NEWS RELEASE – October 18, 2017

**Registration is open for the 2018 SME Annual Conference & Expo and 91st Annual Meeting of the SME Minnesota Section**

The Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration (SME) is pleased to announce that registration is now open for the 2018 SME Annual Conference & Expo and 91st Annual Meeting of the SME-MN Section. The conference will be held February 25-28, 2018, at the Minneapolis Convention Center in Minneapolis, MN, and incorporates the 6th North American Iron Ore Symposium.

With the theme “Vision, Innovation and Identity: Step Change for a Sustainable Future,” this year’s conference will give attendees access to a forum of more than 6,000 industry professionals from across the world to share innovative ideas, best practices and cutting-edge research.

The conference features more than 120 technical sessions and an expansive marketplace of more than 550 exhibiting companies. Short courses will include:

- Acid Rock Drainage (ARD) Characterization: A Critical Component of Life Cycle Planning and Management of Metal Mines
- Standard Methods for Commination Circuit Efficiency Analysis
- Valuation Report Writing and Federal Guidance to Mineral Appraisal
- Characteristics of a Responsible Management System for Mine Waste Facilities
- Aggregates from Exploration to Production to Quality Product to Closure
- Best Practices in Mineral Resource Estimation and Application of Geostatistics for Improving Confidence
- Blast Design and Implementation Principles for Open Pit Mines
- Bulk Material Handling: Conveyor Layout and Initial Design

This combination is a unique opportunity for attendees to hear from and interact with today’s thought leaders and find the right tools to adapt and implement a step change for a sustainable future.

Visit [www.smeannualconference.com](http://www.smeannualconference.com) for more information.

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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.

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

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