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Creation of PROMETIA: Mineral Processing and Extractive Metallurgy for Mining and Recycling Innovation Association

PROMETIA brings together diverse players from industry, SMEs, research organisations and academia involved in mineral processing and extractive metallurgy for clean and affordable mining and recycling of raw materials within a single, coherent body of competence and knowledge.

Marcoule, 12 December 2014 – A group of Europe's leading actors in the mining sector including industrials, SMEs, research organisations and academic bodies will come together in Marcoule, France, on 16 December to sign the formal constitution for the creation of the Mineral Processing and Extractive Metallurgy and Recycling Innovation Association (PROMETIA).

This international non-profit association established in Brussels is focused on strengthening European technical skills and industrial know-how in raw materials processing and on supporting industrial and economic development.

Raw materials, which are essential elements in today's industrial production, are crucial for the sustainable functioning of our economy. Used in microprocessors, smartphones, LCD screens, batteries and low energy light bulbs, raw materials are an intrinsic part of our daily lives and the industry demand is growing at impressive rates. Strategic economic sectors in Europe, such as the automotive, aerospace and renewable energy industries, highly depend on them.

They are called critical when their high economic importance is combined with a high risk associated with their supply. This is mainly due to the fact that a great share of the worldwide production is concentrated in a few countries.

For the past decade, many European countries have realised how dependent they have become on foreign imports to access these raw materials, which represents a major threat to Europe's industry and global competitiveness. Today's challenge lies in securing its supplies at affordable prices to maintain manufacturing industries and supporting the necessary development of renewable energy technologies in a sustainable way.

PROMETIA has been created to provide a single, coherent body to promote technical skills and industrial know-how in raw materials processing, and support industrial and economic growth. It aims to stimulate the development of innovative technological solutions to optimise raw materials and waste treatment, enhance EU skills in mineral processing and extractive metallurgy of ores and industrial residues, and in the longer term, boost the innovation capacity of the EU raw materials sectors through building a knowledge base and training the future generation.



Press invitation

What: PROMETIA General Assembly

When: 16 December 2014

Where: Marcoule, France

Media representatives are cordially invited to attend the open session of the first General Assembly of the PROMETIA Association on 16 December 2014, at the CEA in Marcoule, France.

Agenda:

- 14:00 – 14:20 Introduction to PROMETIA
- 14:20 – 14:40 The European context
- 14:40 – 15:10 PROMETIA – Strategic missions and objectives
- 15:10 – 15:30 Coffee break
- 15:30 – 16:00 PROMETIA – Joint projects to come
- 16:00 – 16:30 PROMETIA – How to work together in practice
- 16:30 – 17:00 Conclusion of the meeting
- 17:00 – 18:30 Cocktail

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PROMETIA background

The creation of PROMETIA results from the selection of the EUROPEM Commitment selected by an initiative of the EC, the European Innovation Partnership on Raw Materials, which aims to help raise industry's contribution to the EU GDP to around 20% by 2020. The EIP on Raw Materials will also play an important role in meeting the objectives of the EC flagship initiatives 'Innovation Union' and 'Resource Efficient Europe', by ensuring the sustainable supply of raw materials to the European economy whilst increasing benefits for society as a whole.

At the initiative of the CEA, the French Atomic Energy Commission, 13 partners (representing industry, SMEs, piloting facilities, research organisations and academia) joined their efforts to design PROMETIA: AMPHOS 21, BRGM, CEA, Chalmers, CNRS, ERAMET, GTK, IDENER, IMN, INP Toulouse, MEFOS, TU Delft.

EUROPEM Commitment: <http://ec.europa.eu/eip/raw-materials/en/content/creation-european-research-network-ore-processing-and-extractive-metallurgy>