

News

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The Presenters At Our March Minesite Forum Played To A Packed House, As London's Investors Continue To Seek Out New Opportunities

By Alastair Ford

With Indaba and PDAC now done and dusted it'd be fair to say that the mining year 2010 is now in full swing. And while it might perhaps be stretching the bounds of credibility to say that after those two great shindigs, the one in Cape Town, the other in Toronto, the mining world then moved on in force to our own 66th Minesite forum in London, it certainly wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that our own most recent event, held on 16th March, was well attended, and that attendees and presenters alike went away more than satisfied. It's not a like-for-like comparison, of course, especially not where the PDAC is concerned. The 100-plus attendees at the Minesite forum are just a drop in the ocean when compared to PDAC's reported 27,000 delegates. But what Minesite lacks in scale it makes up for in intimacy and focus. The audience at our 66th forum was, as usual, made up of high net worth individuals, fund managers, brokers, company executives and other industry professionals. All had come to hear specific stories. What's more, and as has been usual for several months now, the companies that presented played to a house that was packed close to capacity. They're packing them in in Toronto, and, in our own way we're packing them in at Armourer's Hall too.

Perhaps the most popular of the diverse mix of companies at this month's forum was **Sabre Resources**. Australian-listed Sabre first attracted the attention of London-based investors in a serious way at this year's Indaba. And having done so, it was a short step to come over to London to gauge the appetite in a more scientific manner. Judging by the reaction of our attendees, the appetite is certainly there, which was interesting in itself, as our forum was the first time Sabre had ever presented its projects to the public at large. Sabre holds 600 square kilometres of ground in Namibia, not far from the famous mining town of Tsumeb. This is early stage exploration, and it's perhaps a measure of how far markets have recovered that it's attracted such interest, but the hope is that with some quick footwork the company will be able to put out a maiden JORC resource for its Border project in the third quarter of this year. That'll be something to look forward to. But Dr Matthew Painter, general manager, exploration, also whetted appetites when he stated matter-of-factly that the company is "still at the point where we're making brand new discoveries on a monthly basis". There should be a lot more news to come.