NEWS RELEASE – January 18, 2017

**SME keynote speaker to examine mining’s cyclical nature**

*Global industry leaders look to the future of mining*

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) is pleased to announce Douglas Silver will be the Keynote Speaker at the 2017 SME Annual Conference & Expo and CMA 119th National Western Mining Conference, February 19 – 22, 2017.

The 2017 Conference theme is Creating Value in a Cyclical Environment, and Douglas Silver is uniquely qualified to give the keynote address. His presentation, When are Commodity Prices Going to Rebound, is drawn from the accrued experience of a 30-year career spent at the intersection of mining and finance. A talented speaker, Silver will discuss how the world has changed in the past ten years, its impact on commodity prices and the ramifications to the minerals industry.

Complementing Silver’s timely keynote is the depth of the 120 technical sessions that focus on every aspect of the mining industry, including:

- Assessing Capital in Mining Today: Managing Through the Cycle
- Bulk Material Handling: New Technology
- Career Development Right from the Start – Defining Your Professional Path
- Coal & Energy focus
- Environmental focus
- Health & Safety focus
- Industrial Minerals & Aggregates focus
- Geology focus
- Mine Management
- And much more…

If you have not registered to cover this exciting event, now is the time! We will waive registration fees for reporters with a recognized press card and for current members of the media. Please visit [www.smeannualconference.com/index.cfm/press-media-relations/](http://www.smeannualconference.com/index.cfm/press-media-relations/), email [meetings@smenet.org](mailto:meetings@smenet.org), or call +1.303.948.4200. When registering, use the Promo Code PRESS17 to receive a complimentary registration. If you wish to attend any social functions you will need to provide a form of payment for those tickets. And remember to take full advantage of the SME Press Room & Media Center, room #103 at the Colorado Convention Center.

**SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose 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.**

For more information, contact Jackie Dorr, Communications Manager, 303-948-4244 or [dorr@smenet.org](mailto:dorr@smenet.org).

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

*For further details, see [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)*