

Speech: The British are here – A celebration of UK participation at Exponor 2017

We are here at this spectacular venue, courtesy of FCAB (Ferrocarriil de Antofagasta a Bolivia), surrounded by some past British innovation and technology. At Exponor 2017 we are celebrating and promoting some current and future British innovation and technology.

Innovation and technology which we believe can help meet some of the needs of Chile's mining sector. Two years ago we met here in Antofagasta against the background of a tough year for the copper market and slowing global demand. The price of copper is, of course, crucial to Chile's economy. Price analysis and relationship to investment was a major theme of this morning's seminar. A major theme of Exponor 2017 overall is innovation and technology and the role it has to play in transforming the mining sector. The industry is focused on finding ways to improve production efficiency, reduce costs, and to create sustainable partnerships to drive growth.

The mining industry has historically been a strong part of the bilateral relationship between Chile and the UK. 70% of British investments in Chile are in the mining sector, in large part responsible for the UK being one of the largest investors in Chile. Chile is home to a number of important British or UK-linked companies. A priority for the Embassy is to involve a further range of British expertise, innovation, products and services contributing to mining and the mining supply chain here in Chile.

Chile is an attractive country in which to do business. We believe that British expertise makes the UK an excellent supplier that seeks to use innovation and technology to meet pressing mining sector needs such as energy, equipment, efficiency and education.

The proof of this is the constant participation of British companies in the successive Exponor and Expomin mining fairs where the whole spectre of services and products are represented: from environmental monitoring, energy, through mining security, logistics, water treatment, mineral processing, operation efficiency, engineering to construction and satellite technologies.

Here at Exponor 2017 – we have:

- Aggreko – delivering innovative power and cooling systems for every stage of the lifecycle of the mine.
- EHS Data – with a world leading environmental data management solution.
- FMC – Friction Marketing Company – with innovative materials for equipment manufacturers in the earthmoving and mining equipment industry.
- LMK Thermosafe – a world leader in heating solutions for industrial containers.

- PacificTek – manufacturers of Concrete Canvas, a flexible fabric, that hardens on hydration to form a durable, concrete layer.
- Satellite Applications Catapult – making use of satellite based technologies and data, including with regard to environmental and social impact issues for the mining industry.
- Turner and Townsend – a services company with global expertise addressing programme, project and cost management.
- And British Airways, with a raffle to win a return ticket, to celebrate the new direct flight from Santiago to London.

And I hope we will also see many of you at Chile Day, 29/30 June in London. A great opportunity to promote investment possibilities here in Chile.

Our commercial team at the British Embassy continues to work to highlight the many opportunities in Chile to companies in the UK; and to highlight British expertise to help address some of the challenges in the mining industry

- How do you assess the geology, develop the extraction techniques, assess the environmental impacts, analyse the lifetime of a mine – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you increase efficiency and optimise process engineering in the lifecycle of the mine – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you improve energy efficiency and optimise water demands – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you capitalise on and diversify from new opportunities, such as lithium – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you project manage, optimise cost control and manage the supply chain – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you transform an industry, its culture and its working practices – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you ensure you have all the regulatory standards, and financial and legal services in place – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you do a different sort of mining – mining the data that can transform the mining industry – we have the expertise, innovation and technology.
- How do you inspire, train and educate the next generation – and for that some of the best universities and colleges in the world.

We look forward to further building the partnership between UK and Chile, in transforming trade, in increasing investment and in linking people. We also work closely with our Embassy colleagues across Latin America to encourage UK participation in the mining sector. Please make the most of this evening to build some of those links – talk to the British Companies, here to participate in the largest mining fair in Latin America. Talk to the Embassy team here, from Santiago, who have helped to organise the UK stand and this reception, Please come and visit our stand in the copper pavilion. We would be delighted to talk to you, about how you see the mining sector in Chile and how British expertise can help contribute to the next phase of growth.

Fiona Clouder – Her Majesty's Ambassador

Scottish Conservatives launch election pledge

1 Jun 2017



The Scottish Conservatives have today launched five key pledges for the General Election – setting out their promises to people in Scotland who vote for them a week today.

Scottish Conservatives MPs elected on June 8 will stand on a clear pledge to respect the democratic decisions taken in the last few years, and make Scotland and the UK stronger.

