

NEWS RELEASE

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SME endorses mining industry safety initiative
A goal of zero fatalities in five years

On Feb. 27, 2014, the Board of Directors of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME), on the recommendation of the Health & Safety Committee, voted to endorse the National Mining Association's (NMA) CORESafety initiative. The initiative is an industry-wide partnership built on a foundation of leadership, culture and health and safety systems with a goal of zero fatalities and a 50 percent reduction in rate of injuries in five years (**0:50:5**).

"SME is proud to lend its support to the principles of NMA's CORESafety initiative," said SME Executive Director David L. Kanagy. "We are committed to the issues of miner safety and health and are prepared to disseminate the initiative's principles to the more than 15,000 SME members around the world."

Established by NMA, and used by more than 35 member companies of the association, the initiative is an industry-driven approach to mining safety and health that is designed to prevent accidents before they happen by utilizing a management system that provides organizational competencies defined in 20 modules. Each module includes performance expectations and timelines to ensure steady progress toward the goal of zero fatalities.

The CORESafety system is customized to mining and is based on successful plan-do-check-act safety and health management systems used in other industries that have successfully improved their health and safety performance. The mining industry has also successfully adopted a similar system in other countries. "SME's Health & Safety Committee is looking forward to working with NMA to help achieve the shared goal of zero fatalities," said Mr. Kanagy upon announcing the endorsement.



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SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose more than 15,000 members represent all professions serving the minerals industry in more than 100 countries. SME members include engineers, geologists, metallurgists, educators, students and researchers. SME advances the worldwide minerals community through information exchange and professional development.

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SME exists to be THE resource and advocate for the mining community.
For further details, see www.smenet.org