

Arizona Rock Products Association News Release

October 10, 2011 – *For Immediate Distribution*

The Arizona Rock Products Association (ARPA) recently had the pleasure of working with Arizona Senator John Nelson (D-12) on a two part rock display at the Arizona State Capitol. The first part of the rock display is located on the third floor of the Arizona State Senate building, strategically placed near the entrance to the Senate gallery so it can be enjoyed by visiting students. The display includes oceanic specimens from Scripps Institute of Oceanography. With help from the Arizona Geological Survey, the ARPA staff were able to further identify the specimens and install this dynamic display.



The photograph within the display shows the ship and the deep water submersible Alvin that descended over 3 miles into an extreme environment to collect these specimens that are as rare as moon rocks. The researcher and explorer who recovered these rocks, Robert Ballard, also found the Titanic. These samples are examples of specimens that can also be found in Arizona; demonstrating that parts of Arizona have similar geology as can be found at the bottom of the ocean.

The second part of the rock display is located outside of the Arizona State Senate building. It includes one of the larger rock specimens atop a one-of-a-kind pedestal. Thanks to the support of Dr. Jim Ernzen, ASU-CIM program, Brad Jensen, CIM student as well as Angelo Trujillo, BASF the Chemical Company, Mesa Precast and local artist Tamryn Doolan, Surface Gel Tek, who created and placed the display at the Capitol.



Brad Jensen helped coordinate the creation and assignment of the outdoor display and drilled the rock specimen for placement on the pedestal. Mesa Precast formed the piece and Tamryn Doolan then added the artistic patina and inscription. The rock display was positioned on Monday, October 3, 2011.

Visitors to the Arizona State Capitol will now have the opportunity to enjoy this unique rock archive that highlights oceanic geology with a direct link to Arizona. Be sure to stop by both rock displays during your next visit. For additional photos from the project, please go to the ARPA website <http://www.azrockproducts.org/about-arpa/photo-gallery>



For over 50 years, the Arizona Rock Products Association (ARPA) has been providing representation for over 50 member companies involved with the production of aggregates, asphaltic concrete, ready mix concrete, asphalt, lime products, and portland cement. Our members, along with over 40 associate members providing related transportation, contracting, and consulting services, make ARPA one of the most influential public and private policy advocates in Arizona today.