

REE World's Technology Metals Summit - 2012 – S.K. Bhushan, RMML, Hospet - 583203

Due to their unique magnetic, fluorescent and chemical properties, REE are used in science innovations. REE are key components in many technological devices, like hybrid rechargeable batteries, catalysts, glass, polishing, magnets, lasers, TV colour components, superconductors, ceramics etc. They are of great demand for hybrid cars, CD, cameras and high end defense systems. China is the largest producer (>97% of export of world) and has currently >50% of total global resource of REO (Rare Earth Oxides). Whereas USA has 11.8% and India 2.8% resource (mostly from beach sands). Apart from China, Lynas Corporation Ltd. has REE deposit at Mt. Weld, Western Australia and Molycorp at Mountain Pass, California, USA, in advance stage of production. It is in this context that the rest of world minus China organized the conference.

The maiden REE World's Technology Metals Summit 2012 was held on 1st & 2nd February 2012 at Toronto, Canada. Apart from keynote addresses by speakers, there were panel discussions and poster sessions. Dr. Constantine Karayannopoulos, CEO, President & Director, Neo Material Technologies Inc, in his inaugural lecture discussed about the shortages, surpluses and foggy roller coaster rides; dispatches from the Rare Earth front lines. This was followed by Dr. Ian M. London, Market Development & Energy Advisor, Avalon

Rare Metals Inc, who spoke about the "attracting tomorrow's rare metal scientists, engineers and business leaders today". Mr Robert Mackay, President & CEO, Stans Energy Corp., described chemistry and metallurgy of REE, whereas Dr. Jeff Green, President, J.A. Green & company talked about the International perspectives on the future Rare Earth Supply. Dr. Keith A Delaney, Executive Director – Rare Earth Industry & Technology Association explained about the "Rare Earth Resources of USA". Dr. Jack Lifton, Founding Principal, Technology Metals Research, LLC enumerated the Australian REE deposits. He also discussed about the key drivers for supply and demand of non-Chinese Rare Earth Products. In the evening session of the first day, Dr. Daniel J. Cordier of US Geological Survey, enumerated about the Axioms and Myths of Rare Earths.

On the 2nd Day, Dr. Dudley John Kingsnorth – Executive Director of the Industrial Minerals company of Australia Pty Ltd discussed about "the Global Rare Earths Market 2012 to 2016 : A delicate balancing act". This was followed by a talk on "the Future Economic and Strategic Leverage of Rare Earths", by Ambassador Stuart W. Holliday. Dr. Gareth Hatch, Founding Principal, Technology Metals Research, LLC, highlighted about "Canada: The world's next REE power-house?". Dr.

Brandon Tirpak, International Market Analyst, Asian Metal, Inc gave details of REE market volatility and the rise of ROW supply. Ms. Tracy Weslosky, CEO Pro-edge Inc; Publisher Rare Metal Blog; Chairman, REE World spoke in lucid way about the Global REE advantage: location, talent & technique. Ms. Anu Dhir, Director and Chairman of Audit Committee, Frontier Rare Earths highlighted about the Rare Earth Roundtable, REE market, deals & M&As. Dr. Caroline Wilson, Geologist and Director of Investor Relations, Matamec Explorations Inc, specified about the great REE supply debate. Dr. James B. Hedrick, President, Hedrick Consultations Inc, visualized the Rare Earth Policy and in the last lecture, Dr. Alastair Neill – Executive Vice President, DACHA Strategic Metals Inc., mentioned about Rare Earths and Environmental Issues. Dr. Howard Fitch, President, Market Edge Media, made the closing remarks and special thanks to all the delegates.

The Technology metals summit was dominated by the delegates from North America, Europe and Australia. A few delegates from Africa, South Korea and Malaysia were present. From India, Shri Narendra Kumar A Baldota – Chairman & Managing Director of Baldota Group Companies, Mr. Arvind Mathur – Vice President, Business Development and myself attended this first world REE summit.