

TAILINGS AND MINE WASTE 2026



SHORT COURSE

GTMI: CURRENT STATUS AND STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK WORKSHOP

Date: November 8, 2026

Duration: Half-day

Information here is subject to change.

Objective:

The objective is to provide the target audience with a status of the GTMI work, completed to date. Progress on the auditing process, certification and feedback received on the Protocols.

Course Summary:

1. Introduction by Mark Cutifani
2. GSTM, Protocols, GTMI (a brief history, how far we have come)
3. GTMI: current vision
4. GTMI status
5. Panel session and discussion on GSTM and Protocols
6. Consultation and panel discussion on GTMI works to date and direction
7. Listen to stakeholders and right-holders: prioritization through panel discussion
8. Forward look and timeline to first audit

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Detailed Course Description:

1. GSTM, Protocols, GTMI (a brief history, how far we have come)

- Where it started, the process and the drafting, and consideration.
- Overview of the ICMM signatories and non-signatories.
- Statistics on conformance, the difference consequence categories, and estimates on outstanding works.

2. GTMI: current vision

- Overview of the GTMI vision.
- Outlining the long-term objectives, workstreams, stakeholders and challenges.
- How will it work once we are up-and-running? How do we (stay) engaged and make sure we listen to and appropriately represent the interests of all the stakeholders (including but not limited to considerations such as mining companies, community, environmental, commercial and economical).

3. GTMI status

- Works to date.
- A brief overview of the three workstreams is provided, the two working groups, the process and progress made on the audit protocols, certification and auditor certification.

4. Panel session and discussion on GSTM and Protocols

- The panel session will allow questions and discussion by the audience directed to the GSTM and Protocols.
- Consultation and panel discussion on GTMI works to date and direction.

5. Listen to the industry: prioritization through panel discussion

- This session allows for the suggestions collated during the two previous sessions to be discussed and proposed actions prioritized. The discussion will be framed around feasibility and practicality from all stakeholders and right-holders perspective.
- Considerations will further include cost, practicality and auditor training needs.

6. Forward look

- Summary of the various inputs from the audience.
- Are there any changes to the vision for the GTMI.
- Possible suggestions and when we can see the GTMI and Auditing process in full working implementation.

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Presenters:

Ed Toms

Ed Toms is a senior executive in mining and critical infrastructure with over 40 years of experience, and a career centred on leadership, growth, and governance in global markets. He brings extensive experience building and leading teams, developing client relationships, and expanding services across regions, translating complex technical and operational risk into clear strategy, practical programmes, and measurable outcomes. His work spans stakeholder engagement, organisational alignment, and assurance-oriented governance for high-consequence assets, with an emphasis on transparent decision-making and accountable performance.

As CEO of the Global Tailings Management Institute (GTMI), Ed's focus is on scaling global capability: strengthening competence and conformance systems, protecting independence, and enabling credible practice aligned with the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM). His leadership emphasis is execution, building trusted systems that improve safety and confidence for communities, operators, and stakeholders worldwide.

Jeronimo Covacevich

Jeronimo Covacevich has 18 years' experience in Civil and Geotechnical Engineering. He holds a degree of Civil Engineering from the Santa Maria Technical University, and a Master Engineering in Mining studies from the University of British Columbia. He has extensive experience in Tailings Storage Facility design, construction and operations, as well as governance and technical assurance. A Professional Engineer since 2008, Jeronimo spent 13 years in engineering consultancy, working on water and tailings projects in Mongolia, Canada, The United States, Mexico, The Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Suriname, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Argentina and Chile. He joined BHP in 2019 as Practice Lead Tailings for Minerals Americas and, since 2024, has served as Head of Tailings Excellence and BHP's Tailings Group Risk Representative. Jeronimo represents BHP on ICMM's Tailings Working Group and the Tailings Committee of the Chilean Mining Council. Jeronimo is also a member of the International Council on Large Dams (ICOLD) in Chile and the Canadian Dam Association (CDA).

Janis Shandro

Dr. Janis Shandro is the owner and Managing Director of Arrowsmith Gold Inc., a community health and safety consultancy in Canada. Her co-specialty in mining engineering and population health, from The University of British Columbia, has allowed Dr. Shandro to work on complex, large-scale, extractive and development projects globally. She focuses on evaluating and mitigating risks and impacts to people and communities.

