

IPMI Live Webinar a Huge Success!

On July 22 IPMI held a live webinar “Precious Metals Industry Collaborative Event to Share Effective AML Security and Logistic Risk Mitigation Practices.” A panel discussion that drew members and non members to IPMI’s You Tube Channel. The panel consisted of Steve Crogan, Director of Blue Water Risk Management, who acted as moderator, along with Monica Mellas, VP of Global Security of Materion, Bob Long of UPS, Doug Huber, IT Specialists and Samantha

McCourt of Metalor. The panel discussed current practices of travel, shipping, sharing documents and many more safety and security measures during this unique pandemic time. The live webinar is available for viewing on the IPMI You Tube Channel.

Many thanks to Steve Crogan and Monica Mellas, SECAM Co Chairs, who organized this.

SECAM will hold its Annual Meeting March 4-5, 2021 in Hollywood, Florida.

IPMI Announces Cancellation of 2020 Platinum Dinner

Due to ongoing restrictive travel policies for most member companies, recent New York City quarantine requirements as well as limited capacity for social gatherings and also putting the well-being and safety of our members first, the IPMI has found that it is necessary to cancel the IPMI Platinum Reception and Dinner scheduled for September 17, 2020, in New York City.

While we look forward to seeing our members in person and hope that it would be soon in the future, IPMI will instead keep focusing on webinars to keep our members in touch with the precious metals industry.

The IPMI and the New York Chapter will host a joint webinar on Wednesday, September 16, 2020. We will shortly announce the time and agenda of the webinar.

Stay Well and Be Safe,

The IPMI Staff

IPMI Platinum Group Metals Refining Committee (PGMRC) Charter

Mission

- To share knowledge and promote discussion about the use of industrial products containing Platinum Group Metals (PGMs). The topics include, without limitation, PGM pricing trends, fundamentals, and financing options as well as cradle to grave handling, processing and accounting.

Objectives (*All meetings and discussions shall comply fully with IPMI Anti-Trust Policies.*)

- Share practices including:
 - Identifying new growth areas of processing and recovery of PGMs including such areas as fuel cells.
 - Identifying information on market trends in PGM supply and demand and market price evolution
 - Introduce alternate handling of industrial PGM containing material.
 - Obtaining optimum asset control with use of representation and independent assay labs.
 - Identifying areas in the life cycle of these products where PGM loss may occur.
 - Identifying areas where non-uniform mixtures of Industrial PGM's are sent to recovery to help define material segregation or bulk sampling techniques. Specifically, for Automotive catalyst how to segregate or treat mixtures of catalyst and diesel particulate filters (DPF).

- Defining areas where PGM's are used in industry where the PGMs may migrate from a source to surrounding or downstream surfaces and help users identify opportunities for recovery.
- Share practices and developments in financing PGM's throughout the refining value chain
- Working collaboratively with SAC to identify key PGM Industrial materials, and obtain samples of those for Round Robin Testing

Membership

- Open to all IPMI members.

Activities, Duties, and Responsibilities

- Organize meetings ~2 times per year to include relevant topics for the IPMI community.
- Chairs are responsible for organizing the speakers and agenda for each meeting.
- IPMI Executive Director organizes location and logistics of meeting.

CoChairs of the Committee

Don Swaynos, Zodiac Industries

Jonathan Butler, Mitsubishi

Craig Ostroff, BASF



QML Inc. Global Sourcing and MST Domestic Refining



(401) 490-4555

email: sales@qml.us
www.qml.us

**In a sea of refiners, we are
THE BETTER CHOICE.**

(401) 762-0094

email: sales@mstllc.us
www.qml.us/mst

IPMI® 2020 Conference

**NEW CONFERENCE DATES:
Registration Now Open!**

**44th Annual Conference
November 14-17, 2020**
Green Valley Ranch Las Vegas, Nevada

***** ATTENTION *****

We are monitoring the current regulations, restrictions and guidelines in Nevada as well as travel restrictions of member companies. The Annual Conference is Scheduled for November 14-17 in Las Vegas. We will keep you posted as the situation evolves.

