



## IMII DEMOday 2026

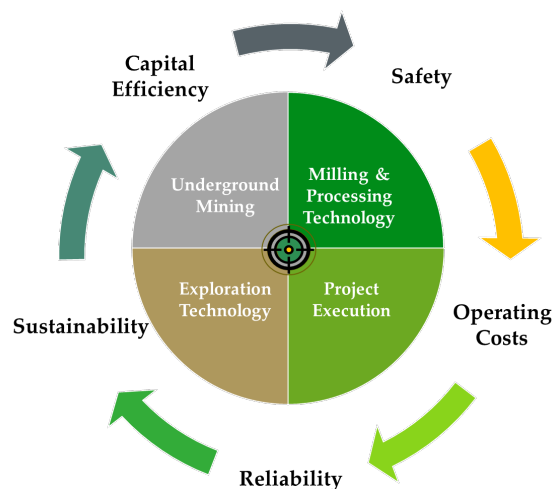
### Introduction

DEMOday returns September 10, 2026, providing innovators and suppliers with an opportunity to showcase their innovations in equipment, technologies, products, or processes to Saskatchewan’s minerals industry. The event is designed to connect solution providers with industry leaders, fostering interest, collaboration, and potential investment opportunities.

### Background

Innovation is important to Saskatchewan’s minerals industry and the province and is a critical component of why the International Minerals Innovation Institute (IMII) was formed in 2012. It is also why IMII, in cooperation with the Saskatchewan Industrial and Mining Suppliers Association (SIMSA), introduced DEMOday in 2018.

The impact of mining innovations become meaningful when they reach the field and are put into use. To that end, innovators and supply chain companies are invited to pitch their innovations in equipment, technologies, products or processes to industry members. These innovations should demonstrate the potential to advance challenges aligned with IMII’s renewed innovation strategy which articulates four focus areas (the what) and five innovation drivers (the why) summarized by the graphic below. The 4 quadrant focus areas define the areas of interest industry is prioritizing in this strategic cycle – essentially, the what. The five innovation drivers of safety, operating costs, reliability, sustainability and capital efficiency are the why – they are the things that drive why industry is seeking innovation and what will help justify funding support for innovation projects.





## DEMOday and Innovation

Innovators and supply chain companies are invited to submit innovations they believe would be of value to mineral companies' existing operations and can be advanced down the path to commercialization. The innovations must be applicable to more than one mining company to be considered for this event. For the IMII, innovation involves; ideas, discoveries, or tools that may change or create new scientific or engineering concepts or educational or training practices that, if put into use, would benefit the minerals industry.

IMII's collaborative activities in this regard may include: pilots or test projects, proof of concept, prototypes, feasibility analyses, research, development or demonstrations of any other type of project that produces improved knowledge, practices or technology useful in filling an innovation need that matters to mining.

IMII's **DEMOday** is an open innovation opportunity for existing suppliers with new ideas, new companies with new solutions, researchers with a desire to move their ideas out of a lab and into a start-up, developers, data scientists, inventors, entrepreneurs, and other innovators wanting to help make Saskatchewan's minerals industry more safe, productive, reliable and sustainable.

Innovations selected for further development, demonstration or deployment will be eligible to receive up to \$250,000 in funding from IMII and to partner with one or more of IMII's minerals company members in a collaborative technology project to demonstrate or trial their solution in a supportive mining environment.

## Selection of DEMOday Participants

All submissions are to be received by IMII by **May 29, 2026**, at 11:59 pm and will undergo a merit-review selection process involving representatives of IMII member companies. Thereafter the subject matter experts announce which innovations they have a special interest in, and which they would like to discuss further. At least two subject matter experts from different IMII member companies must indicate an interest in an innovation for it to be included in DEMOday 2026.

The selected participants will pitch their innovation to industry for 20-25 minutes. The size of the group is limited to interested industry subject matter experts and 2-3 people from the presenting participants.

To maintain confidentiality for presenting innovators, these are closed meetings with no other innovators or supply chain companies present.

Suppliers should consider this event as a "catalyst" for getting their innovation in front of and possibly selected for technology advancement support from the minerals industry.

At the end of the pitch sessions, industry subject matter experts will select the innovations and the respective presenting solution provider companies from which they are interested in receiving a project proposal. As per IMII requirements, at least two industry members must select an innovation for it to be considered for an IMII proposal submission.

IMII will notify each innovator/supply chain company after the event if they are being asked to submit a proposal.



## Entry Requirements

- The clear intent of the entry is to build and bring to market an economically viable innovative technology that meets a demonstrated need of the Saskatchewan minerals industry
- The participant bears solely the responsibility for the preparation of its entry
- The entry meets all the entry requirements, as listed below
- The participant must be intent on commercializing intellectual property that meets at least one of the following criteria:
  - An innovative product or service involving new technology;
  - Combines existing technologies in a way that results in new intellectual property;
  - Utilizes technologies to develop new or improve existing products or services;
  - Utilizes technologies to develop new or improve existing production processes; and/or
  - Is not a commercially available product already being distributed in the marketplace
- The Participant must
  - Be an innovator and/or supply chain company and
  - Have an interest in the promotion and growth of Saskatchewan's mineral industry and supply chain
- The participant has registered for the Competition by completing the Innovation Submission form found online at [www.imii.ca](http://www.imii.ca) under **Events** by the stated entry deadline.

## Required Information

The submission must show how the participant meets the eligibility requirements. Please use the information below to help prepare your application prior to submission.

1. Innovation name – The name should briefly describe the product or service offering.
2. Innovation category – Identify the IMII drivers and focus areas that apply to your innovation.
3. Stage development – Indicate the present stage of development of your innovation.
4. Patent – If applicable, please indicate the status of any patents relating to your innovation.
5. Organization information – A succinct paragraph summary of the company providing the innovation.
6. Innovation description – Describe the scientific or technological innovation behind the idea without disclosing proprietary technology.
7. Differentiation – Describe what makes this innovation unique. Identify what third party validation has been achieved to date.
8. Demand and Adoption Drivers – Describe what will drive demand and adoption for your innovation, including how your innovation addresses your identified innovation drivers. Include why the mining industry needs your solution and what will motivate companies to adopt it. Briefly describe the key



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challenges, trends, regulations, cost pressures, or performance gaps that are creating demand for your innovation, as applicable and explain how your solution responds to these challenges.

9. Path to commercialization – Describe your vision of how the innovation can transition into a commercial product. Provide a product pitch as it would be described to a group of mineral company executives. Include your needs to advance the innovation for the next stages of development.

All information submitted will be kept confidential.

## To Apply

The application form is available online at [www.imii.ca](http://www.imii.ca) under [Events DEMOday 2026](#). Applications must be submitted electronically by **May 29, 2026**, 11:59 pm to [admin@imii.ca](mailto:admin@imii.ca).

If you have any questions, please contact the IMII at (306) 668-2070 or [admin@imii.ca](mailto:admin@imii.ca).