
NEWS RELEASE

December 10, 2014

SME Keynote Session to showcase diverse mining sectors *Global industry leaders will examine the future of mining*

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME) is pleased to announce the topic of its keynote session during its Annual Conference & Expo, February 15-18, 2015. Entitled “The Mine of the Future: Forecasting Opportunity and Challenges for the Global Mining Industry,” the session will feature industry leaders and pacesetters from the diverse sectors of coal, metal, industrial minerals and aggregates, equipment suppliers and global consulting services.

“The future for the mining industry is bright and demand for mineral products will continue to grow worldwide,” said SME 2014 President John O. Marsden. “But success requires more than dedication and resilience; it hinges on keeping up-to-date with the latest trends and technologies. This keynote session will kick off a dynamic conference that showcases the latest opportunities, innovations and developments in our industry.”

Moderated by Peter Bryant, Senior Fellow and co-founder, The Kellogg Innovation Network, the keynote session is scheduled to begin at 8:30 a.m., Monday, February 16, 2015 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, CO. The panel will address both the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead for each of their respective sectors for companies that are opening new markets, creating new products, cutting costs and improving efficiencies.

Participants will include:

- Red Conger, President Americas, Freeport-McMoRan
- Dean Gehring, President and CEO, Rio Tinto Minerals
- Greg Boyce, Chairman and CEO, Peabody Energy
- Christopher Curfman, Vice President Mining Sales & Support Division, Caterpillar
- Barry Hudson, Director of Aggregates Northern Europe, HeidelbergCement Group
- Brian Conlin, President and CEO, Golder Associates (invited)

Jointly hosted this year by SME and the Colorado Mining Association (CMA), the 2015 SME Annual Conference & Expo/CMA 117th National Western Mining Conference & Exhibition theme is “Mining: Navigating the Global Waters.” The events will be held at the Colorado Convention Center February 15-18, 2015, in Denver, CO. For additional details, please visit the [2015 SME Annual Conference & Expo](http://www.smenet.org/2015-annual-conference-expo).



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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.

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 premier resource and advocate for the mining community.
For further details, see www.smenet.org*