Ready to Connect
Ready to Learn
Ready to Build Relationships
more than ever:
connecting makes a world of difference

Dear IPMI Members,

Your safety and wellbeing during the COVID-19 pandemic remains IPMI's primary concern. We trust you are staying safe and doing as well as can be expected during this most difficult period. At the same time, we remain optimistic and are hopeful that the virus will subside and that economic activities will resume as appropriate.

As you know, IPMI postponed its June dates for our 44th Conference at Green Valley Ranch in Las Vegas, but we have rescheduled it for November 14-17. We realize this change could affect many of you and that you may have questions about the change in conference dates and the registration process.

IPMI ANNUAL CONFERENCE FAQ'S

Q: *Will the Conference format be the same in November?*

A: We plan to hold a full annual conference, beginning with an opening reception on Saturday, November 14 and continuing through our Student Award Banquet on Tuesday, November 17. A full array of receptions, seminars, and activities are planned.

Q: *I already registered for the June conference and plan to attend in November, do I have to register again?*

A: There is no need to register again.

Q: *Will the registration fees in November be the same as June?*

A: The registration fees are unchanged.

[continued on page 4](#)

IPMI® 2020 Conference

Conference 2020, continued from page 3

Q: *What if I have already registered but unable to attend the November conference?*

A: We will refund your registration without any penalty. Please call 850-476-1156 or email mail@ipmi.org for your request.

Q: *I already made a reservation at the Green Valley Ranch for June. What happens now?*

A: We have been told that the June reservations will automatically be cancelled, and your deposit refunded.

Q: *Do I need to make a new reservation for the November conference?*

A: Yes, it is important to make a new reservation using a new passkey link to be published on our website or by calling the Green Valley Ranch at 866-782-9187 and mentioning the IPMI Conference. Note the cutoff date for room guarantee is October 21.

Q: *I am a booth vendor and have paid for a booth in the Exhibit Hall. Is there anything I need to do for November?*

A: No, you are all set. The Exhibit Hall is still an integral part of our conference.

Q: *I am a sponsor of an event. Will my event be held as scheduled?*

A: All events are still scheduled for the November conference as they were in June.

Q: *I am a presenter. Have there been any changes to the program?*

A: The Technical Program in November will remain the same as June. But, if for some reason you cannot attend the conference in November, please let us know as soon as possible so we can adjust and finalize the program.

Q: *What if I have not registered yet?*

A: Registration information can be found at Events Calendar on our website. Discounted early registration is available now. We encourage to register at your earliest convenience so that we can plan for the numbers with the hotel as well as our planned events.

We understand the difficult times all our members are experiencing. We look forward to the day when we can all congregate and reconnect.

more than ever.... connecting makes the world of difference

For further information, please call Sandra Arrants at (850) 476-1156 or mail@ipmi.org

Registration Now Open!
EARLY REGISTRATION CLOSING SEPTEMBER 14!
https://www.ipmi.org/events/event_list.asp

Sponsorships Available
Contact: Sandra Arrants, International Precious Metals Institute
850-476-1156, or email mail@ipmi.org

IPMI® 2020 Conference

Conference Preliminary Program

Saturday, November 14

7am	Golf
5-6pm	Student Meet and Greet
6-8pm	Welcome Reception Sponsored by Johnson Matthey
8-10pm	IPMI Dessert Reception

Sunday, November 15

8am-4pm	Registration
8am-4pm	Delegate Lounge Open
7:30am	Speakers Breakfast
8:30-11:30am	Session A - Legislative and Regulatory Affairs
8am-4pm	Exhibit Hall Open
9:30-11am	Registered Spouse Brunch
11:30am-1:30pm	Members Meeting and Luncheon
1:30-3:30pm	Session B - World of Precious Metal Finance
2:30-5:00pm	Registered Spouse Event
4-5pm	Young Professionals
5-6pm	Premier Members Social
6-8pm	Tanaka Metalor Reception
8-10pm	Loomis After Party

Monday, November 16

8am-1pm	Registration
8am-1pm	Delegate Lounge Open
7:30am	Speakers Breakfast
7:30am	Chapter and Committee Chairs Meeting
8am-4pm	Exhibit Hall Open
8:30am-12:30pm	Session C - Mining and Sampling
8:30am-12:30pm	Session D - World of Precious Metal Jewelry
1-3pm	SAC / PRC Meeting
1-3pm	Session E - New Horizons
3-5pm	Afternoon Party Sponsored by Gannon & Scott
4:30pm-5:30pm	Ladies Happy Hour
6-8pm	Sabin Metal Reception
8-10pm	Entertainment

