



**SOLUTION MINING
RESEARCH INSTITUTE**

www.solutionmining.org

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

SMRI FALL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE



Join Us in Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK!

23–26 September 2018

Registration

Only 230 delegates may attend this conference. You must register early to ensure a space.

On-line registration for members starts **19 July**
Non-member registration starts **16 August**
Registration ends (last day) **2 September**

The conference will likely be filled to capacity before 9 September, so **REGISTER EARLY** if you wish to attend! **No refunds or cancellations after 2 September.** If space is available, late registrants will pay a \$250 late fee, starting 3 September and will not receive USB sticks or optional books.

During online conference registration, participants may buy a conference book, and class participants may buy a class book. Attendees who want books must order during registration, as no extras will be printed. This is to save resources, recognizing that most members prefer the USB drive over large, printed books.

Please see our [website](#) for the latest information and any changes necessary. For future updates of this announcement, list of papers, technical class details, and field trip information, see our [website](#) under “Fall 2018 Belfast” menu page under “Conferences”.

SMRI nametags must be worn at every function.

Conference Sponsors

GOLD: DEEP.KBB GmbH
Sonic Surveys, Inc.
WSP USA

SILVER: Agapito Associates, Inc
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BRONZE: Lonquist & Co. LLC
Sabine Storage & Operations, Inc.
Salt Partners Ltd.
Seal-Tite International
SOCON Sonar Control Kavernvermessung GmbH

A special **Thank You** to our sponsors! 1 silver sponsorship is still available as of 12 July. For details, contact [John Voigt](#).

Schedule of Events

Sunday 23 Sept.

8:00 am–5:00 pm: Technical Class (very popular introduction to) “Engineering Calculations in Solution Mining”
*(optional, repeated from Spring 2018, Salt Lake City)
(Price varies, see pricing details in Technical Program)*

6:30–8:30 pm: Ice Breaker Welcome Reception
(optional, no charge)

Monday 24 Sept.

9:30 am–12:30 pm Friends and Spouses Tour
Belfast city guided bus tour, followed by a “Titanic Boat Tour” of Belfast Harbour (optional, \$70 per person)

8:00–10:00 am: Business Meeting
(SMRI members only; all employees of member organizations welcome)

10:30 am–5:00 pm: Technical Conference Paper Presentations, Day 1

12:00–1:30 pm: Lunch

6:00 pm–11:00 pm Dinner and entertainment at the “Titanic Museum, Belfast”*(optional, \$160)*

Tuesday 25 Sept.

9:30 pm–5:00 pm Friends and Spouses Tour
Full-day bus tour of coastal route, castle, and distillery. Includes lunch. (optional, cost \$110)

8:00 am–5:00 pm: Technical Session

12:00–1:30 pm: Lunch

Wednesday 26 Sept.

Field trips *(optional, \$120 either trip)*

- 1) Geology of Northern Ireland—8:00 am–8:00 pm
- 2) Irish Salt Mine, Carrickfergus—7:00 am–6:00 pm

Technical Class “Engineering Calculations in Solution Mining”

Sunday, 23 September 2018

Optional, very popular, repeated from Spring 2018 Salt Lake City. Limited to class size of 80, so please register early.

The primary objective of SMRI’s Belfast technical class, “Engineering Calculations in Solution Mining”, is to explain and review some of the typical calculations used in cavern operations, (i.e., basic knowledge and common practices,) to newcomers in this field. The Technical Class will be a series of lectures presented by several topic-expert lecturers using hands-on examples of calculations commonly made in the solution-mining practice. Approximately 10 topics will be covered in sessions involving a brief description, followed by the instructor’s illustrative calculation, followed by a typical hands-on calculation (done individually or by small teams). Examples of the calculations include casing and cement design, hydraulics of the freshwater and brine pumping system, brine chemistry and dissolution rate, pressure gradient and downhole pressures, gas-storage operating pressures, MIT testing and criteria, and design-alternatives selection considering financial implications.

SMRI tech classes always allow time for discussions and questions, and there are opportunities for making new contacts and having related discussions during breaks and lunch. Each class participant will receive a USB drive of the class paper and conference paper files, and has option to order/purchase a printed Class Book during online registration. You must be registered for the conference to participate in the Class.

An outline of the class schedule and presentations follows, or for more details, you may contact the Technical Class Chair Scott Rouze. Fees for optional Tech Class are as follows:

Class Fee for members or Non-Member Government Regulators (“NMGR” must contact John Voigt)	\$400
Class Fee for Non-Members	\$650
Class Fee for Member Government Regulators	\$150

Technical Papers

Monday and Tuesday, 24–25 September

A tentative list of papers and authors will be posted on the [website](#) as soon as available. Any later revisions of the technical paper list will be posted on the web site as soon as available, but is subject to change. For more technical program information, please contact:

Dieter Brückner
(Program Chair)

IfG Leipzig

Phone: +49 341-33600-0

dieter.brueckner@ifg-leipzig.de

Eric Busch

(Assistant Program Chair)

Longquist

Phone: +1 713 559 9953

eric@longquist.com

Technical Field Trips (optional)

Wednesday, 26 September 2018

Priority will be given to SMRI Member registration only until 16 August 2018. No cancellations or refund after 2 September 2018. Advance registration is required, as the available space is limited. Strict compliance with facility rules and safety regulations is required. Field trip times are tentative due to operational schedule changes, so times are subject to change. You must be physically able for walking underground and during bad weather conditions. Please wear appropriate clothing and sturdy, comfortable shoes. Additional field trip details or new information may be added to the [website](#) in the conference section.