The five-point pledge commits every Scottish Conservative MP to:

- Respect Scotland's decision to stay in the UK.
- Oppose the SNP's second referendum.
- Deliver for Scotland – so we lead the UK, not leave it.
- Strengthen bonds between Westminster and Holyrood.
- Work for the best Brexit deal in Scotland and the UK.

Launching the pledge in South Queensferry today, Scottish Conservative leader Ruth Davidson said:

"We want to send a strong team of Scottish Conservative MPs to Westminster not to divide but to deliver for Scotland.

"Every Scottish Conservative MP will stand by our decision to say no to independence.

"Instead of spending their time on yet more constitutional division, every Scottish Conservative MP will instead focus on ensuring Scotland's voice is heard where it counts.

"We will seek to strengthen the ties between Holyrood and Westminster, so our country works better for all.

"And we will work hard to ensure we get the best Brexit deal for everyone, right across the UK.

"Too many SNP MPs in the last two years have failed to meet the standards we expect of them, and have failed to deliver.

"Scottish Conservative MPs will work constructively and positively in Westminster to get real results for Scotland and the UK."

The Economist backs the Liberal Democrats

The Economist has endorsed the Liberal Democrats one week out from polling day. It says they “consider a vote for the Lib Dems as a down-payment for the future.”

The influential magazine argues that “the leaders of both main parties have turned away from a decades-old vision of an open, liberal country” leaving only Tim Farron and the Liberal Democrats representing the large majority of British voters who want to live in an open, tolerant and united Britain.

Why the Liberal Democrats get our vote <https://t.co/jGtUiSsFi8>

– The Economist (@TheEconomist) [June 1, 2017](#)

The Liberal Democrats, like the experts at The Economist, believe that Britain should remain open: to business, investment and people. This used to be common-sense but both the Conservatives and Labour have abandoned the centre ground. Theresa May is pursuing an extreme Brexit that will damage our economy and our relationship with our neighbours whilst, Corbyn has veered off to what the Economist dubs as “the loony left”. This leaves us, standing up for those who want a better future for their children.

Spelling out the reasons to vote Liberal Democrat on 8 June, The Economist says it boils down to the fact that:

- We want membership of the single market and free movement.
- We are more honest than the Tories about the need to raise taxes for public services;
- And more sensible than Labour, spreading the burden rather than leaning only on high-earners
- We are on the right side of other issues: for devolution of power from London, reform of the voting system and the House of Lords, and regulation of markets for drugs and sex

We are the “radical centre, essential for a thriving, prosperous Britain” as The Economist puts it. Vote Lib Dem on 8 June.

News story: Dangerous occurrence near Kirkham

Obstruction left on the line near Kirkham, Lancashire, 15 May 2017.

At around 05:15 hrs on 15 May a railway maintenance vehicle, which was moving in an engineering possession, stopped short of a large steel pile on the line. The pile, weighing around 1 tonne, had been left there on completion of earlier engineering works.

We have undertaken a [preliminary examination](#) into the circumstances surrounding this incident. Having assessed the evidence which has been gathered to date, we have decided to publish a [safety digest](#).

The safety digest will shortly be made available on our website.

Press release: Charity Commission to hold public meeting in Cardiff

The Charity Commission, the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales, will hold its next public meeting on 29 June 2017. The meeting will take place from 11:30am to 3:30pm at Cardiff City Stadium, Leckwith Rd, Cardiff CF11 8AZ.

William Shawcross, Chairman, and Eryl Besse, Deputy Chairman, will open and chair the meeting prior to presentations from senior staff, to include a presentation from the Chief Operating Officer David Holdsworth, who will discuss the digital transformation of the Commission. There will also be a presentation by David Teague of ICO Wales.

The meeting will focus on guiding trustees and their charities through data and digital challenges, will provide updates on our key guidance for trustees, and will highlight important lessons to take home from our casework. Attendees will also be given an update on the Commission's activities and have the opportunity to ask questions before the meeting concludes.

The event is free of charge and charity trustees, employees and advisers are urged to attend.

Please register to attend through [Eventbrite](#). Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-serve basis and are limited to 2 attendees

per organisation. Members of the press are also welcome to attend and are asked to register their interest with the press office directly at pressenquiries@charitycommission.gsi.gov.uk.

Papers for public meeting 29 June 2017

Ends

PR 45/17

Notes to editors

1. [The Charity Commission](#) is the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales. To find out more about our work, see our [annual report](#).
2. Search for charities on our [online register](#).