



## SOLUTION MINING RESEARCH INSTITUTE

[www.solutionmining.org](http://www.solutionmining.org)

# SPRING 2019 CONFERENCE

## CALL FOR PAPERS & FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT



## Join Us in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA!

7–10, April 2019

### Registration

About 250-300 technical delegates are expected to attend the conference. This Call for Papers is tentative, and details are subject to change. The official conference announcement will be e-mailed to members and posted on the SMRI website around 21 January 2019.

*Member online registration starts* **4 February**

*Non-member registration starts* **4 March**

*Registration ends (last day)* **22 March**

**\*\*Registration for 3 field trips will close early (approximately 6 March) for security checks.**

### Spring 2018 Sponsorships

SMRI is happy to accept sponsorships and appreciates financial support of our conference activities and expenses. SMRI's 2019 sponsorship information is available online or you may contact Dawn Langlais for more information. No commercial advertising will be accepted, but SMRI will acknowledge contributions of all sponsors.

*We thank these sponsors of the Spring New Orleans 2019 SMRI Conference:*

**PLATINUM:** Lane Power & Energy Solutions, Inc., and WSP USA

**GOLD:** Sonic Surveys, Inc.

**SILVER:** CBW Engineering, Fluor Federal Petroleum Operations, and RESPEC

**BRONZE:** Cavern Solutions, Inc., Lonquist & Co. LLC, Ratigan Engineering and Consulting, LLC, Sabine Storage & Operations, Inc., and Seal-Tite International

*(As of 12 December 2018, 2 Gold and 1 Silver sponsorships are available. The deadline for sponsors to sign up for Spring is 8 March, if any remain)*

### Schedule for Spring Conference

**Wednesday 30 January** *Author abstracts due*

**Friday 1 March** *Author final papers due*

**Sunday 7 April** Technical Class, "Mechanical Integrity Testing," (Optional, class will be repeated in Fall 2019—Berlin) followed by evening Icebreaker

**Monday 8 April** Members only business meeting  
Oral Research Report(s)  
Technical Papers Session

**Tuesday 9 April** Technical Papers Session

**Wednesday 10 April** Technical Field Trips (4 choices, \*\*tentative, optional)

### Hotel Information

*InterContinental New Orleans*

444 St. Charles Avenue  
New Orleans, LA, 70130 USA

Each SMRI participant is responsible for making their own hotel reservations. **SMRI room rate is \$239.00 only until our room block is sold out.**

Hotel reservations may be made between now 14 March 2019, to receive SMRI's discounted conference rate. Make sure you tell reservations that you are with "Solution Mining Research Institute" conference group.

#### RESERVATIONS:

*By Phone:* +1 (800) 439-4745

(a 72 hour minimum notice of cancellation is required for full refund)

[Click Here for Website Reservations](#)



# Call for Papers for Technical Sessions

Tuesday 9 April 2019

- 30 January 2019 Abstracts of papers due; email directly to Program Chair
- 7 February 2019 Speakers will be notified of acceptance
- 1 March 2019 Final copy of the paper due; email to Program Chair

Papers are solicited on all aspects of solution mining and the use of caverns. Suggested topics include:

## DISCIPLINES:

- Geology
- Geophysics (pertaining to top- and edge-of-salt deposit imaging and verification)
- Geochemistry
- Health, safety, and environmental
- Rock mechanics and subsidence
- Drilling and well completion
- Solution mining (rock salt, potash, trona, and other salts)
- Cavern construction, monitoring, and operation
- Surface facility design, construction and operation

## TECHNOLOGIES:

- Cavern testing and monitoring (Mechanical Integrity Test, sonar, etc.)
- Cavern sealing and abandonment
- Cavern utilization for energy storage

## APPLICATIONS:

- Brine production of salt, potash, trona, or other water soluble minerals
- Liquid hydrocarbon storage
- Natural gas, hydrogen, and other gases storage
- Renewable energy storage (compressed air and hydrogen)
- Regulatory affairs and best practice standards

Speakers must email the proposed title with 200 to 500 word abstract to Eric Busch, 2019 Program Chair, by 30 January 2019. The abstract must clearly describe the paper subject and have a concise, descriptive title. Approximately 20 papers will be selected for presentation at the conference.

