

July 14, 2011

Dear Members,

We wanted to take a moment to advise you of an exciting development for the International Marine Minerals Society Members. Effective May 2011, IMMS has merged with the Society for Mining, Metallurgy, and Exploration, (SME). IMMS will be known as the International Marine Minerals Society of SME (IMMS of SME). The combined organizations will operate out of SME headquarters, 12999 E Adam Aircraft Cir. Englewood, CO 80127.

SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(C) (3) corporation) whose nearly 14,000 members represent all professionals serving the minerals industry in more than 85 countries. SME members are engineers, geologists, metallurgists, educators, students and researchers. SME advances the worldwide minerals community through information exchange and professional development.

IMMS President Georgy Cherkoshov comments, "IMMS is a truly international organization with the vast majority of its members from outside the US. Through our merger with SME, we will now be able to share the opportunities offered by ocean mining with the greater mining community."

IMMS Members will maintain their IMMS history and IMMS dues and rates will be honored through 2011. Attendance at UMI will continue to confer IMMS of SME membership as part of the registration fee. Following that, an incremental dues structure will be put in place as approved by the IMMS Executive Committee. You have been added to the SME database as a Professional Member of the IMMS of SME.

2011 SME President John Murphy summarizes, "The merger of IMMS with SME is very exciting for members of both organizations. It will provide a larger platform to promote the technologies of marine minerals while adding breadth to SME products and serves for members of both. We welcome them enthusiastically to our community."

