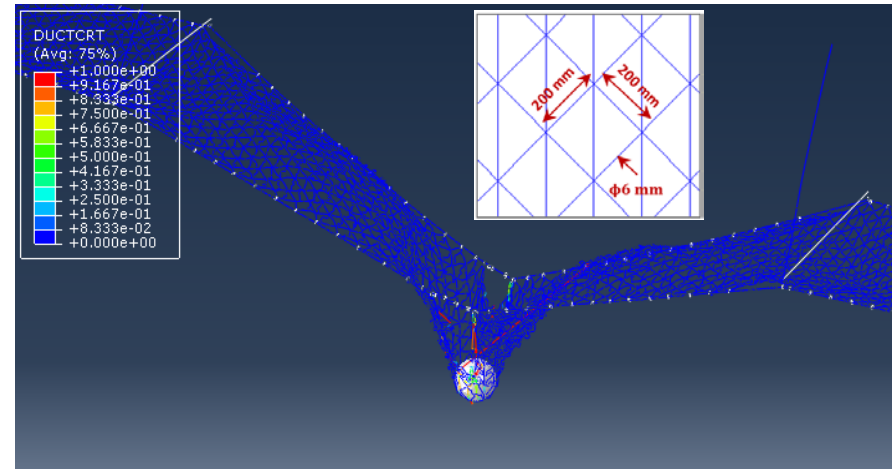
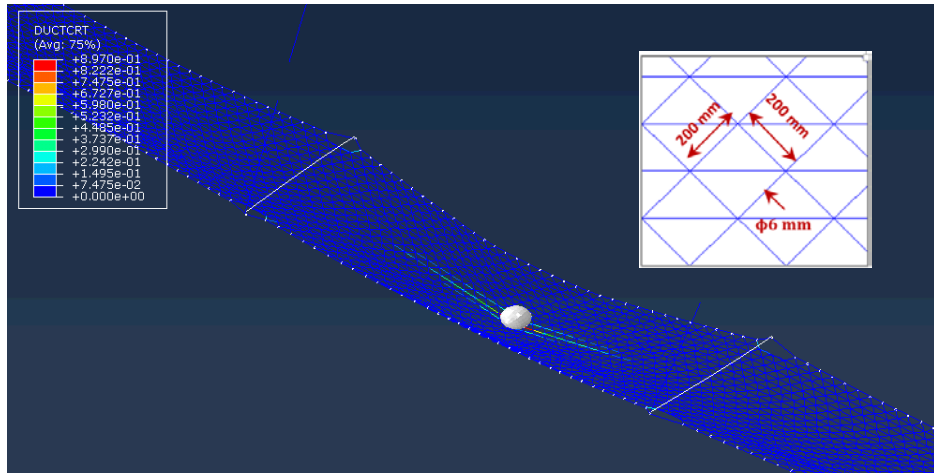
Module length  
8 m  
10 m  
12 m