With over 25 years of experience across mining, petro-chemical and large infrastructure projects, she is a trusted advisor to Canadian Indigenous communities, governments, international organisations, multilateral development banks, and private sector clients globally. Dr. Shandro was the technical lead for a Health Impact Assessment (commissioned by an Indigenous Health Authority) on the Mount Polley tailings dam failure in Canada. As an Associate with Priscu and Associates Consulting Engineers Inc., she has undertaken independent GISTM conformance verifications for over 30 tailings facilities in the

Americas. She also serves as an Independent Director and Chair of the Health, Safety, Environment and Social Performance committee with Artemis Gold Inc.

Vicente Mello

Vicente led Brazil's Independent Mining Audit Program, reporting to state and federal authorities on the response to the Fundao and Brumadinho tailings facility disasters, making it the largest formal mining audit programme globally. He led the Independent Technical and Environmental team to audit the Rio Doce Agreement between Vale, BHP, Samarco, and Brazilian authorities, the world's largest environmental and social restoration agreement signed after the failure of a tailings dam. He has advised federal judges on topics ranging from ecological risk and water safety to housing, food contamination, and biodiversity recovery. He has also led the team which supported Brazil's National Mining Agency in inspecting 229 high-risk dams and contributed to policy development for upstream tailings dam closure. Vicente serves on multiple expert panels, including for the UN Environment Programme.

David Cooling

David Cooling has spent the bulk of his career with Alcoa Corporation, taking on a wide range of roles associated with tailings management. Prior to retiring from Alcoa in 2021, David was the Global Impoundments Governance and Technical Manager with responsibilities that covered Alcoa's impoundments across all operations. Before that, he was heavily involved in Alcoa's preliminary investigations into residue filtration, particularly the initial test work and development of financial and business case assessments. This work culminated in the first installations of full-scale filtration within Alcoa at both the Kwinana and Pinjarra refineries, in Western Australia.

Theo Gerritsen

Theo Gerritsen is a Principal Engineer with BGC Engineering in Brisbane, where he provides senior technical input across tailings and mine waste projects. His work draws on extensive owner- and consultant-side experience and focuses on practical, risk-informed solutions across the full lifecycle of tailings storage facilities (TSFs).

His experience has been gained across a broad range of commodities and facility types, applying recognised industry practice and international standards and guidelines including ANCOLD, ICOLD, CDA and the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM).

Theo has served as Engineer of Record and as a member of Independent Technical Review Boards, as well as acting as a client-side ITRB convenor. These roles have provided him with extensive experience in tailings governance, assurance and technical decision-making from both owner and consultant perspectives. Theo has also recently been appointed to the Global Tailings Management Institute (GTMI) Technical Advisory Committee, contributing to the development of the GISTM auditing and assurance approach.

Naomi Hodgkinson-Lee

Naomi Hodgkinson-Lee is based in the UK and is a Chartered Geotechnical Engineer specialising in tailings. With over 20 years' experience in geotechnical mining consultancy for junior and mid-tier mining companies, she is currently the Senior Risk Engineer for Tailings at Zurich Resilience Solutions (ZRS). She reviews and inspects tailings and mining projects across Zurich's global portfolio, assessing risk for property damage, business interruption, casualty and environmental liability.

Using her technical experience of design, construction and auditing of tailings on five different continents and across most commodities, Naomi has established ZRS' Tailings Risk Grading Standard, to improve and standardise risk evaluation of tailings operations. In her role as ZRS Senior Risk Engineer for one of the leading insurers in the mining sector, she has had an unparalleled overview of technical documentation of global mining projects.

Kristin Pouw

Kristin is a mining sector sustainability and environmental performance leader. She has a strong foundation in water management and stewardship, tailings environmental management, and hazardous materials management for cyanide and mercury. Kristin's academic background includes a BEng in Chemical and Biological Engineering and a Masters of Engineering and Public Policy. Her work experience includes consulting engineering roles at Hatch and SRK.

Kristin's current role is Principal of Water & Waste with Newmont Corporation, where she has supported conformance processes for the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management and the Cyanide Code. Kristin is based in Toronto, Canada.