Tuesday, November 17

8am-noon	Registration
8am-noon	Delegate Lounge Open
all day	Office
7:30am	Speakers Breakfast
7:30am	Marketing Committee Meeting
8am-Noon	Exhibit Hall Open
8:30-12:30pm	Session F - AML, Corporate Governance and Responsible Sourcing
8:30-12:30pm	Session G - Assaying and Recovery of Precious Metals
1:30-3:30pm	Student Research Presentations
6-7pm	Presidents Reception co-Sponsored by United Catalyst Corporation
7-9pm	Awards Banquet
9-10pm	Closing Reception



**GLOBAL METALS &
MINERALS SPECIALISTS**

We deliver a full range of analytical services to our clients, in addition to providing independent inspection and technical expertise.

The Alfred H Knight North American laboratory is ISO17025 accredited and specialises in analysing precious and platinum group metals in a broad range of commodities.

In addition to our experienced chemists and technicians, our operations have dedicated teams of knowledgeable support staff committed to assisting our clients in all aspects of precious and platinum group metals inspection and analysis.

AHK North America offers independent inspection, weighing and sampling services to the precious and platinum group metals industry. Our locally based, experienced inspectors cover all major precious metal refineries, producers and re-claimers in the US and Canada.



For more information:



www.ahkgroup.com/NorthAmerica



us.enquiries@ahkgroup.com



At the forefront of the **metals** and **minerals** industry for over **135 years**

PREMIER MEMBER PROFILE

Hensel Recycling

Your first choice – **Hensel Recycling** is your first choice when it comes to recovering precious metals. It doesn't matter whether they're from catalytic converters, electronic scrap or other materials. We listen carefully to what you say, offer solutions tailored to your needs and react fast. Let us do the job to make you feel safe.

Please visit us for further information at
www.hensel-recycling.com

Hensel Recycling

Mühlweg 10
63743 Aschaffenburg / Germany
Telefon: +49 6028 12 09 0
E-Mail: info@hensel-recycling.com

- Foundation:** 1998
- Headquarters:** Aschaffenburg
- Employees:** approx. 150 – Germany (Aschaffenburg, Karlstein)
approx. 220 - worldwide
- Subsidiaries:** Australia, France, Great Britain, Malaysia, Austria, South Korea, USA, China (Joint Venture)
- Sales Offices:** South Africa, Czech Republic
- Services:** purchasing, toll refining, fast settlement, analysis & determination, logistics, precious metal management
- Materials:** catalytic converter from automobile and industrial applications, diesel particulate filters, oxygen sensors, e-scrap, cable harnesses, fuel cells, aluminium rins, etc.
- Certificates:** certified waste management company in accordance with § 56 of the German Closed Substance Cycle and Waste Management Act (KrWG), German law on imission protection (BImSchG), DIN EN ISO 9001:2008, DIN EN ISO 14001:2009
- Memberships:** ARA, BIR, BVMW, BVSE, FVEM, IPMI, MVDA



your first choice



Precious Metals Market News

Gold

Gold has surged due to the pandemic, and it could keep going. Here's what to know about investing now

As global stock markets tick further into uncharted territory, another asset class has been catching investors' eyes: Gold. Gold prices inched higher earlier this month to trade over \$1,800 per ounce, crossing a major psychological milestone not reached since 2011.

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/money/markets/gold-has-surged-due-to-the-pandemic-and-it-could-keep-going-heres-what-to-know-about-investing-now/ar-BB16WYWi?ocid=uxbndlbng>

Silver

Silver logs highest finish since 2014, up more than 80% from 2020's low

Silver futures rallies by nearly 7% Tuesday. Ross Norman, chief executive officer of precious metals news and information provider Metals Daily, said now that silver has rallied, "this frees gold up to continue what has already been an impressive rally," and both metals are "better aligned."

"Silver has seen very strong inflows into both the [exchange-traded funds] and in the futures market on Comex, prompting a breakout on the charts," he told MarketWatch. Given that, Metals Daily has adjusted its second-half 2020 forecast on the metal to \$25, up from a previous forecast of \$23.

