

NEWS RELEASE

May 7, 2014

SME headquarters and Minnesota section partner for the section's annual meeting management
Minnesota Section to also host the 2018 SME Annual Conference & Expo

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME), headquartered in Colorado, USA, has agreed to partner with the SME Minnesota Section to staff and manage their growing SME Minnesota Conferences. The 87th Minnesota Conference was held April 22-23, 2014 in Duluth, MN, and attracted more than 600 attendees.

“We are tremendously pleased to work with SME on the 2015-2017 Duluth meetings,” said Harvey Thorleifson, MN Section Chair, “and, of course, what will clearly be a superb meeting in Minneapolis in 2018.”

The 2015-2017 SME Minnesota Conferences will be held in Duluth in preparation for Minneapolis hosting the 2018 SME Annual Conference & Expo, which is expected to draw more than 6,000 attendees and exhibitors from around the world. Under the partnership agreement, SME will be responsible for oversight, staffing and management of the Minnesota Section's Annual Conferences, while the conference decision-making will remain with the local section. Revenue generated during the conferences will benefit the section's professional development, technical and educational programs.

The Minnesota Section of SME and its subsections, Northern Minnesota and Twin Cities, strive to advance the mining and minerals community by providing annual conferences for the purpose of information exchange and professional development. The goals of the section and subsections include promoting and developing future careers in the industry through scholarships, internships and involvement with educational institutions.

For more information about the MN Section of SME, please visit www.mnsme.org.

* * *

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.

For more information, contact John Hayden, Deputy Executive Director - Public Affairs and Government Relations, 303-948-4250 or hayden@smenet.org

SME exists to be THE resource and advocate for the mining community.

For further details, see www.smenet.org