## RESULTS

- Selection of the interception structure

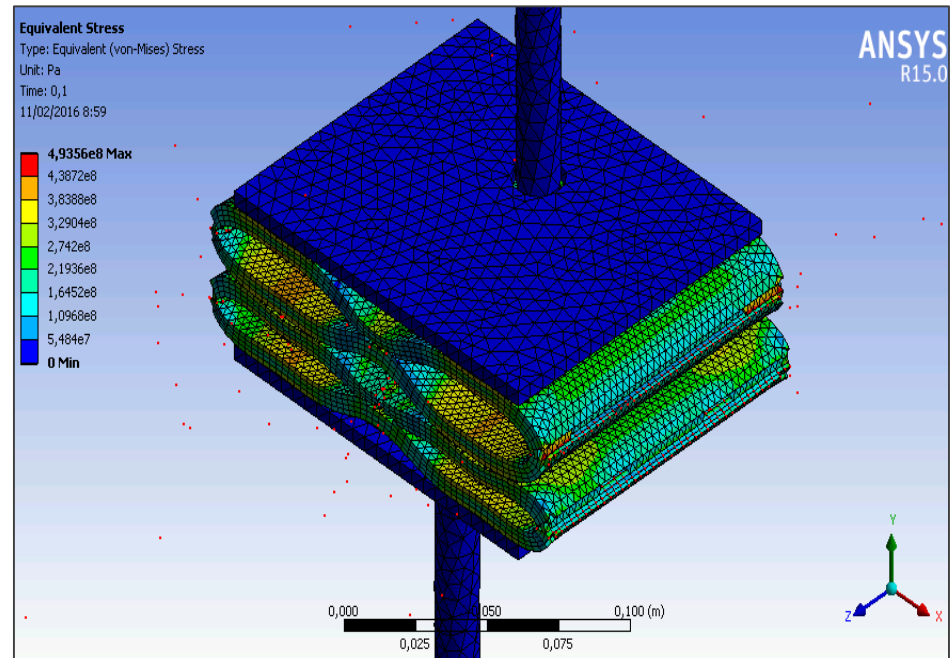


## RESULTS

- Design of a new energy dissipating device

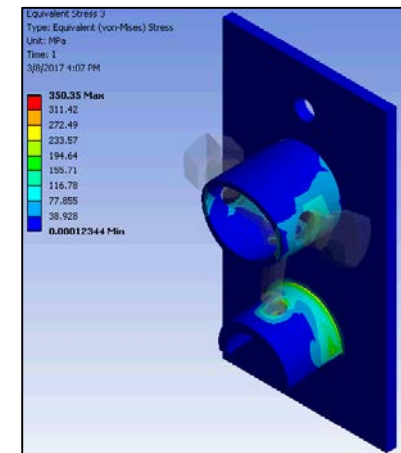
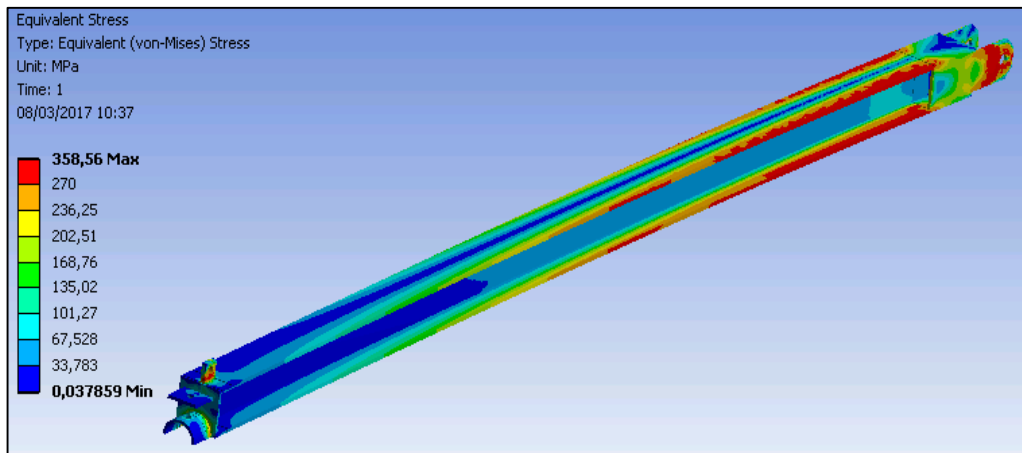
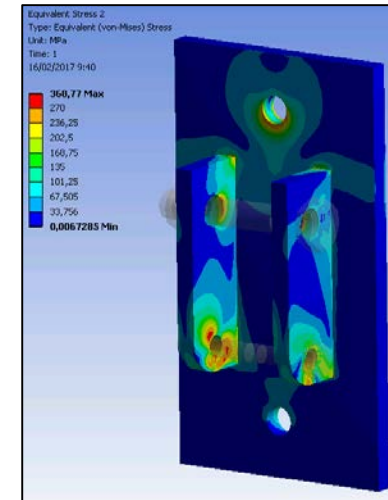
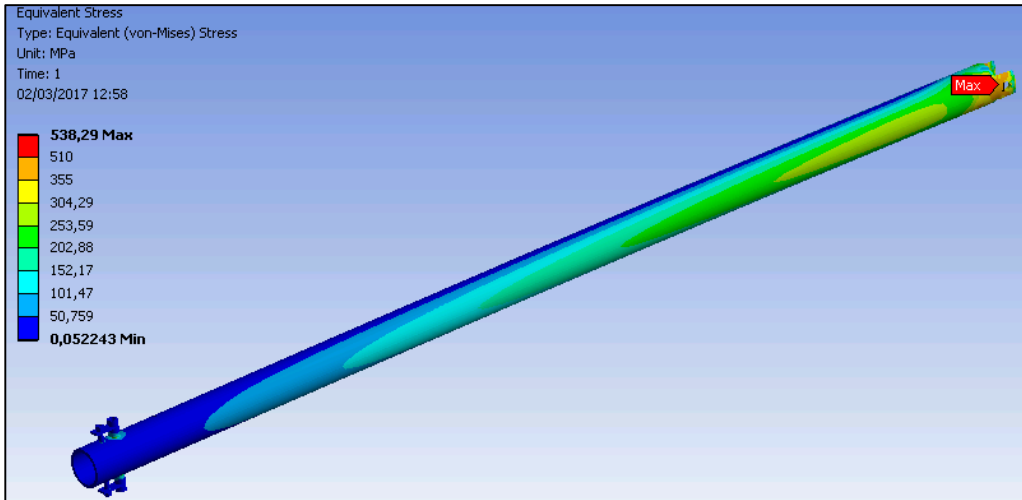
### 5 steps

1. Design of the brake
2. Initial simulation
3. Static and dynamic tests
4. Calibration of the numerical model
5. Selection of the optimal tube



## RESULTS

- Several alternatives for posts and anchorage plates





## TRAINING COURSES

- Data processing with EXCEL 2013. 16-20 January 2017. PFPU.
- Patents: all that researchers should know. 9-11 March 2016. 9 h. PFPU.
- Statistics for research in construction engineering. 18-22 January 2016. 20 h. GITECO.
- EDUC Advanced course on the future career of the PhD student. 16-27 November 2015. 40 h. EDUC
- EDUC Basic course training. 24Nov-15Dec 2014. 40 hours. EDUC

## PUBLICATIONS

- Castanon-Jano, L., Blanco-Fernandez, E., Castro-Fresno, D., Ballester-Muñoz, F. Energy Dissipating Devices in Falling Rock Protection Barriers (2017) Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering, 50 (3), pp. 603-619. (Q1)

## CONFERENCES

- Future attendance to “IX Simposio Nacional sobre Taludes y Laderas Inestables”. 27-30 June 2017. Santander (Spain)
- “Rock Slope Stability 2016”. 15th-17th November 2016. Lyon (France)

## PATENTS

- Energy dissipating device for flexible rockfall barriers. In process.

# EVALUATION GUIDE

Basic competences	Science and Technique	Technology	Training courses	Results	SWOT analysis	Workplan	Mobility	Funding	Ethics
CB11	✓	✓	✓						
CB12				✓		✓			
CB13				✓					
CB14					✓				
CB15				✓					
CB16				✓					✓

Capacities and personal skills	Science and Technique	Technology	Training courses	Results	SWOT analysis	Workplan	Mobility	Funding	Ethics
CA01	✓	✓	✓						
CA02				✓					
CA03						✓			
CA04			✓						
CA05	✓	✓	✓						
CA06					✓				



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR  
ATTENTION**