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/silver-trades-at-levels-not-seen-since-2014-and-is-up-more-than-80-from-2020s-low-2020-07-21>

Platinum

EU's hydrogen push to boost metals demand

Europe is ramping up its development and deployment of hydrogen technologies for power generation, with the European Commission expected to formally present its hydrogen strategy on 8 July, providing a positive medium-term demand signal for several metals, including platinum, chromium and nickel.

<https://www.argusmedia.com/en/news/2119703-eus-hydrogen-push-to-boost-metals-demand>

Johnson Matthey: Catalysts for collaboration

The development of a technically and economically viable industrial scale catalytic process is a complex task that requires multi-discipline collaboration. JM devises and delivers bespoke solutions that help customers create value. All of our research groups have expertise in complementary technologies: heterogeneous, homogeneous reduction and cross-coupling, biocatalysis.


<https://www.chemistryworld.com/collaborative-chemistry/catalysts-for-collaboration/4012044.article>

continued on page 9



Full Range Of Recycling And Metal Trading

Recycling catalytic converters for the recovery of Platinum, Palladium, Rhodium

SMELTING	 TECHEMET [®] www.techemet.com
REFINING	
TRADING	

Precious Metals Market News, continued from page 8

Umicore: Catalysis and chemical bonds that make us stronger

The World Economic Forum expects demand for chemicals and materials to quadruple by 2050. Chemical and pharma industry is built on collaboration that draws on a wide range of expertise to develop innovative materials, compounds and components.

New approaches to collaboration within chemical development are driven by the realisation that working together is essential to catalyse innovations, and provide a competitive edge. At Umicore Precious Metals Chemistry (PMC), we know how important collaboration is to industrial success. We draw on decades of collaboration experience to help diverse industry partners – including the oxo-alcohols sector – develop innovative approaches to sustainability and drive drug R&D.

<https://www.chemistryworld.com/collaborative-chemistry/catalysis-and-chemical-bonds-that-make-us-stronger/4012073.article>

Heraeus Medical Components begins operations in its Collaboration Hub

Heraeus has started operations in its new centralized Collaboration Hub in Minneapolis. This new facility enables medical device customers and partners to work on-site with Heraeus Medical Components engineers, designers, materials scientists, and manufacturing experts on quick-turn prototyping, testing, and pilot production of new products and treatment innovations.

<https://www.todaysmedicaldevelopments.com/article/heraeus-medical-components-collaboration-hub/>

Palladium

China auto sales off 22.4% in first half of 2020

China's auto sales rose 1.8% in June over a year earlier but fell by 22.4% for the first half of 2020 after the country shut down to fight the coronavirus.

<https://www.bostonherald.com/2020/07/10/china-auto-sales-off-22-4-in-first-half-of-2020/>

The rebound of car sales and heavy-duty vehicle sales in China bodes well for platinum group metals demand as the world's coronavirus lockdowns ease.

Amazingly, the car sales in China in April 2020 were more than those of April 2019. In February, factory shutdowns in China reduced heavy-duty vehicle production by 51% year-on-year and led automotive market commentators to forecast double digit contractions for 2020. However, cumulative Chinese heavy-duty vehicle production from January to May 2020 was almost 8% higher than in 2019. So, both car production and truck production are up.

<https://www.polity.org.za/article/chinas-vehicle-sales-rebound-bodes-well-for-platinum-group-metals-demand-2020-07-19>

Mining

Fighting a common enemy sees SA's unions and mining firms call informal truce, at least for now

South Africa's main mining unions have expressed concerns about the sector's reboot in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. The crisis has also seen labour, industry and government find common ground, which could herald a new era of cooperation after decades of mistrust and conflict.

<https://www.miningmx.com/top-story/42657-fighting-a-common-enemy-sees-sas-unions-and-mining-firms-call-informal-truce-at-least-for-now/>

Recycle

\$10bn of precious metals dumped each year in electronic waste, says UN

At least \$10bn (£7.9bn) worth of gold, platinum and other precious metals are dumped every year in the growing mountain of electronic waste that is polluting the planet, according to a new UN report. A record 54m tonnes of "e-waste" was generated worldwide in 2019, up 21% in five years, the UN's Global E-waste Monitor report found.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/jul/02/10bn-precious-metals-dumped-each-year-electronic-waste-un-toxic-e-waste-polluting>

Please see our [IPMI.org](https://www.ipmi.org) website IPMI & Industry News for a complete listing of news articles relative to the world of precious metals.

