MINING TECHNOLOGY DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2015

1. Board membership
At the start of 2015, the Mining Technology Division (MTD) Board consisted of Dr Patrick Foster (Chair), Alan Auld, Charles Rhodes, Dr Rod Stace, Bob Siddall, Darron Dixon-Hardy, Andrew Fulton and Robert Bacon. The MTD maintains strong links with mining/minerals local societies in the UK and local societies who are not formally represented are always invited. The January meeting was also attended by John Crompton from the North East and the September meeting by Christine Blackmore from Western IMM. Frances Perry from IOM3 acts as Secretary. A new Chairperson was sought during the year and at the November ITPB meeting it was proposed that Christine Blackmore take over from January 2016, with Patrick Foster moving to the role of IMMa Chair.

2. Board meetings
There were three Board meetings during 2015, all held at the London Headquarters (Carlton House Terrace/Euston Road). The number of Board members at each meeting is given in the Table below.

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3. Activities during 2015

3.1. Technical programme
The planned major programme related event of the year was to assist the IOM3 in its planned celebrations of the Davy Bicentenary which was to take place in the Autumn and a major part of January’s Board meeting was dedicated to this. Unfortunately in July, the MTD Chair received notice that the IOM3 had decided to widen this to the topic of light and to use this as the main focus for the opening of the new HQ in November. Despite this setback, some local societies who had been instrumental in taking the Davy celebration forward on behalf of the MTD (NE and CornIE) continued on a regional basis. The NE secured monies from the ITPB for an exhibition display at Neville Hall which will then be taken around the mining regional societies at various organised events during 2016.

The MTD once again supported the Annual Sheffield Safety Seminar organised by the Midland Institute of Mining Engineers (MIME) in April. This annual event attracted over 137 delegates from the UK’s mining industry. The South Midlands Society organised a one day event on the Minerals Engineering Society in May which attracted 60 delegates.

MinSouth also continued its series of well attended morning Masterclasses in conjunction with Simmons & Simmons featuring international speakers with firstly on 29th April covering ‘Commodity Finance’ & secondly on 24th September covering ‘East Africa’.

One of MTD’s role is providing a network/forum for representatives from the mining/minerals related local societies. It is pleasing that all these Local Societies remain very active as can be seen by the following summary of their activity throughout the programme year 2014/15:
Although there was no major Conference organised by the MTD in 2014, a one day event is being planned for the Autumn 2016 in line with the mandate provided by ITPB. It is hoped that a major international conference will be organised for 2017. The 2018 meeting of the Society of Mining Professors will be held in the UK in June (Cornwall) and it has been agreed that this will be the MTD’s organised Conference for 2018.

### 3.2. Web-site developments

It is realised that the MTD website is still outdated. Currently this role falls on the Chair and another volunteer was sought throughout the year. For 2016 a new webmaster has been identified by the new MTD Chair.

### 3.3. Engagement with technical community and/or local societies

The MTD has strong engagement with IOM3’s local societies representing the mining & minerals sector as outlined in Section 3.1. Representatives from all these societies are invited to Board meetings.

It is pleasing to report that MinSouth were also awarded the IOM3’s “Local Large Society of the Year” Award. This was the second time in three years that Minsouth had been awarded the trophy in recognition of “the support they provide with their sponsors in developing and inspiring the next generation in the extractive industries”

Throughout 2015 the Board has continued to encourage the IOM3 to engage with the other international mining institutes (CIM, SME, SAIMM, AusIMM) who formally announced a collaborative partnership in August 2013. An IOM3 representative attended a meeting of this partnership in February 2014 but IOM3’s policy towards this is still unclear. It is disappointing to report that no one attended meetings in 2015, but the Vice President will attend the first meeting of 2016 at the SME Conference in the US.

Members of the Board and Division sit on an number of high profile mining related committees such as the Mining Association of the UK, Safety in Mines Research Advisory Board, Quarries National Joint Advisory Committee, Mining Safety Leadership Group, Extractive Industries Transparency Review, and where appropriate information from these committees are shared at Board meetings.

### 3.4. Contributions to IoM3 house journals

Some papers from the MTD’s International Conference of Safety in Mines Research Institutes were published in the Mining Technology journal during the year. There is still no formal MTD representative on the Editorial Board, but as this Journal is now represents the AusIMM and the society of Mining Professors as well as the IOM3, there is no real obligation for us to provide one.

### 4. Strategy and Objectives for 2015
4.1. Opportunities and constraints

A continuing major discussion point at Board meetings has been about the role of the MTD. This has been extremely valuable for Board members and it is anticipated that this will be continued and formalised in 2016 by the New Chair, Christine Blackmore. The Board has organised two successful major international conferences in 2012 and 2013 and we hope to continue this momentum by organising another in 2017 and 2018. However, the major priority for 2016 is communications and the need to manage the website and produce a Divisional Brochure are the minimum that we need to do to meet the standards of other IOM3 Boards.

4.2. Specific targets for 2016

Communications Related (High Priority)
(i) Update and maintain website for better communication with Divisional members
(ii) Prepare Division Brochure
(iii) MTD to agree new “manifesto” under its new Chairperson.

Event Related.
(iv) The MTD one day conference on Ore Processing R&D on 12 October 2016 at 297 Euston Road.