

IPMI 44th Annual Conference Cancelled Virtual Conference Planned

By Larry Drummond, Executive Director

The IPMI Board of Directors has determined that it is in the best interests of IPMI members and attendees to cancel the “in person” Annual Conference scheduled for November 14-17, 2020 at the Green Valley Ranch in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The COVID-19 pandemic has not abated to the extent where we feel it is safe and prudent to hold a “live” conference. Cases in many parts of the US, including Nevada, the site of our conference, have continued to increase and a further surge is predicted for this Fall. In addition, various states and countries have quarantine rules that would adversely affect attendees returning home from the conference. Many member companies have travel bans in place.

Virtual Conference Planned – November 16-17

While we will not be able to have a “live” conference, we will be scheduling a **Virtual Conference** on **Monday, November 16** and **Tuesday, November 17th**. This virtual conference will include several technical sessions and webinars as well as product and service information from key industry players. Attendees will have the ability to interact and ask questions with panelists and presenters via “Live Chat”. More information will be sent to you in the coming weeks.

Technical Papers

If you have previously committed to submitting a technical paper, you will be contacted by either me, our Technical Chair, Zac Henneman, or one of our session moderators. We plan to offer some presentations as part of our Virtual Conference and some to be moved to the 2021 conference.

New Horizon Session Planned

As in past conferences we will have a New Horizon Session where sponsors and participants will have the ability to showcase their technology, products, and services during the Virtual Conference. More information about these opportunities will be coming in early September.

Payment Options and Opportunities

Because we will not be holding the live conference in November, those who have paid for registration will be offered either a full refund or the option of deferring your deposit to the 2021 event. For those who chose to defer to 2021, you will be significantly helping the IPMI during this financially stressful period. In return, we will hold the 2020 registration rate “as is” and you will not be subject to a 2021 planned price increase.

We will offer the same option to sponsors and those who have paid in advance for 2020 conference booths. In addition to holding the price, we will also hold your same sponsorship or booth rental for the 2021 conference. As has been our tradition, you will maintain a right of first refusal as long as you hold your sponsorship.

Special Opportunities for Sponsors – Virtual Conference

The Virtual Conference offers special opportunities for sponsors to promote their companies and highlight their products. At the same time, sponsorship of the Virtual Conference will provide a much needed financial benefit to IPMI. As a nonprofit organization, we are dependent on the revenue from our Annual Conference for our annual operating costs and the full array of services we provide to our members.

In the next few weeks, we will be sending our member companies a sponsorship package for the Virtual Conference along with various ways companies can highlight their organizations during this two day event in November.

Early Registration for 2021 – At 2020 RATES

For those who have not yet registered for the 2020 Conference, we will be opening a special “Early Registration” for the 2021 event on September 1st. The Early Registration will afford you the benefit of 2020 rates. Please note that this offer will end on December 31, 2020. On January 1, 2021 higher rates will go into effect. We urge you to take advantage of this benefit.

[continued on page 2](#)

[Conference Cancelled](#), continued from page 1

Registration and Conference Dates

Registration for the Virtual Conference will open on September 15th. We also look forward to seeing you “in person” at our Annual Conference in 2021 to be held on June 12-15th at the Peppermill Resort in Reno, Nevada.

And on a Personal Note

Although the COVID 10 pandemic is a worldwide health and economic crisis and presents a significant hardship for IPMI and its members, I’m confident we will weather this storm and get through this -- hopefully stronger and more vibrant than ever, with new skill sets, and even closer together both as a precious metals industry, and especially as friends.

I want to personally thank you for supporting IPMI during this most difficult of times. Your continued financial support and commitment to IPMI will continue to allow us to be the premier organization for the precious metals industry.

I look forward to seeing you “in person” in the not too distant future and “virtually” in November!



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IPMI 2020-2021 Board Members Update

Becky Berube, United Catalyst Corp.

