



# International Manganese Institute (IMnI) 50th Annual Conference May 26-28, 2026 - Brazil

## The Shifting Dynamics of Manganese: Navigating Complexity

### Conference program

Tuesday, May 26			
15:00	16:30	IMnI Statistics Committee meeting	in Botafogo (only for IMnI Statistics Committee Members)
18:00	20:00	Welcome Cocktail in Arpoador	Sponsored by Maringá Ferro Liga
20:00	22:00	IMnI Supervisory Board dinner	only for IMnI Supervisory Board Members

Wednesday, May 27				Rio de Janeiro I & II
09:00	09:10	Conference opening	Paul Desportes, Senior Vice-President Commercial, Eramet & IMnI Chairman	
09:10	09:15	Anti-trust reminder	Adrian Low, Managing Director, OM Holdings Ltd.	

Session 1: Macro-economy & steel				Meeting room: Rio de Janeiro I & II
09:20	09:50	The global reset - new paradigms	Prof. Marcos Trojyo, Economist, former Deputy Economy Minister of Brazil	
09:50	10:20	Steel Dynamics: Navigating Trade War Impacts and the Net-Zero Pathway for a Sustainable Industry	Everton Guimarães Negresio, CEO, ArcelorMittal Long Carbon LATAM	
10:20	10:45	A 5-year outlook of the global and Latam steel industry	Clare Hanna, Senior Analyst, CRU Group	
10:45	11:15	Networking break in the Ballroom Foyer		Sponsored by United Manganese of Kalahari (UMK)

Session 2: A new market taking shape: manganese in secondary batteries				Meeting room: Rio de Janeiro I & II
11:15	11:40	Making battery-grade manganese outside China – the MMC case study	Morné Ruiters, Chief Marketing Office, Manganese Metal Company (MMC)	
11:40	12:05	Manganese in batteries: technology and supply chain outlook	Tanisha Schultz, Senior Research Analyst, Project Blue	
12:05	12:30	A manganese future for EV batteries in North America ?	Jean-Thibault de Besombes, VP Sales - Manganese Products, Vibrantz Technologies	
12:30	14:00	Networking lunch in Arpoador & Copacabana		

17:00	17:15	Group photo at the Copacabana Palace		
17:30	18:30	Networking activity at the Copacabana Palace		Sponsored by Ore & Metal Company
18:30	21:30	Banquet dinner at the Copacabana Palace		

Thursday, May 28				
Session 3: Manganese supply & demand, cost dynamics and trade				Meeting room: Rio de Janeiro I & II
09:00	09:25	Key manganese market developments in 2026	Kevin Fowkes, Managing Consultant, AlloyMetrics	
09:25	09:50	South African manganese supply trends	Brad Rogers, Managing Director & CEO, Jupiter Mines	
09:50	10:15	Decoding China's manganese market: steel, alloy dynamics and industry changes	Edward Li, CEO, Shanghai Qunxian Resources	
10:15	11:00	State of the industry: challenges and opportunities (panel discussion)	Panel discussion moderated by Kevin Fowkes, Managing Consultant of AlloyMetrics, with Arnaud Vigier, Manganese Ore Sales Director of Eramet, Abhishek Thakur, Business Development Head of Berry Alloys and Esteban Rivero, Deputy CEO of Autlán	
11:00	11:30	Networking break in the Ballroom Foyer		Sponsored by Berry Alloys Ltd.

Session 4: Manganese sustainability, environmental and social opportunities				Meeting room: Rio de Janeiro I & II
11:30	11:55	Gerdau's sustainability strategy and scope 3 expectations for the manganese supply chain	Guilherme Lage Becker, Procurement General Manager, Gerdau Steel	
11:55	12:20	Sustainability strategy in manganese production	Rocklin Reed, Group Manager: Sustainability, Ore & Metal Company	
12:20	12:45	Endocrine Disruptors and Manganese: The Science, the Risk and the Regulatory Reality	Dr. Doreen McGough, Executive Director, Manganese REACH Administration (MARA)	
12:45	12:50	Conference wrap-up: Paul Desportes, Senior Vice-President Commercial, Eramet & IMnI Chairman		
12:50	14:20	Networking lunch in Arpoador & Copacabana		

15:00	Visit of Maringá Ferro Ligas: bus transfer from the Fairmont Hotel to Rio de Janeiro Santos Dumont (SDU) airport			
-------	--	--	--	--

Friday, May 29		Optional technical visits in Brazil	Hosted by Maringá Ferro Ligas and Nexus Liga
06:00	22:00	Technical visits of Maringá Ferro Ligas and Nexus Liga smelters and mines	Open to registered delegates to the IMnI conference in Brazil