Legislative Update

(All articles are current as of noon EST on 7/22/2020)

President Trump Issues Executive Order on Hong Kong

On July 15th, President Donald Trump signed into law the bipartisan Hong Kong Autonomy Act which imposes mandatory sanctions on people and entities involved in the revocation of Hong Kong's autonomy at the hands of the Chinese government, and the banks that do business with them. Under the new law, the State Department will work with Treasury to establish penalties for the covered entities, and it expands authority to the President to target additional assets and people.

This may have a significant impact on large U.S. banks that have foreign subsidiaries doing business with sanctioned Chinese officials, their relatives, and/or associates. These banks and their executives could be exposed to sanctions including blocked assets, loan restrictions, and bans on a wide range of banking transactions.

Acting on the new law, President Trump simultaneously signed an executive order that, among other things, terminates preferential trade treatment for Hong Kong. As a result, imports from Hong Kong may now receive similar treatment to Chinese goods, thus opening the possibility for similar tariff treatment under Section 301 of Act of 1974.

The new U.S.-China trade tensions are a far cry from the 'phase one' trade deal signed in January that offered more agricultural purchases and intellectual property protections from China. There is no doubt that China will respond with sanctions of their own which may prompt the U.S. to go as far as to undermine the Hong Kong dollar's peg to the U.S. dollar.

Read more at <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-hongkong-security-usa-trade/hong-kong-reverts-to-china-tariffs-under-trump-order-impact-limited-trade-lawyers-idUSKCN24H36I>

The Future Remains Uncertain Two Years after Wayfair

With state tax collections dropping as much as 50 percent during the pandemic, states are turning to new mechanisms for covering revenue losses. One such mechanism stems from the 2018 Supreme Court ruling in South Dakota v. Wayfair. In its decision, the Court ruled that out-of-state sellers could be taxed based on the extent of their economic activity in a state – whether that be based on quantity sold, volume of sales, or both.

As states tap into this new revenue resource, industries are fighting for exemptions in the 48 states that have adopted Wayfair tax regimes. These include gig-economy companies that have seen their business activity grow due to stay-at-home orders, as well as telecommunications companies who are uncertain of their collection obligations for services like 9-1-1 and the National Suicide Hotline.

Read more at <https://www.accountingtoday.com/opinion/coronavirus-and-wayfair-at-2-the-perfect-storm-for-online-retailers>

AML Proposals Sneak into Defense Funding Debate

During consideration of the annual National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to provide funding for the Department of Defense, the Senate Banking committee's top leaders introduced an amendment to reform the country's anti-money laundering regime (AML).

Senate Banking chairman Mike Crapo (R-ID) and ranking member Sherrod Brown (D-OH) introduced the Anti-Money Laundering Act (AMLA) which industry leaders say would be "the biggest revision to the U.S. AML/CFT regime since the USA PATRIOT Act". The 200-plus page bill follows the framework of the House-passed Corporate Transparency Act and the bipartisan ILLICIT CASH Act which was introduced by Sen. Tom Cotton (R-AR) last year.

A major component of the bill is the creation of a beneficial ownership (BO) registry, through FinCEN, to crack down on the use of shell companies masking illicit funds. Consistent with recent proposals, upon an entity's registration with their respective secretary of state, it would be required to disclose individuals who directly or indirectly have either a) over 25% ownership, or b) exercise 'substantial control' over the entity. The language provides a broad exemption for U.S.-based entities with over 20 employees and \$5 million in gross revenue, as well as more specific exemptions for certain brokers and dealers.

In addition to the new BO requirements, the bill proposes changes that may affect the precious metals industry. It would add to the definition of a 'financial agency' persons engaged in "a service provided with respect to... precious metals, stones, and jewels, or value that substitutes for money". If enacted, covered 'agents' would be required to:

[continued on page 11](#)

- Establish due diligence programs on foreign accounts
- Refrain from associating with a foreign corresponding account lacking a physical presence in any country
- Abide by Treasury's International Counter-Money Laundering Requirements

While it remains to be seen if the proposed amendment will receive a vote, on the other side of the Capitol, the House voted to include its own AML reform proposal in the NDAA. Proposed by Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), the measure is identical to her Corporate Transparency Act which passed the House in October 2019.

