Swiss Mining Institute Conference Day 1

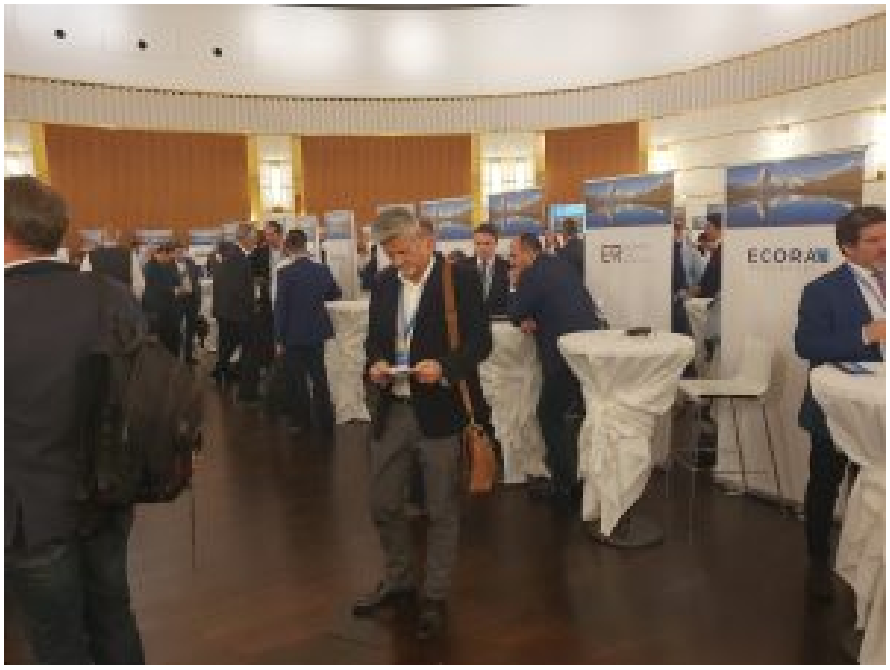
Swiss Mining Institute Conference.

The first day of the SMI Conference was a busy affair, held as usual at the magnificent Dolder Hotel, at the top of the hill overlooking the city of Zurich.

The show was well attended and lively, with both investors and exhibitors upbeat despite the recent setbacks for the price of gold.



The magnificent Dolder Grand Hotel, Zurich



SMI typical booth layout



Booths were especially busy in the afternoon.

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As usual I travelled to the conference by public transport from my hotel in central Zurich, taking the number 3 tram to Romerhof, where I alighted the delightful *Dolderbahn* for the 1.3 km journey up the side of the mountain to the hotel at the top.

This is a rack railway, surprisingly with two intermediate stops in the short 1.3 km journey. Upon arrival at the hotel station it's a short walk through to the conference centre via a subway.

As you would expect in Switzerland, registration is smooth and efficient, a nice friendly welcome from those working at the desk.

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I met six companies during the day, as I always have a mid morning arrival to ensure travel problems don't prevent my making the first meeting.

I also build in a few breaks during the day to collect my thoughts on recent meetings and network with fellow investors as well as have chance meetings with CEOs.

I met **Revival Gold, Giyani Metals, G2 Goldfields, Delta Resources, West Red Lake Gold Mines,** and **Barton Gold.**

Rua Gold were not on their booth which was disappointing, although their booth neighbour told me they were at the show. Not professional at all.

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This event is unique in that all the booths are arranged in alphabetical order so navigating from one booth to another is very simple, and easy to work out which entrance to use to enter the exhibitors room.

Another feature is the superb food and quality coffee that is served throughout the day.

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My only criticism of the show is that they only provide a seat for the exhibitor, and not the investor who has to stand at a high table. It can get tiring on the legs as the day wears on and afternoon meetings are often held elsewhere, such as bar areas where both parties can sit in comfort.

This can mean it’s sometimes difficult to locate the company representatives as they’re located elsewhere. I missed a meeting because of this.

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