Chris Bone, Axiom Scientific

Robert Bullen-Smith, Johnson Matthey

Jonathan Butler, Mitsubishi

Mark Caffarey, Umicore

Simon Codrington, Hugh Wood

Steve Contreras, PGM of Texas

Brad Cook, Sabin

Mitch Coughlin, Colt Refining

Steve Crogan, Blue Water Risk Management

David Deuel, Gannon & Scott

David Dorris, Asahi

John Dourekas, Kitco

Zac Henneman, BASF

Ian Holden, Sims

Josh Husvar, Cotecna

Theo Keuter, Platinor

Hitoshi Kosai, Tanaka

Oliver Krestin, Hensel Recycling

Zibi Milkiewicz, Krastsvetmet

Philip Newman, Metals Focus

Miguel Perez-Santalla, Heraeus

Steve Scacalossi, Scotiabank

Scott Schwartz, FidelityTrade Incorporated

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Robyn Sprott, IDS/Dillion Gage

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Ben Van Klerkwijk, Brinks



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TANAKA Selected in Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry's 2020 Global Niche Top Companies

Recognized for TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo's leading share of the global market for fuel cell catalysts

TANAKA Holdings Co., Ltd. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director & CEO: Koichiro Tanaka) announced today that TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K. (Head office: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo; Representative Director & CEO: Koichiro Tanaka), which operates the TANAKA Precious Metals manufacturing business, has been selected and awarded by Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (METI) as one of its "Global Niche Top Companies Selection 100" (GNT Companies Selection 100) and has just received the certification.

Companies selected in the GNT Companies Selection 100 are being recognized by METI for excelling in niche sectors of global markets or for being outstanding companies with businesses focused on parts or materials with increasing importance for supply chain in a changing international landscape. On June 30, 2020, METI announced the selection of 113 companies for its 2020 GNT Companies Selection 100. TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo was recognized and awarded a certificate in the materials and chemistry category for its catalyst products for fuel cells.



Global Niche Top Companies Selection 100 certificate



Fuel cell catalysts

Development and Manufacture of Fuel Cell Catalysts by TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo

Electrode catalysts for fuel cells are materials that promote chemical reactions within fuel cells to turn hydrogen into water and electricity. Vehicles equipped with fuel cells (FCVs) are much more energy-efficient than vehicles that use energy from the combustion of gasoline or other fuels. Because there are no greenhouse gases (GHGs), such as carbon dioxide, emitted during use, FCVs are expected to provide benefits from the perspective of environmental conservation in particular. As a comprehensive manufacturer of precious metals, TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo was an early developer of electrode catalysts that use platinum, with the belief that they can make a significant contribution to the fuel cell industry.

TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo specializes in customization to meet the needs of its customers. In collaboration with industry and academia, it has also maintained, for about 15 years, the leading share of the global market for electrode catalysts for polymer electrolyte membrane fuel cells (PEFCs). In 2019, it expanded capacity at its FC Catalyst Development Center and enhanced production capabilities. As a result, it has built a system that will rapidly respond with stable supplies to increases in demand for electrode catalysts as the fuel cell market grows.

With the use of fuel cells becoming more widespread, demand for cost reductions and improved quality are also increasing, so TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo is continuing to develop related technologies, including the development of manufacturing processes and analysis

[continued on page 6](#)

TANAKA Certification, continued from page 5

technologies. Going forward, the company will continue to develop catalysts that improve the performance of fuel cells and reduce the use of precious metals in order to deliver products that contribute to a hydrogen society and help conserve the environment.

Reference: METI press release for the 2020 Global Niche Top Companies Selection 100

<https://>

www.meti.go.jp/press/2020/06/20200630002/20200630002.html

TANAKA Holdings Co., Ltd. (Holding company of TANAKA Precious Metals)

Headquarters: 22F, Tokyo Building, 2-7-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Representative: Koichiro Tanaka, Representative Director & CEO

Founded: 1885

Incorporated: 1918*

Capital: 500 million yen

Employees in consolidated group: 5,138 (FY2019)

Employees: 221 (March 31, 2020)

Net sales of consolidated group: JPY 1,149,604 million (FY2019)

Main businesses of the group: The holding company at the center of TANAKA Precious Metals responsible for strategic and efficient group management and management guidance to group companies.

URL: <https://www.tanaka.co.jp/english/>

* TANAKA Holdings adopted a holding company structure on April 1, 2010.

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Headquarters: 22F, Tokyo Building, 2-7-3 Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Representative: Koichiro Tanaka, Representative Director & CEO

Founded: 1885

Incorporated: 1918

Capital: 500 million yen

Employees: 2,393 (including overseas subsidiaries) (as of March 31, 2020)

Sales: JPY 992,679,879,000 (FY2019)

Main businesses: Manufacture, sales, import and export of precious metals (platinum, gold, silver, and others) and various types of industrial precious metals products.