Read more at <https://www.americanbanker.com/news/house-passes-aml-reforms-in-defense-spending-bill>

FTC Proposes Codifying 'Made in USA' Standard

On June 22nd, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking that would codify the current Enforcement Policy Statement for 'Made in USA' claims. Under the proposal, marketers would have to satisfy the following requirements in order to make an unqualified Made in USA claim:

1. Final assembly or processing of the product occurs in the United States;
2. All significant processing that goes into the product occurs in the United States;
3. All or virtually all ingredients or components of the product are made and sourced in the United States.

The FTC proposal also extends past the scope of labels to include mail order materials – whether they be physical or electronic.

If codified, the proposed rule would make it even more difficult for domestic jewelry to be labelled "Made in USA" due to the FTC's interpretation of most recycled precious metals scrap as foreign content. What's more is that codification would allow the FTC to levy civil penalties on deceptive claims, much more quickly than the current process.

Read more on the rationale for the proposed rule from

https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/reports/made-usa-ftc-workshop/p074204_-_musa_workshop_report_-_final.pdf



**Recover more.
Worry less.**

Recovering **your** precious metals since 1919.

 GANNON & SCOTT

gannon-scott.com 800.556.7296

Orion Engineered Carbons Launches New Packaging System for Dust-free, Sustainable Handling

New Minibags Optimize Production for Small Order Quantities

Orion Engineered Carbons S.A. (NYSE: OEC), a worldwide supplier of specialty and high-performance Carbon Black, today announced the introduction of a new packaging system with soluble and meltable Minibags for dust-free and sustainable handling.

Orion has developed Minibags as a customized packaging solution for Carbon Black. Minibags are available for different material types, melting points and capacities. They have been designed to optimize the production process and serve small order quantities of between 100 g and 10 kg. Minibags are suitable for both powder and beaded Carbon Blacks.

Carbon Black is a dusty and fluffy substance often presenting handling and packaging challenges. Minibags mitigate these challenges by allowing for direct incorporation into the production process without the need for opening the bags. Depending on the material, Minibags can either be water-soluble or meltable in polymers thus reducing waste and enabling the dust free processing of Carbon Black. All common polyethylene and other compatible elastomer bases as well as ethylene vinyl acetate or polyvinyl alcohol are offered as Minibag-material. The differing material characteristics and melting points enable the adaption of the bags to meet customers' needs. Orion Engineered Carbons also offers small aluminum bags, in such cases, where the moisture protection of Carbon Black is most important.

The Minibags are produced in Germany and are available for purchase immediately.

About Orion:

Orion is a worldwide supplier of Carbon Black. Orion group produces a broad range of Carbon Blacks that include high-performance Specialty Gas Blacks, Acetylene Blacks, Furnace Blacks, Lamp Blacks, Thermal Blacks and other Carbon Blacks that tint, colorize and enhance the performance of polymers, plastics, paints and coatings, inks and toners, textile fibers, adhesives and sealants, tires, and mechanical rubber goods such as automotive belts and hoses. Orion runs 14 global production sites. The group has approximately 1,450 employees worldwide. For more information please visit the Orion website www.orioncarbons.com.



VORTEX
Worldwide Logistics ®

Specialized in
PRECIOUS METALS
Customs Brokerage & Consulting Services,
Nationwide



Logistics Crafted to Fit Your Needs

Lic. & Cert. by: US Customs / TSA / C-TPAT / FMC

e-Mail: info@vortexwl.com

www.vortexwl.com

Remembering Dr. Mohamed El Guindy

Dr. Mohamed El Guindy aka. MEL died on July 1, 2020, in Huntington Beach CA.

Mel served as CEO and President of Gemini Industries for 24 years before retiring in 2017.

He was a founding member of IPMI, served on the Board of Directors for many years and was President of the Institute in 1989-90. He was also past chair of the Awards Committee and received the prestigious Henry J Albert Award in 1999.

Mel started his professional career graduating from Ein Shams University in Cairo Egypt. After receiving his Bachelor's degree he moved to the US and graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York with Master's and Doctorate Degrees in Chemistry. The Mel moved to Canada to become a Research Associate at McGill university for 3 years.

