

Geological-Industrial Types of Silver Deposits: Worldwide and Russia.

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Silver deposits are subdivided into silver deposits, the ultimate silver value of which is higher than 50%, and complex silver-bearing deposits, in which silver is contained in ores in the form of an associated component. Due to the prices dynamic such a division is quite formal, as in some deposits associated silver is turning into the leading metal, while other components have partially lost their significance.

In accordance with the geological setting and with geological-economic characteristics (thickness and morphology of ore bodies, silver content, etc.) five principal geological-industrial (GIT) types of deposits can be distinguished: 1) stockworks and megadeposits of veintype-impregnated ores, occurred in the rocks of volcanic-plutonic belts (VPB); 2) mineralized and vein zones, located in VPB; 3) veins, located in VPB; 4) mineralized zones in terrigene and terrigene-carbonate miogeosynclinal rocks (TTCMS); 5) veins, located in TTCMS.

In accordance with peculiarities of the composition of ores with similar technological characteristics seven principal industrial types of silver ore can be distinguished: tin-silver, lead-silver, silver, gold-silver, cobalt-nickel-silver, barite-polymetallic-silver and copper-bismuth-silver.

The significance of various GIT of deposits and industrial types of ore for the mineral resources base and for silver mining in the world and in CIS has also been studied.