## **MINE READER**



## DIAMOND CORE DRILLING PROCESS: PART 2

In the last issue of Mine Reader, Twin Metals Minnesota (TMM) shared the first five steps of the nine step diamond core drilling process, identified by our Virginia, Minn. based partner, IDEA Drilling, TMM's main core drilling contractor. To view the previous issue visit: <a href="http://www.twin-metals.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Mesabi-Daily-News.pdf">http://www.twin-metals.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/Mesabi-Daily-News.pdf</a>.

Twin Metals is currently conducting a Prefeasibility Study (PFS) for its proposed underground copper, nickel, platinum, palladium and gold (strategic metals) mine in northern Minnesota. One prominent component of the PFS is "in-fill" drilling which provides Twin Metals detailed information about targeted mineral deposits, including the depth and breadth of the deposits, mineral content and other geologic features.

Continuing with the second of the two part series, below are the last four steps in the drilling process. To review IDEA's full drilling guide, please visit: www.ideadrilling.com/pdf/Idea\_Booklet\_01GWithLinks.pdf.

## STEPS IN THE DIAMOND CORE DRILLING PROCESS

- The driller adjusts rotation speed, pressure and water circulation for different rock types and drilling conditions.
- 7. Inside the drill pipe is a core tube, which has a latching mechanism attached to a cable. At the end of each 10 foot run, the cable is lowered to winch the core tube containing the new rock core to the surface where it can be recovered.
- 8. The drill core is stored in specially designed core boxes containing compartments to hold sections of the core.
- 9. The drill core is then logged and analyzed by a geologist.



(Step 6)



(Step 7)



(Step 8)

SOURCE: IDEA Drilling LLC, "Bedrock Core Drilling: Mineral Exploration in Minnesota"