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**BC Mining Suppliers Welcome Mike Ranallo, SMS Equipment, as New Chair of MSABC**

**May 17, 2012**

Vancouver – The Mining Suppliers Association of British Columbia (MSABC) welcomed Mike Ranallo, Vice President International Sales and Marketing for SMS Equipment Inc., as its new Chair at the MSABC Annual General Meeting held in Vancouver on May 15. “I would like to thank the association for having confidence in selecting me to this very important position,” said Ranallo. “My plans are to continue to build upon the momentum that has taken us to the next level under the leadership and guidance of our outgoing Chair, Patty Moore,” added Ranallo.

Ranallo highlighted some key challenges facing the association, including continuing the MSABC outreach program for elected officials; enhancing collaboration with the Mining Association of British Columbia; and, using the association’s broad membership base to strengthen its effectiveness as an industry champion while maximising the benefits of association membership. “The MSABC has made many significant changes over the past few years to take it to the next level of effectiveness and we are now aiming to reach the “next higher level” by focusing on these challenges,” said Ranallo. “We will also get our message out to the other suppliers that are still not members of MSABC and demonstrate the benefits we can bring to them as being a member of this first class organization.”

As Vice President International Sales and Marketing for SMS Equipment Inc., Michael Ranallo reports to the President & Chief Operating Officer and is primarily responsible for business development which directly relates to the profitability and overall growth of SMS. He joined SMS in December 2009. Before that time worked for 20 years with Komatsu North America.

The Mining Suppliers Association of B.C. comprises suppliers, contractors and consultants to the B.C. mining industry who are committed to promoting the sustainability of this valuable resource sector.

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