

We're building a workforce to meet industry demand.



[Green technology requires mined materials — and a workforce to meet demand](#)  
Green energy technologies such as electric vehicle batteries, solar panels, grid energy storage, and wind turbines require such metals as copper, lithium, cobalt, rare earths, and manganese. These high-demand minerals cannot be created in a lab. They must be mined.

[Workforce ready: The Center for Autonomous Mining Systems prepares miners for the industry's future](#)

The Center for Autonomous Mining Systems in Holden Hall looks like a giant sandbox, but the one-of-a-kind facility is preparing mining engineers for the industry's future.

News from the department

- [A hydrogen future could offer sustainable energy and economic growth for Appalachia](#)
- [Collaborative effort explores moving power lines from overhead to underground](#)
- [Underground carbon storage top of mind for student team](#)



Mining and minerals engineering students and faculty attend the 2024 Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration Conference and Expo

The Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering at Virginia Tech sent 41 students and faculty to participate in the event, present their research, and receive honors and scholarships.



Class of 2024: Reid Johnke finds a rock solid passion for mining

Reid Johnke has been named the outstanding senior for the Department of Mining and Minerals Engineering. During his time in the department, he took advantage of the many internship opportunities and service roles.

## VT Mining in the News

- [Inside a lab where scientists hope to better protect miners by detecting silica dust](#)
- [New silica dust rule means coal, gravel and stone mines will face more safety regulations](#)
- [Search for rare earth elements to continue in central Appalachia](#)
- [What does the future of mining look for mining towns across America?](#)

## Connect with us on our new Facebook page

To get the latest mining and minerals engineering news and updates, follow us on [Facebook!](#)

## Upcoming Events

July 21 | [Virginia Tech Day at Nationals Park](#)

[Welcome to the City 2024](#)

## Every gift makes an impact

- \$20 covers the cost of lunch where prospective students can meet with our current upperclass students.
- \$100 funds the travel, meals, and lodging for a student to attend an out-of-town field trip to a mine site.
- \$250 sends a bus of 25 prospective mining engineering students to Blast Day at a local quarry.
- \$1,000 covers food, t-shirts and giveaways for 100 prospective and current students to attend a guest lecture from an industry professional.

**GIVE TODAY**

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