

# Lifton, Smith, Clausi and Ecclestone on the unique challenges and opportunities in the critical materials supply chain

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The Technology Metals Show hosts Jack Lifton and Peter Clausi talk to Christopher Ecclestone, Principal and mining strategist at Hallgarten & Company, and Mitchell Smith, President & CEO of [Global Energy Metals Corp.](#) (TSXV: GEMC | OTCQB: GBLEF) about the critical materials supply chain and why it is different from the supply chain of any other metal.

Available exclusively to [subscribers](#) of the [Technology Metals Show](#), the panel discusses why the recent General Motors announcement of a \$27 billion spend on electric and autonomous vehicles through 2025 is “a trend that we will see a lot more of” according to Mitchell Smith, one of the top influencers in the battery minerals sector, as more companies are looking for localized and ethical sources of cobalt, lithium, rare earths and other critical materials.

In this important discussion Jack Lifton explains the vital relationship between cobalt and copper and nickel mining. With cobalt as a by-product, he added, “unless there is copper and nickel mining, there won’t be any cobalt produced.”

Christopher highlighted the role and techniques for recycling as a source of critical materials, and challenges in securing a reliable supply chain for critical materials.

In the interview, the panel also spends some time discussing MP Materials' Mountain Pass Mine, and why it illustrates the need for diversification in the rare earths supply chain.

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