Geology of Northern Ireland

Departure: 8:00 am, Return 8:00 pm (estimate)

The field trip will take in the varied and impressive geology exposed around the Antrim Coast. The trip will follow much of the Antrim Coast Road, regarded as one of the most picturesque coastal drives. The geological history of Antrim spans the Precambrian to the Quaternary, from metasediments, alluvial fan deposits, playa lake mudstones, marine mudstones and limestone and a variety of volcanic rocks associated with the opening of the North Atlantic during the Palaeogene. Sites that will be visited along the East Antrim coast include a coastal section across the boundary between the Triassic and the Jurassic at Larne, Devonian boulder beds at Cushendun, a lunch stop in the picturesque village of Cushendall. The trip will continue along the Causeway coast in North Antrim, where the trip will see the suite of rocks deposited since the Cretaceous, with chinks, basalt lavas, dolerite plugs, laterites and the UNESCO World Heritage Site at the Giant’s Causeway. The imposing cliff top fortress of Dunluce Castle that sits on basaltic boulder beds will be visited and then the tour will finish in the town of Portrush where there will be a chance to study the interaction of the plumbing system for the volcanics, the thick Portrush dolerite sill that has baked the the Jurassic fossil rich mudrocks. This is a site that has been attracting geologists since the late 18th Century and a crucial site in resolving the debate between the Neptunists and the Plutonists.

Price per person, \$120. Lunch will be served at Harry’s in Cushendall. One bus with a maximum of 49 participants is planned for a full day.

Irish Salt Mining and Exploration, Ltd.

Departure: 7:00 am, Return 6:00 pm (estimate)

The underground salt mine produces deicing rock salt at the underground Kilroot mine near Carrickfergus, which is the only salt production facility in Northern Ireland with a capacity of about 500,000 t/year. The mine is located about 20 km north of Belfast. The participants will also experience the Gobbins Path, a spectacular location during an amazing 2.5 hour fully guided walking tour taking along a narrow path hugging the dramatic cliff face; across spectacular bridges amid the crashing waves of the North Channel; traversing hidden Tunnels under the Irish Sea; up and down rugged staircases carved into the cliff face and into caves that were once home to smugglers and privateers. Due to the nature of the rugged coastal location suitable outdoor clothing and walking/hiking boots with thick tread and ankle support are essential. Without exception, all guests must wear a safety helmet whilst experiencing The Gobbins. To enjoy The Gobbins a good level of fitness is needed. You must be fit enough to climb 50 flights of stairs and walk a very steep 1 in 5 gradient.

Price per person, \$120. Lunch will be served during the field trip at The Gobbins. One bus with a maximum of 28 participants is planned for a full day. No friends/spouses due to limited capacity.

Additional Activities

■ SPOUSE AND FRIENDS ATTENDANCE:

Spouses and friends are invited and welcome to: the Icebreaker Reception, the Monday Night Dinner, and the Monday and Tuesday Tours. Participation in these activities is **OPTIONAL**, and spouses and friends **must be pre-registered and paid by 2 September**. Registration depends on space available. **We are sorry but do not offer the option for spouses/friends to join SMRI lunches this meeting.** Please dress for the weather, and wear your name badge.

■ ICEBREAKER WELCOME RECEPTION

Sunday 23 September, 6:30–8:30 pm

To open the conference, SMRI is inviting all participants (including spouses and friends) to this informal reception. Attendance is free, so come relax and enjoy an evening of light appetizers and the camaraderie of friends and colleagues to officially begin this conference.

■ BUSINESS MEETING

Monday Morning 24 September, 8:00–10:00 am (SMRI Members Only)

The SMRI business meeting will be held Monday morning to transact business of the Institute. All members are welcome, including all staff of member organizations, not only voting representatives.

■ FRIENDS AND SPOUSES BELFAST CITY AND HARBOR TOUR

Monday 24 September, 9:30 am–12:00 pm (optional, \$70 per person)

Optional Belfast city guided bus tour, followed by a “Titanic Boat Tour” of Belfast Harbour and its unique Maritime history.

■ MONDAY NIGHT DINNER AT THE TITANIC MUSEUM, BELFAST

24 September 6:00 pm–11:00 pm (optional, \$160 per person)

3 course dinner at the “Titanic Museum, Belfast”. Includes bus transport, arrival drink, entertainment (harpist and a group of original Irish hoofers), tour of galleries before dinner.

