

**LITHIUM: FUNDAMENTAL SUPPLY/DEMAND, THE LITHIUM BRINES OF
SOUTH AMERICA AND EXPLORATION/DEVELOPMENT
METHODOLOGIES**

Steve Promnitz

Lake Resources Ltd., steve@lakeresources.com.au

Demand for electric vehicles has surprised to the upside in the past year with a widening realisation of a significant shortfall in supply of lithium for lithium ion batteries from both hard rock and brine sources. South American lithium brines contribute approximately 50% of global lithium supply but new supply developments are choked in the short to medium time due to development timelines and regulatory restrictions. Current exploration and development methodologies of lithium brines are reviewed with the latest extraction techniques summarised.