In appreciation, technical session speakers (one person per paper) will be SMRI's guest for the Monday evening dinner/event. For further technical program or author information, or subject questions, please contact:

### Program Chair 2019

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## Technical Class “Mechanical Integrity Testing (MIT) and Techniques in Gas and Liquids Storage Caverns”

Sunday, 7 April 2019

(Optional, same subject will be repeated in Fall 2019, Berlin)

Technical Class “Mechanical Integrity Testing (MIT) and Techniques in Gas and Liquids Storage Caverns” is designed as a beginning and refresher course in conducting and analyzing these tests, along with a survey of regulatory drivers. The tentative list of topics includes: fundamentals and physical principles of these tests, techniques, common practices (case histories), analysis and reporting, quality assurance, and needs / requirements of end-users of test results. The course will address testing of gas-filled caverns, and tests that monitor interface depth and amount of a light test medium such as nitrogen or hydrocarbon over brine.

The scope of topics will complement with minimal overlap the information presented during the 2017 course “Well Integrity Management for Salt Caverns”. The 2017 course primarily addressed comprehensive programs for integrity management, over the cavern life cycle, while the 2019 class focuses on test techniques and analysis.

SMRI tech classes always allow time for discussions and questions, and there are opportunities for making new friends and having related discussions during breaks and lunch. Each class participant will receive a USB drive of the class papers and conference papers, and has option to order/purchase a printed Class Book during online registration. More class details will appear in the Conference Announcement to be issued about 21 January 2019, or you may contact:

### Technical Class Chair 2019

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## Conference Executives

**For SMRI Membership Issues:**     **For Registration Assistance:**

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## Research Presentation

Depending on research project estimated completion dates, one or two oral research reports will likely be presented. Ratigan's RR2018-2 Companion Report on McGill Hanging String Vibration Dynamics, and RESPEC's RR2019-1 'Standard' Salt Core Acquisition for Future Research are tentative subjects. More information to follow.

## Spouses/Friends Program

**Monday and Tuesday, 8 and 9 April (Optional)**

Spouses and friends are always welcome at SMRI conferences. Friends will not be technical delegates. Plans include two spouses/friends local tours, tentatively:

**Monday morning** – Guided walking tour of well-known “NOLA” sites and historic French Quarter.

**Tuesday** – Full day guided bus tour includes Laura Plantation and Gardens, and Houmas House Plantation and Gardens. Cajun buffet lunch at Houmas House is included.

## Future Conferences

**Fall 2019** SMRI European Conference—Berlin, Germany  
22-25 September Class topic will be repeat of Spring 2019  
Mechanical Integrity Testing

**Spring 2020** SMRI Conference—Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
(tentatively)

**Fall 2020** SMRI European Conference—Krakow, Poland  
(tentatively)

## Technical Field Trips\*\*

**(Optional)**

\*\*Note: Registration for some field trips must close early (approximately 6 March) for security checks. Early registration is strongly suggested for all field trips! All field trips will be **Wednesday 10 April 2019**, and each will be full-day plus. The conference announcement will provide additional information regarding requirements and suggested safety gear and limitations on participants. SMRI reserves final right to limit participants to those passing security checks and screening. Limit 1 person per organization on field trips #3 and #4, please.

### **Field Trip #1—\*\*Bayou Choctaw**

US DOE SPR, Fluor Federal Petroleum Operations, and Boardwalk Pipelines cavern storage facilities related to the strategic petroleum reserve program. (US DOE SPR photo below)

### **Field Trip #2—\*\*LOOP**

Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, the only US deep water supertanker crude oil loading and unloading facility

### **Field Trip #3—\*\*Weeks Island Mine**

Morton Salt K+S underground domal salt mine geology (limited capacity)

### **Field Trip #4—Avery Island Mine**

Cargill Salt underground domal salt mine geology (limited capacity)

