

About the Companies on my "Featured Opportunities" Page...

Over the years, I have been an advocate of investors seeking to augment their overall portfolio returns by segmenting a small portion of their available investment funds, and devoting them to what can be variously called "story" stocks, speculative companies and the like. Resource exploration (most often, but not exclusively), biotechnology, I.T. and other areas are where often HUGE gains can be realized in promising COMPANIES before the rest of the world discovers them. The flip side, of course, is that many a good-looking company and story, in the end, DOESN'T MAKE IT.

But many do and sometimes spectacularly so; especially if sufficient research and care is taken in selecting opportunities. That, of course, is a part of MY job: to make these kinds of opportunities known to my Members.



Yours truly -- third from left -- on a past trip to Minnesota's Iron Range. PolyMet Mining there is one of the past "10-baggers" my Members have enjoyed!

One of the challenges that such prospective companies have is to get their story out to the retail investing public. These days, for numerous reasons, most retail brokerage firms will not recommend most individual companies--certainly, not smaller, off-the-radar ones--to their clients. That makes it necessary for *you* to find them on your own as an individual investor; or to subscribe to services like *The National Investor* that do this homework for you.

As the investment newsletter/financial web site industries have evolved with lightning speed, it makes it necessary for companies to adapt to these changes; the technological ones, as well as the necessarily-changed ways in which individual investors such as yourself come in contact with their story. On that score, I have put together a broad "Market Awareness" program to greatly augment the exposure that those companies who choose to participate will have to audiences beyond that of our own newsletter/web site.

As each of the expanded Special Reports on this page discloses, the companies involved have underwritten certain costs for the increased dissemination of their coverage. You will want to read these notifications, together with links, in some cases, to specific disclosures, qualifications concerning "forward-looking information" and more on their own web sites. That should be a *part* of your own due diligence, as you learn of these compelling stories.



My own due diligence often includes personally traveling to and checking out opportunities. . .visiting at length with management and others. . .all as I "kick the tires" of often-uncovered opportunities. There has not been a more spectacular example of success in these efforts recently as there has been with one of my Featured Opportunity companies--Cornerstone Capital Resources--and the monstrous Cascabel Project in Ecuador. In a story that is *still* incredibly unknown to many investors, Cornerstone and its J.V. partner SolGold, plc own the largest and most exciting new copper/gold porphyry discovery in the world there.

Ecuador with lightning speed over the last several years has re-established itself as a competitive, attractive mining jurisdiction. Above at left you see Yours truly, together with Cornerstone's country manager and geologist Yvan Crepeau, at the big Fall, 2016 meeting in Quito put on by the country's Chamber of Mines. Above right, we are joined by other Cornerstone and SolGold personnel on site.

Here, I want to quickly explain the "rules," if you will, for these companies...and for *The National Investor...in our Market Awareness campaigns:*

1. **NO Company can "buy" a recommendation from me.** In each case now or in the future, the companies recommended by me in *The National Investor* get there **on their merits**. I have never in the past, do not now, or ever will in the future recommend a company because I was being paid to do so...or because that company wanted to provide part of the costs for this marketing effort. (Indeed, I have on a few occasions been approached by companies who were not already recommended by me, desiring to become a part of my Market Awareness campaign *that I have turned down*, due to my not having a sufficient grasp of or faith in that particular company to add them to my recommendations.)

2. **Paid Members of** *The National Investor* **will always have "first dibs."** Companies will not be considered or accepted for participation in this effort unless they are *already* recommended by me in the newsletter, and then-current Members have already had the first opportunity to hear their stories and, if they so choose, to act.

3. The fact that other of my recommended companies are NOT on this page does not mean that they are less worthy of consideration. A lot of "ingredients" have to come together for it to make sense for a company to engage in this particular type of marketing program. Not only does there have to be the need for such added exposure as this is expected to bring, *but it must also be necessary and timely*. That might not always be the case.

If you have any questions or comments, feel free to write me at <u>chris@nationalinvestor.com</u>.

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