Out of University he worked for Engelhard Corporation 2 different times spanning 13 years in various positions including Technical Manager and Vice President.

Between working at Engelhard Mel also worked for Sabin Metal Corporation as Vice President for nearly 2 years.

Finally, Mel joined Gemini Industries where he helped develop, improve and make sustainable a hydro metallurgical process for refining of platinum petroleum catalysts. The enhancements made by Mel are used to this day and provide the most sustainable process for recycling platinum and fully repurposing the remainder of the catalyst.

At Gemini Mel was mentor to many in the IPMI all of whom appreciate his education, guidance and the opportunities which he provided.

After retirement Mel was still active through his trading company SAFFAGA and assisting the IPMI in reviewing student papers associated with the scholarship program.

Mel will be missed by his colleagues in Gemini and those whom he touched in the IPMI.

His colleagues at Gemini further wrote:

As most of you know, our dear Father/Grandfather Mahmoud (Mel) passed away last week. He died peacefully from natural causes. Over the past 19 months, he fought valiantly to try to recover from two severely debilitating strokes, which left him paralyzed and unable to speak, and yet he continued as best he could to maintain his positive demeanor and wonderful sense of humor. He cherished the visits,



calls, texts and FaceTimes from each of you - his close friends and family - and for that I truly thank you all for keeping up his spirits. At the end, however, his respiratory difficulties became just too difficult for him to overcome. Given his months of paralysis and inability to speak, we'd like to think he is now in a better place where he can breathe freely, and go back to working out, playing cards, watching ballgames, traveling and telling jokes just like before.

We sincerely appreciate the outpouring of support and kind sentiments expressed by everyone over the past few days. It's been amazing to see how many lives he touched in such a positive way and we could feel the emotion coming through your thoughtful calls, texts, emails and social media postings.

His funeral is scheduled for Saturday, July 18, at 11:00 a.m. at Westminster Memorial Park (14801 Beach Blvd.). For those who are unable to attend in person due to travel and/or COVID concerns, we will have a videographer broadcast the funeral in real time. A link will be provided as the date gets closer. And unfortunately, due to current COVID restrictions, we are not permitted to have any type of reception following the funeral.

Where Are They Now?



Tatsuya Higaki, 2019 IPMI Student Award winner reports: “As a Postdoctoral Fellow, I am joining the Department of Chemistry, University of California Berkeley, to continue my research on nanoscience.”



Jingshan Du, 2019 Sabin Metal Ron Bleggi Award Winner, reports:

“I’m still working towards my PhD at Northwestern University. After receiving the IPMI student award last year, I have been recognized by an SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship. The awarded works were largely based on optics and structural dynamics associated with noble/non-noble

metal hybrid nanostructures recognized by the IPMI last year.” A press release is available at

https://spie.org/Documents/Courses/Education_Outreach/Scholarships/2020/Jingshan-Du-PR20.pdf



Jennifer Lee, the 2019 IPMI Colonial Metals Student Award Winner reports: “ I received my Ph.D. from the Chemistry Department at University of Pennsylvania in January and started my new position as a postdoctoral fellow with Professor Cynthia M. Friend (who’s the Henry J. Albert Award winner in 2019) at the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology at Harvard University.”

IPMI® Calendar

To register attendance to IPMI events or add to your personal calendar, click on the following: https://www.ipmi.org/events/event_list.asp

2020	Sept 16	IPMI & New York Chapter Webinar • On-line
	Nov 14-17	44th Annual Conference • Green Valley Ranch • Las Vegas, NV
2021	Feb 9-10	Public Affairs Legislative Seminar • Army Navy Club, Washington, DC
	Mar 2	Sampling & Analytical Committee Meeting • Hollywood Beach Marriott, Hollywood, FL
	Mar 3	Platinum Group Metal Refining Committee Meeting Hollywood Beach Marriott, Hollywood, FL
	Mar 4-5	Security & AML Committee Meeting • Hollywood Beach Marriott, Hollywood, FL
	Apr 26-28	PGM Autocat/Fuel Cell Seminar • Hyatt Grand Cypress, Orlando, FL
	Jun 12-15	45th Annual Conference • Peppermill Resort • Reno, NV