URL: <https://tanaka-preciousmetals.com>

About TANAKA Precious Metals

Since its foundation in 1885, TANAKA Precious Metals has built a diversified range of business activities focused on precious metals. TANAKA is a leader in Japan regarding the volumes of precious metals handled. Over the course of many years, TANAKA has not only manufactured and sold precious metal products for industry but also provided precious metals in such forms as jewelry and resources. As precious metals specialists, all Group companies within and outside Japan work together with unified cooperation between manufacturing, sales, and technological aspects to offer products and services. Additionally, to make further progress in globalization, TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo welcomed Metalor Technologies International SA as a member of the Group in 2016.

As precious metal professionals, TANAKA Precious Metals will continue to contribute to the development of an enriching and prosperous society.

The five core companies that make up TANAKA Precious Metals are as follows.

- TANAKA Holdings Co., Ltd. (pure holding company)
- TANAKA Kikinzoku Kogyo K.K.
- TANAKA Denshi Kogyo K.K.
- Electroplating Engineers Of Japan, Limited
- TANAKA Kikinzoku Jewelry K.K.

Precious Metals Market News

Gold

Gold prices slide for 3rd day, setting stage for first back-to-back weekly skid since March

Gold futures were under pressure early Friday for a third consecutive session, with experts pointing to a resurgence in the U.S. dollar as the likely culprit for bullion's recent downtrend.

The dollar was up 0.5% early Friday, putting a measure of the buck against a half-dozen currencies, the ICE Dollar Index, on track for a weekly rise of 0.2%, prompted partly by comments from the Federal Reserve that implied that the central bank isn't yet willing to implement unconventional strategies to hold interest rates lower longer amid the COVID-19.

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/gold-prices-slide-for-3rd-session-setting-stage-for-first-back-to-back-weekly-skid-since-march-2020-08-21?mod=metals-stocks>

Gold retreats as dollar slide pauses after Fed minutes

Fed minutes showed the FOMC believes that the coronavirus likely would continue to stunt growth and potentially pose dangers to the financial system.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/08/19/gold-markets-coronavirus-pandemic-fed-minutes-in-focus.html>

Silver

India's silver imports could tumble as scrap supplies surge, importers say

India's silver imports are likely to fall by more than 40 percent from a year ago to the lowest level in eight years, with investors booking profit by selling stocks after local prices rallied to a record high this month. Lower imports by the world's biggest silver consumer could weigh on global prices that have risen more than 50% so far in 2020.

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/indias-silver-imports-could-tumble-095929837.html>

Solar PV Related Articles: Tactically silicon global supply disrupted by two major supply chain events driving silicon prices +50%, and increased investment has driven silver prices to rise by 50%. Short-term Solar PV installations slowed in 2020, yet downstream outlook for 30% increased Solar PV nameplate capacity is coming.

Explosions at China GCL facility threaten 10% of global solar production

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/explosions-at-china-gcl-facility-threaten-10-of-global-solar-production-28392/>

Four injured in 'incident' at Wacker's US polysilicon factory

<https://www.pv-magazine.com/2020/08/10/four-injured-in-incident-at-wackers-us-polysilicon-factory/>

China's Aiko Solar Will Spend \$2.87B to Build Plants in Zhejiang

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/finance/news/china-e2-80-99s-aiko-solar-will-spend-24287b-to-build-plants-in-zhejiang/ar-BB17KB84>

Platinum

Ten cities, thousand fuel cell vehicles? China is sketching a roadmap for hydrogen vehicles

2019 saw ~6,000 FCEVs sold, and now there is a goal to get to 50,000 in 2025, and then 1 million FCEV's in 2030.

<https://www.automotiveworld.com/news-releases/icct-ten-cities-thousand-fuel-cell-vehicles-china-is-sketching-a-roadmap-for-hydrogen-vehicles/>

Platinum and palladium will creep higher as auto sector returns to life: Reuters poll

Analysts and traders have cut their forecasts for autocatalyst metals platinum and palladium as the coronavirus outbreak curtails vehicle sales, but they still expect prices for both to rise gradually through 2021, a Reuters poll showed.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-precious-prices-platinum-palladium-po-idUSKCN24M17W>

INDUSTRY NEWS

Precious Metals Market News, continued from page 7

Palladium

Ford, BMW and others sign binding emissions agreement with California

They've committed to building cars that outperform federal fuel efficiency standards.

