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**NEWS RELEASE**

October 22, 2014

**2015 -'16 SME Mining Engineering Congressional Fellowship  
application period opens Dec. 1**  
*Successful candidate will affect public policy in Washington, D.C.*

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Inc. (SME) is offering a seasoned mining expert the chance to apply his or her industry knowledge to positively affect change in the laws that govern the U.S. mining and minerals industry in Washington, D.C. The second SME Mining Engineering Congressional Fellow will be placed on the staff of a member of Congress or a congressional committee during the 2015 -'16 legislative session. The Fellowship runs from September 1, 2015 to August 30, 2016. The purpose of this mining-specific Fellowship is to provide an opportunity to make practical contributions to the development of environmental, natural resources, science and public policy issues.

The first SME Congressional Fellow, Dr. Joshua Hoffman, P.E., began working as a mining resource adviser to the staff of the House Committee on Natural Resources' Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources on October 1, 2014. His responsibilities involve conducting legislative and oversight work, assisting in congressional hearings and debates, preparing briefs, conducting research and writing speeches.

The application period for the 2015 -'16 SME Congressional Fellowship program runs December 1-31, 2014. Applicants must be a member of SME at the time the Fellowship term begins and have either a Doctorate in geology, mining, metallurgical engineering or mineral processing, or a Master's degree in mining or metallurgical engineering with at least three years of professional experience. Federal employees are not eligible for the fellowship. If you are interested in applying for this position, please contact John Hayden, Deputy Executive Director - Public Affairs and Government Relations, 303-948-4250, [hayden@smenet.org](mailto:hayden@smenet.org), or Jackie Dorr at [dorr@smenet.org](mailto:dorr@smenet.org).

For more information on SME's Congressional Fellowship Program, visit <http://www.smenet.org/gpac/>.

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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.

*SME exists to be the premier resource and advocate for the mining community.*  
*For further details, see [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)*