



NEWS RELEASE – November 13, 2019

## Empire CAT Donates Truck for SME Foundation Raffle

*Proceeds Support Critical Education, Outreach & Professional Development Programs*

In an effort to drive a new fundraising effort of the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Foundation (SMEF) forward, [Empire CAT](#) of Phoenix, AZ, has donated a 2020 GMC Sierra 2500 SLT Diesel truck valued at \$70,000 as the grand prize for the SMEF Benefit Truck Raffle.

“Empire CAT has shown exceptional generosity to the Foundation by donating this unique vehicle for the Foundation’s benefit raffle,” said SME Executive Director David L. Kanagy. “Their contribution will support the SME Foundation as it strategically invests in solutions to help solve the challenges facing the mining and minerals industries today.”



All proceeds raised from the raffle go to support the critical SME Foundation programs, including the PhD Fellowship and Academic Career Development grants, Miners Give Back, ABET, Professional Engineers Exam, the Minerals Education Coalition, and numerous scholarships. SMEF is the provider of services for the industry professional, the university student, and K-12 educators.

“For me it’s an honor to be a part of this initiative to continue to support SMEF and the important activities it does for the Industry,” said Josh Olmsted, Sr. VP Freeport-McMoRan Copper Operations and SMEF Trustee upon securing the donation. “Empire Machinery has been a long-standing partner of the Mining Industry and the communities in which they work. This is a great example of them being committed to giving back to the industry in a way that is meaningful, not only for today but more importantly for our future.”

As the source of funding for education and outreach for SME, the Foundation will utilize this extraordinary benefit raffle to support the health of the industry by strengthening the professional workforce, enhancing mining-related education and educating communities about mining.

A limited number of tickets are now available for purchase online at <https://www.acelevents.com/e/SMEFTRUCK> or by texting Raffle to 205-619-3065. The truck will be on display on the [MineXchange](#) Exhibit Floor during the conference, and a Tailgate Party drawing will be held on February 26, 2020 where the winner can drive away with this exciting prize. For more details about the raffle, visit the [event webpage](#). For more information about the Foundation, visit [www.sme.foundation.org](http://www.sme.foundation.org).

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SME is a professional society (nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation) whose members represent all professions serving the mining, minerals and underground construction industries in more than 100 countries. SME members include engineers, geologists, metallurgists, educators, students and researchers. SME advances the worldwide minerals community through information exchange and professional development. For more information, contact Jackie Dorr, Communications Manager, [dorr@smenet.org](mailto:dorr@smenet.org).

*SME exists to be the premier resource and advocate for the mining community.  
For further details, see [www.smenet.org](http://www.smenet.org)*