<https://www.engadget.com/ford-honda-bmw-vw-volvo-california-emissions-154119553.html>

China auto sales expected to rise 15% in July: industry body

China's auto sales for July are expected to rise 14.9% year-on-year to 2.08 million vehicles, the country's top auto industry body CAAM said on Tuesday.

http://www.reuters.com/article/us-china-autos-idUSKCN2501HW?utm_source=34553&utm_medium=partner

Mining

South Africa's mining output down 28.2% in June

The largest negative contributors were platinum-group metals (PGMs), with output down 42.5% and contributing -10.6 percentage points.

<https://www.miningweekly.com/article/south-africas-mining-output-down-282-in-june-2020-08-13>

South Africa's platinum miners, reeling from years of curtailed investments, take blow from coronavirus pandemic

A series of mega open-cast projects in the traditional heartland of South Africa's platinum belt risk being shelved. The future of 170,000 people employed by South Africa's platinum industry is at stake as miners suspend capital expenditure.

<https://www.scmp.com/business/companies/article/3096644/south-africas-platinum-miners-reeling-years-curtailed>

Recycle

Americans are holding on to their cars longer

IHS Markit study shows average light vehicle age in the U.S. is nearly 12 years.

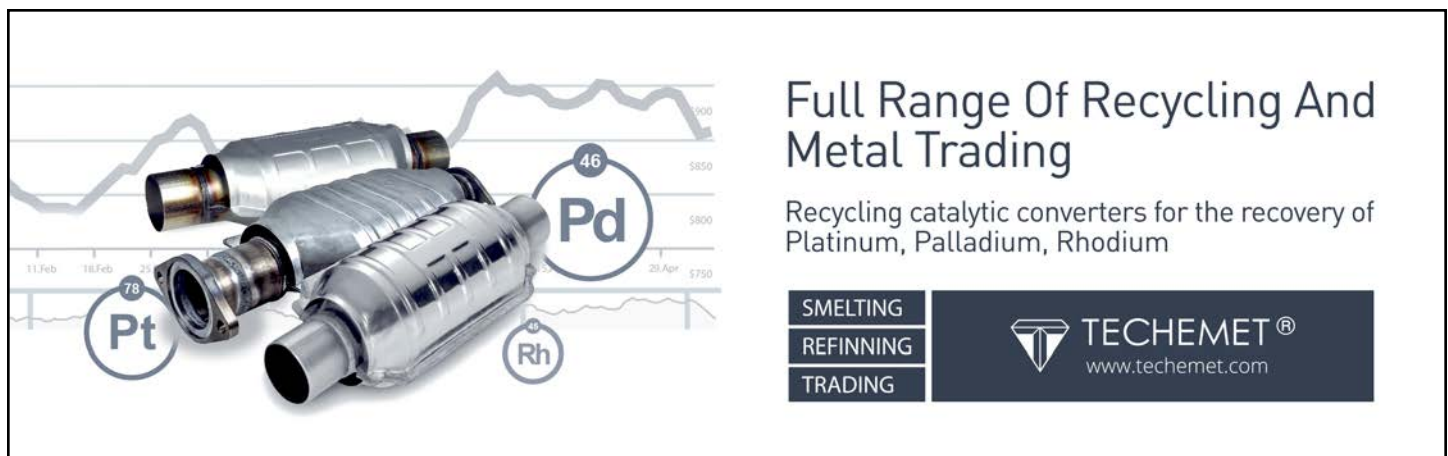
<https://www.recyclingtoday.com/article/united-states-vehicles-older-recycling-ihs-markit/>

Global Electronic Waste Up 21% in Five Years, and Recycling Isn't Keeping Up

In 2019 alone, the world generated 53.6 million metric tonnes of e-waste. That's about 7.3 kilograms per person and equivalent in weight to 350 cruise ships.

<https://ourworld.unu.edu/en/global-electronic-waste-up-21-in-five-years-and-recycling-isnt-keeping-up>

Please see our IPMI.org website IPMI & Industry News for a complete listing of news articles relative to the world of precious metals.



