Informations pratiques

Tarif
Cette activité est gratuite mais l’inscription est obligatoire avant le 21 mai 2018.

Adresse
Tractebel Engie
Tour Engie
Salle Bellevue (13ème étage)
Boulevard Simon Bolivar 34-36
1000 Bruxelles

Accès

Inscription via le formulaire en ligne

Assemblée Générale Ordinaire & Conférence
Vendredi 25 mai 2018

Société Belge de Géologie de l’Ingénieur et de Mécanique des Roches
sbgimr-bvigrm.be
Contact : Fanny Descamps
fanny.descamps@umons.ac.be
065 37 45 17
Deep sea Mining

GSR (Deme Group) at the forefront of deep sea mining exploration

"Une histoire belge..."

Deep sea mining used to be a popular topic in the 60's and 70's of last century. It nearly disappeared from the scene afterwards due to low commodity prices. Since a few years, it is back on stage, driven by the depletion of conventional resources and the surging demand linked to new technologies and materials.

The presentation starts with a brief history of the topic, followed by an overview of the main types of deep sea mineral resources. Most deep sea mining prospects are located outside of the national Economic Exclusive Zones and are under jurisdiction of the International Seabed Authority (ISA).

The Belgian company GSR obtained a 72,000 km² concession for polymetallic nodules in 2012, with the support of the Belgian government. The concession is located in the Clarion Clipperton Zone of the Pacific Ocean, some 1500 km away from the closest inhabited land.

Several exploration campaigns have already been completed with focus on environmental studies, geological exploration and technological aspects. An ambitious program is defined for the coming years, placing GSR at the forefront of the global effort to diversify the raw material supply chain. Engineering challenges, environmental issues and perspectives will be addressed and are open for discussion after the presentation.

In situ sea trial of Patania, the first Technology Demonstrator

A batch of polymetallic nodules, just after recovery