

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

SME's 5th Annual Current Trends in Mining Finance (CTMF) Conference Managing through the Cycle, Investing for the Future

Sunday, April 30^{th} - Wednesday, May 3^{rd} 2017 at the offices of Shearman & Sterling LLP, New York, New York

The New York Section of SME - the Society for Mining, Metallurgy & Exploration - is the host and organizer of the annual Current Trends in Mining Finance (CTMF) Conference We thank the CTMF Sponsors - Join them!

The New York SME organizing committee welcomes your draft abstracts. As soon as possible please. The conference in 2017 will discuss and present case studies about how management and investors can employ best practices and technology to anticipate, track and manage the technical and non-technical risks associated with exploration and mining projects, including discussion of the following topics:

- Current global mineral commodity market supply, demand and price and capital market trends
- Traditional and alternative funding sources and structures for mining projects and development
- Trends, issues and risks impacting exploration and mining project valuation and M&A transactions
- Case studies about recent capital raising and structures involving projects, operations and infrastructure
- Tools to evaluate and methods to manage exploration, planning, development and construction risk
- Innovative use of data, technology, resources to evaluate, reduce and manage capital and operating cost
- Discussion of tax, accounting and other issues such as social license, environment, sustainability, etc.
- Technical and non-technical issues impacting mine and infrastructure development and finance

Submit Abstracts and Bios to timalch@gmail.com Subject: Abstract for CTMF May 2017

As soon as possible please submit abstracts and speaker's 8 sentence bio, in Word format and the Speaker's CV, resume or detailed bio, in any format.

Space is limited. We hope to hear from you soon!

The SME CTMF Conference is a unique opportunity to stay current, discuss issues and trends and meet with key experts involved with the global mining and project finance sectors in the heart of midtown Manhattan. There is plenty of time to network with leading experts involved with investment, raising capital, project management, use of data and technology to manage mining project costs and risks.

Join Us! Space is limited. For updates about the agenda, <u>dinner</u> and <u>workshops</u> visit the CTMF Conference website at http://community.smenet.org/currenttrendsinminingfinance/home?ssopc=1



New York Section will host 2017 mining finance conference

by Tim Alch, New York Local Section Chair

The New York Section of SME will host the fifth annual Current Trends in Mining Finance Conference, *Managing Through the Cycle, Investing for the Future*, in New York, NY, April 30-May 3, 2017 at the offices of Shearman & Sterling. The 2017 conference will address how to manage through the mining cycle, global mining finance trends, and investing in technology and infrastructure. It will also discuss mining as a catalyst for economic development.

At least three workshops are planned: (1) increasing

the reliability of mineral resource estimates for exploration and development; (2) the global battery supply chain and energy storage; and (3) the legal issues concerning raising capital, public disclosure of mineral resources funding and green field versus brown field projects. There will also be two evening receptions. Visit the conference website at http://community.smenet.org/currenttrendsinminingfinance/home?ssopc=1 for updates. Sponsorships are available and welcome, as are papers and abstracts.

Mining finance meeting has record attendance

SME's fourth annual Current Trends in Mining Finance conference, *Beyond Survival: Prosperity with the New Normal Risk and Uncertainty* was held April 24-26, 2016 in New York, NY, at the offices of Shearman & Sterling. The conference, which is sponsored by the New York Local Section of SME, hosted a record attendance of 200 bankers, investors, analysts, engineers, government officials, accountants and legal experts representing 35 mining and exploration firms. More than half of the attendees traveled from outside New York City to

attend the conference, dinner, workshops and receptions. Delegates came from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Peru and the United Kingdom.

The presentations covered a range of topics, such as shifts in supply, demand and pricing; raising sources of capital; the use of technology to improve operations, and the social license to operate. Dominique Anglade, Minister of Economy, Science and Innovation for the province of Quebec, gave the keynote address.



Speakers and coordinators at the conference included (I-r) Denis Williams, general manager, Ressources Quebec/Investissement Quebec; Benoit Larouche, director, Investissement Quebec New York; Steven Gardner, SME President 2015 and chief executive officer of ECSI; Tim Alch, conference program chair and New York Section chair; Alan Oshiki, conference co-chair, Abernathy MacGregor; Dominique Anglade, Quebec Minister of Economy, Science and Innovation; Jean-Claude Lauzon, Délégué Général, Quebec Government Office, New York; Cynthia Urda Kassis, partner, Project Development & Finance Practice, Shearman & Sterling; Francois Gaudreau, director of economic affairs, Quebec Government Office, New York and John F. Prato, consul général, Canadian Consulate, New York, NY.



4th Current Trends in Mining Finance Conference

Beyond Survival:

Prosperity with the New Normal of Risk and Uncertainty

Save the Date - We hope to see you in 2017 - Join us!

Visit the CTMF Conference website for Updates, to Register and be a Sponsor of SME's 5th Annual Current Trends in Mining Finance (CTMF) Conference: Managing through the Cycle, Investing for the Future

on Sunday, April 30th to Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at the Offices of Shearman & Sterling, New York, New York

Highlights of SME's 4th Current Trends in Mining Finance Conference on April 24-26, 2016

- Record attendance with 200 bankers, investors, analysts, engineers, accounting and legal experts, government officials and 35 mining and exploration firms represented
- 60% of attendees travelled from outside New York City to attend the CTMF Conference, dinner, workshops and receptions, including delegates from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Peru and the United Kingdom
- 50+ presentations (available here) about the industry's most important and timely topics - from shifts in demand, supply and pricing resulting in an global industry-wide re-rating exercise - to discussion of raising and sources of capital, sector risks, use of technology to improve operations as well as social license and more (2016 Program available here)
- We thank the generous Sponsors including Shearman & Sterling, Dassault Systemes, Newmont Mining, the Government of Québec and other leading firms shown below























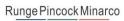






















Workshop Organizers















All enjoyed dinner guest speakers Rob McEwen, Chair, McEwen Mining & Dr. Marcelo Godoy (shown) Group Exec. Resource Modeling, Newmont Mining





After Québec's Minister Dominique Anglade's key note presentation during lunch, she was joined by two Government Officials to field audience questions about Québec's exciting Plan Nord and investment opportunities in Québec.



All welcomed officials from Québec, e.g. Denis Williams, Ressources Québec, Minister of Economy, Science & Innovation - Dominique Anglade, Delegate General - Jean-Claude Lauzon and Canada's Consul General - John Prato.



Benchmark Minerals Intelligence's Simon Moores, Managing Director and Andrew Miller (shown) led a workshop about the global battery supply chain and growing demand for critical metals, lithium, graphite, cobalt and vanadium.



Graham Clow, Chairman of RPA, led an engaging workshop together with Shearman & Sterling about technical issues and legal risks in mining today. Our other two informative workshops were well attended and enjoyed by all.



Cynthia Urda Kassis, Senior Partner of Shearman & Sterling and host of the 2016 Conference opened the event. Thank you Shearman & Sterling, Gov. of Québec, Dassault Systemes, Newmont Mining and all Conference Sponsors!



Delegates engaged with experts during presentations, roundtable discussions and Q&A periods as well as during networking breaks and evening receptions. All enjoyed an excellent time, establishing new relations. Join us in 2017!