



International Manganese Institute (IMnI) 50th Annual Conference June 3-6, 2025 in Tokyo, Japan

Japan's Manganese alloy industry at a turning point

Conference program

Tuesday, June 3			
15:00	16:30	IMnI Statistics Committee meeting	in Kusunoki B1F (only for IMnI Statistics Committee Members)
18:00	20:00	Welcome Cocktail in Kaede (B1F)	
20:00	22:00	IMnI Supervisory Board dinner	only for IMnI Supervisory Board Members

Wednesday, June 4			
Galaxy AB (B2F)			
09:00	09:10	Conference opening	Paul Desportes, Senior Vice-President Commercial, Eramet & IMnI Chairman
09:10	09:15	Anti-trust reminder	Branislav Kloccock, Managing Director, OFZ & IMnI Vice-Chairman

Session 1: Macro-economy & steel			
Meeting room: Galaxy AB (B2F)			
09:20	09:50	Global macroeconomics dynamics and prospects for the Japanese economy	Robert Ward, Director of Geo-Economics and Strategy - Japan Chair, The International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)
09:50	10:20	How carbon-accounted steel reshapes the industry	Han Lu, Senior Editor, S&P Global Commodity Insights
10:20	10:45	The way forward: balancing risk and rewards	Steven Vercaammen, Senior Expert - BMI, McKinsey & Company
10:45	11:15	Networking break in the Ballroom Foyer	Sponsored by United Manganese of Kalahari (UMK)

Session 2: Rechargeable batteries: a game-changer for the Manganese industry?			
Meeting room: Galaxy AB (B2F)			
11:15	11:40	Manganese in lithium-ion battery precursors	Takahiro Hayakawa, General Manager Raw Materials Procurement, Tanaka Chemical Corporation
11:40	12:05	The impact of geopolitics on battery (and manganese) supply chains	Tanisha Schultz, Senior Analyst, Project Blue
12:05	12:30	How batteries reshape the manganese chemicals market	Jean-Thibault de Besombes, Senior Director, Strategy & Product Management – Advanced Materials, Vibrantz Technologies
12:30	14:00	Networking lunch in Galaxy CD (B2F)	Sponsored by Transalloys

17:00	17:15	Group photo in TBA	please be in the Westin Hotel lobby by 5pm sharp
17:15	18:30	Networking activity in Star Ballroom (B2F)	Sponsored by Ore & Metal
18:30	21:45	Banquet dinner in Galaxy AB (B2F) - IMnI 50-year anniversary!	Sponsored by Asia Minerals / Nippon Denko / Kudumane Manganese / Pertama Ferro Alloys

Thursday, June 5			
Session 3: Manganese supply & demand, cost dynamics and trade			
Meeting room: Galaxy AB (B2F)			
09:00	09:25	Perspective on the Indian Manganese alloys industry	Manish Sarda, Deputy Managing Director, Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd.
09:25	09:50	Perspective on China's manganese ore and alloy market	Jason Wang, Manager of Manganese Ore Purchase, Bosai Minerals Group Co., Ltd.
09:50	10:15	Key developments and expectations for the manganese ore and ferroalloy markets	Clare Hanna, Senior Analyst, CRU
10:15	11:00	Panel discussion on manganese	Clare Hanna (CRU), Manish Sarda (Sarda Metals & Alloys Ltd.)
11:00	11:30	Networking break in the Ballroom Foyer	Sponsored by Tshipi é Ntsimbintle

Session 4: Manganese sustainability, environmental and social opportunities			
Meeting room: Galaxy AB (B2F)			
11:30	11:55	Decarbonization dynamics in the manganese industry	Julien Burdeau, Group Director of Decarbonization, Eramet SA
11:55	12:20	Safety Data Sheets: Certainty Vs Fantasy	Dr. Doreen McGough, Executive Director, Manganese REACH Administration (MARA)
12:20	12:45	Sustainable Strategic Planning Roadmap - Maringá's Return On Experience	Luis Pessoa, Commercial & Supply Chain Director, Maringá Ferro Liga S.A.
12:45	12:50	Conference wrap-up: Paul Desportes, Senior Vice-President Commercial, Eramet & IMnI Chairman	
12:50	14:20	Networking lunch in Galaxy CD (B2F)	Sponsored by Maringá Ferro Ligas

Friday, June 6			
		Optional technical visits in Japan	Hosted by JFE Minerals & Alloys and Nippon Denko
06:00	18:00	Technical visits of JFE Minerals & Alloys or Nippon Denko manganese alloy smelters	Open only to IMnI Members registered as delegates to the IMnI conference in Tokyo