■ TUESDAY SPOUSES AND FRIENDS FULL-DAY BUS TOUR OF COAST, CASTLE, AND DISTILLERY

25 September, 9:30 am–5:00 pm (optional, \$110 per person)

North coast experience: Causeway coastal route, including the World’s Heritage Site Giant Causeway, Dunluce Castle, Bushmills Whiskey Distillery. Includes morning coffee/tea and lunch.

Attire

Casual attire is suggested for the meeting and all associated events. For the Monday and Tuesday spouses/friends tours and the Wednesday field trips, comfortable clothes for outdoor weather, including sturdy shoes appropriate for walking are suggested. Please check the weather forecast and be prepared for variable weather.



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Conference Assistance

**SMRI Membership, Sponsorships,
Technical Class, or General Questions:**

John Voigt
Executive Director
Phone +1 570-585-8092
jvoigt@solutionmining.org

**Conference Registration/Confirmation,
Payment, and Visa Letters:**

Dawn Langlainais
Assistant Executive Director
Phone: +1 918-914-2499
dawnl@solutionmining.org

Login/Database Help:

John Nadeau
IT Coordinator
jnadeau@solutionmining.org

Hotel Reservations, Evening Events:

Dagmar Wilke
European Meeting Planner
Phone: +49 441 30416131
dwilke@solutionmining.org

Technical Field Trips:

René Schneider
European Coordinator
Phone: +49 4403 9322 17
rschneider@solutionmining.org

SMRI Technical Class Organizing Committee

Scott Rouze (SMRI 2018 Secretary Treasurer
& Tech Class Chair, scott.rouze@enbridge.com)

Peter Jordan (interim) for Leo Van Sambeek
(SMRI 2018 Research Coordinator & Technical
Class Organizer, peter@lonquist.com)

René Schneider (SMRI European
Coordinator)

Future SMRI Conferences

Spring 2019

7–10 April 2019

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

Class topic: to be determined

Fall 2019

Dates: to be determined

Bratislava, Slovakia

Class topic: to be determined
(repeated from Spring 2019)

REGISTRATION AND FEES



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Deadline: 2 September, 2018

Each person attending any part of the technical conference must be in the SMRI database and must register for the conference. If you cannot login to the [website](#) and know you have a record to update, please contact John Voigt or John Nadeau. Online registration and payment in advance is required by all persons attending. No registrations will be held or accepted without payment. All attending non-technical spouse and friends must be registered as “guests” before completing your registration’s online payment. Space for most events is limited.

Member registration starts	19 July (see website for latest information)
Non-member registration starts	16 August
Registration ends (last day)	2 September

Registration Fees

Includes \$150/day for lunch, coffee breaks, printed materials, AV, and a USB drive of technical paper files, but NOT printed conference or class books. All prices are in U.S. dollars.

Members	\$300
One speaker per technical paper	\$0 (non-members 1 time / 3 years)
Government regulators members,	\$300
Non-members	\$700

*****University students** of related subjects must contact SMRI’s European Coordinator (Rene Schneider, RSchneider@solutionmining.org) for discount details and applications if you wish to attend for zero registration cost. Members: if you know local professors of subjects related to SMRI, please pass this announcement on to them with your invitation.

Registration Instructions

(Honorary members please register with Dawn Langlinais)

LOGIN to REGISTER at www.solutionmining.org

- Participants will select options for technical delegate first, then may add guest at “guest”
- The system will display the total amount due, in USD (\$).
- This amount must be paid by credit card to complete online registration.
- Check and print your registration confirmation as shown on the screen (invoice/receipt).

Cancellation Policy and Changes: Cancellations or changes are allowed until 2 Sept. 2018, and all registration changes should be made online. **No cancellations or refunds after 2 September 2018.** (This includes registration for the conference, technical class, field trips, the Monday dinner and the spouses/friends tour). For any registration questions or problems, contact:

Dawn Langlinais (Assistant Executive Director)

Phone: +1 918-914-2499

Fax: +1 888 843 3995

dawnl@solutionmining.org

Online Conference Registration and payment is due by 2 September 2018. If you need a visa invitation letter, notify Dawn immediately, you must be registered and paid.

LATE REGISTRATION: \$250 FEE STARTING 3 SEPTEMBER



Hotel Information

Hilton Belfast

4 Lanyon Place, Belfast, PT1 3LP, United Kingdom

[Hilton Hotel Belfast link](#) is already active on the SMRI [website](#), please use code: **GSOLU**

Single room £135 (includes VAT and breakfast)

Double room £145 (includes VAT and breakfast)

Each SMRI conference participant is responsible for making their own hotel reservations. Please let them know you are with the “Solution Mining Research Institute” conference.

Make your own reservation directly with hotel as soon as possible. **Discounted SMRI hotel room block may fill up before 24 August.**

Travel Information

Belfast is served by two airports: Belfast International Airport 15 miles (24 km) west of the city, and smaller. George Best Belfast City Airport is in the city. The hotel does not offer shuttle service to/from the airport. Flights are available to Belfast from North America via London, Amsterdam, Dublin, or other major European airports. Rail transportation to Belfast is also available.