

**NEWS RELEASE**

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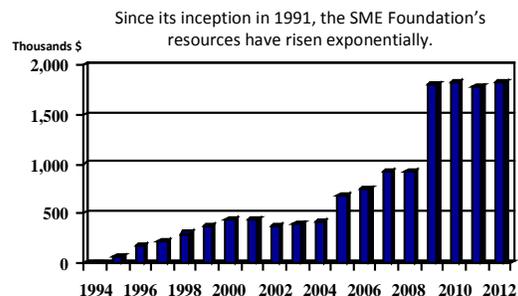
**SME Foundation is within 8 percent of its \$1.6 million fundraising goal**  
New initiative will fund education and professional development of world leaders

As the leading resource and voice for mining and mineral professionals around the world, SME has launched an initiative designed to fuel the world's future. Through the stewardship of *Creating Global Prosperity: The Campaign For Mining*, SME and the SME Foundation have set a goal to raise \$1.6 million per year to invest in targeted programs to meet the challenges the mining and minerals industries will face in the years ahead.

"Our industry is encountering an entirely new set of opportunities and challenges throughout the world. We are fortunate we can count on the SMEF to support us in every way. Many of us who have been in the industry for decades agree that we've never seen such an exciting time of change and opportunity for mining and minerals," stated co-chairmen of the *Campaign For Mining* Red Conger, President of Americas, Freeport-McMoRan, and Richard M. Whiting, President, Kinder Morgan Resources LLC.

The *Campaign For Mining* will help build a stronger global industry with a growing pipeline of future leaders and better relationships with local communities by focusing on four key challenges:

- Meeting the global need for expertise.
- Training the next generation of global leaders.
- Educating the world about mining.
- Sustaining excellent mining education programs.



With contributions from 64 individuals and corporations, the SME Foundation has raised \$1.48 million to date toward the 2013 goal of \$1.6 million. Major supporters include Alliance Coal, Alpha Natural Resources, Caterpillar, Cliffs, CONSOL Energy, Drummond Company, Fletcher Mining Equipment, Freeport-McMoRan, Imerys, Joy Global Machinery, Laurita Energy, L&L Energy, the Mining & Metallurgical Society of America, Murray Energy, Newmont Mining, Peabody and Rio Tinto.

With support from across the mining and minerals industry, the *Campaign for Mining* is advancing critical programs, including the Professional Engineers (PE) licensure program, ABET (formerly the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology), a global distinguished lecture series, the Minerals Education Coalition, career transition grants, scholarships for future leaders and mentoring programs for young professionals. To learn more about the *Campaign's* mission and contribute to this cause, go to the SMEF [website](http://www.smenet.org), or contact AnnMarie Estrada, SME Foundation Manager at 303-948-4239 or [estrada@smenet.org](mailto:estrada@smenet.org).

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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 are 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](mailto:hayden@smenet.org)

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