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Industry Veteran Christina Rodrigues Joins Gannon & Scott

Ms. Rodrigues brings decades of sales and logistics experience to the customer service team

Gannon & Scott continues to expand its customer service team with the hire of **Christina Rodrigues**, a longtime accounts manager and shipping expert in the refining industry. From her leadership training as a Naval employee to her extensive experience in sales and logistics, Christina has the technical proficiency and relationship-building skills that are crucial for customer service.

“I love the industry, but I love the customers even more,” Christina says of her decades of experience. “I’ve worked with some of the smartest people, all from different industries.” From obtaining and servicing key accounts to building and managing customer service departments, she achieved record sales and customer retention levels.

In a prior role as a logistics coordinator, Christina developed a shipping manifest program that reduced a week’s worth of work down to just minutes—a program that is still in use 15 years later.

As hazardous waste shipping and international freight logistics continue to become more complex, Christina works to maintain current knowledge of EPA, DOT, and OSHA regulations. She also holds various OSHA and GHS certifications related to health and safety requirements and hazardous waste.

A Rhode Island native, Christina began her career at the Naval Education and Training Center in Newport, where she received management, leadership, and operations security training from the Navy. She went on to distinguish herself in the refining industry through her work as a customer service manager, shipping manager, and inside sales rep.

Gannon & Scott serves customers across North America, processing, assaying and recovering precious metals from a range of spent materials at its facilities in Phoenix, Arizona, and Cranston, Rhode Island.



IN MEMORIAM

Remembering Robert Lane White

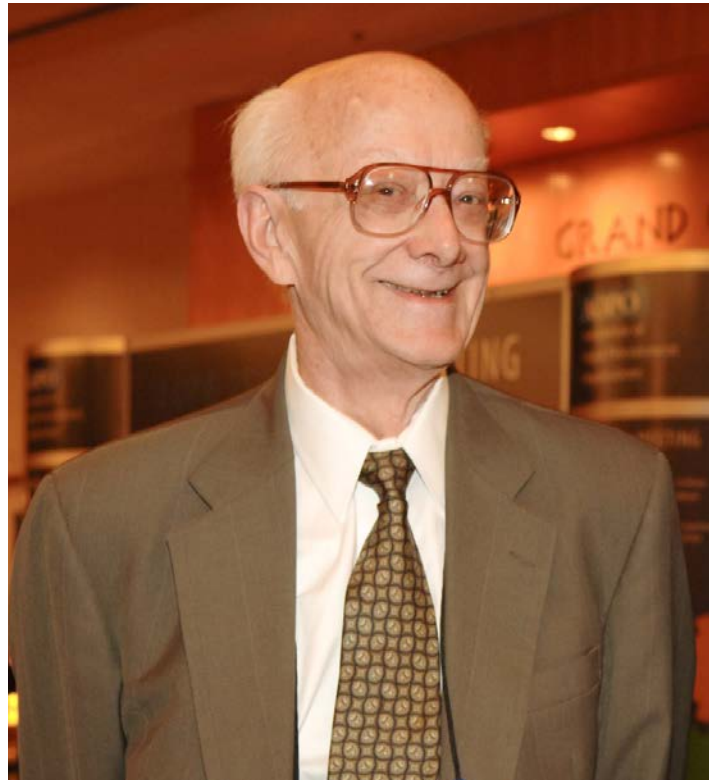
Robert Lane White, 82, Mining Journalist, died Friday, August 21, of heart failure. Lane was my brother and IPMI was among those he asked us to contact. Perhaps older members will remember Lane, who in 2003 received the **Colorado MPD Subsection Arthur C. Daman Lifetime Achievement Award** for his "...Dedication and Support Towards the Advancement of the Mining Industry."

Lane began his career as a Mining Journalist at Metals Week in 1968, and went on to be European editor and managing editor for *Engineering and Mining Journal*. Lane continued to work for EMJ from his home office, Mining Media Services, in Denver, until a few weeks before his death.

For many years Lane was a familiar face at our IPMI Conferences, scooping out a precious metals story for the mining media and also provided the **IPMI Metals News Feed** on the IPMI website for many years.

Lane is survived by his niece Sandra Nicholls of Aurora, who was most involved in his life the past few years, as well as by his sisters Vennie Eline White of Albuquerque and Laura McLane of Seattle, and several other nieces and nephews.

Services will be held at a later date. At his request, Lane will be buried at the cemetery in Golden, Colorado, where he attended the Colorado School of Mines.



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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 16-17	IPMI Virtual Conference • On-line
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