



NEWS RELEASE – March 20, 2019

SME Minnesota Section To Host Regional Minerals Conference *Mining for the Modern World*

The 92nd Annual Meeting of the Minnesota Section of SME is **THE** top performing regional minerals conference in the Midwest. To be held April 15-17, 2019 at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center, in Duluth, MN, the conference will feature a wide range of sessions addressing pressing industry issues, emerging industry trends and the latest industry technology developments. With the theme **Mining for the Modern World**, the conference examines how global events and economies affect the ever-evolving industry, and how companies can adapt by leveraging technology and embracing modernization opportunities in operations and sustainability.



The Opening Plenary Session on Tuesday, April 16 is titled **Global Trends in Mining & Metals 2019** and will be presented by **Phil Hopwood, Global Leader - Mining, Deloitte**. Mr. Hopwood will cover the major global mining and metals trends in 2019. For the past 11 years Deloitte has published its global trends report focusing on the drivers of change in the industry.

Areas that will be discussed include the impact of digital technology, attracting workforce talent, the need for the industry to show its value to stakeholders beyond simply complying with regulatory requirements, the impact of electric vehicles, and what is the role of strategy in mining and metals companies in 2019. In addition, Hopwood will present his views on where mining and metals currently are in the commodity cycle.

For more information visit www.smemnconference.com/.

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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.

*SME exists to be the premier resource and advocate for the mining community.
For further details, see www.smenet.org*