

PARTITIONING BETWEEN DEEP-CRUSTAL THRUSTING AND STRIKE-SLIP SHEAR ZONES IN THE NORTHERN RIBEIRA-BELT, SE-BRAZIL

1COSTA, A. G., 1ROSIÉRE, C. A., 2EBERT, H. D. 1CPMTC-IGC/UFMG, Belo Horizonte, Brazil; 2UNESP, Rio Claro, Brazil.

The northern segment of the orogenic Ribeira Belt, in eastern Minas Gerais, is characterized by the intercalation between thrust and strike-slip tectonic domains, where gneissic and mylonitic foliation, parallel to banding, are widespread. The main regional structures are distributed in domains of low angle foliation associated with tangential deformation in amphibolite to greenschist metamorphic conditions and steeply dipping foliation that record dextral strike-slip deformation in granulite to amphibolite metamorphic conditions. Examples of the latter are recognized from east to west: the Manhuaçu strike-slip shear belt, the Abre Campo strike-slip shear zone and the Rio Doce strike-slip shear zone. The strong transpressional character of the Manhuaçu belt and Abre Campo zone is recognized by the common presence of down-dip lineations on steeply dipping foliation at their margins. The Rio Doce zone reveals striking stretching lineations further into the domains of low angle foliation, which have character of lateral ramps. These transcurrent systems overprint the thrust systems and they represent the late tectonic expression of the westward frontal collision of continental masses, which evolved to form, after strong crustal shortening and thickening, transpressional ramps of the welded and widely dissected continental borders. Apart of this temporal partitioning, a spatial partitioning between tangential and coeval strike-slip domains, due to the slight oblique angle of plate convergence, also accommodated the contractional tectonic event.