NEWS RELEASE
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2016 Cutting Edge Conference to be held in Los Angeles
Underground experts will meet in the nation’s most active region for urban tunneling

Sponsored by the Underground Construction Association of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (UCA of SME) and the North American Tunneling Journal, the 2016 Cutting Edge Conference on Advances in Tunneling Technology will be held November 6-9, 2016 at the Concourse Hotel at the Los Angeles International Airport.

“The UCA of SME is the premier association for promoting responsible development and use of underground space and facilities,” said SME Executive Director David L. Kanagy. “This conference provides a forum for the exchange of pivotal engineering and technical knowledge among industry professionals about the unique challenges associated with tunneling and underground construction.”

Underground space is recognized as one of the most efficient methods of moving people and materials. This conference features a tailored program of subject-specific presentations that focus on innovation and practical experience presented by leading tunneling companies and industry thought leaders from around the world. Cutting Edge brings the latest in urban tunneling technology, innovation and insight to the specialists.

Technical sessions include:

- Innovations in Deep Tunnels and Shafts Through Mountain Ranges for Civil and Mining Applications
- Advancements in the use of Building Information Models and Data Analysis in Underground Construction
- Tunnel Construction Enabling Works in Urban and Rural Locations
- Advancements in Tunneling Materials, Equipment and Safety
- Advancements in Tunnel Inspection and Monitoring Technologies

Los Angeles is a hub of underground construction activity. Rail transit stations and tunnels are under construction for a massive heavy rail transit project. An offsite field trip to the LA Metro – Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project will allow attendees to see first-hand the tunnel train activities of muck handling and precast segment handling while working out of the main station footprint. The site visit will include a view of street traffic decking operations and excavation, and utility support work beneath the traffic street decking. For more information on Cutting Edge 2016, visit www.ucaofsmecuttingedge.com/.

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