



## PROJECT NEWS

Contact [emma@im-mining.com](mailto:emma@im-mining.com)

### PROJECT NEWS (35), December 23, 2007

News from those projects making progress towards production – more every two weeks

*A collection of recent starts and progress reports from around the world - updates on projects around the globe likely to be in the market for equipment and services.*

<i>CANADA - Selwyn Resources - ZINC/LEAD</i> .....	3
<i>TAJIKISTAN - Kryso Resources - GOLD</i> .....	3
<i>PERU - Zincore Metals - ZINC/LEAD</i> .....	4
<i>CANADA - Alexco Resource Corp/ Elsa Reclamation and Development/ United Keno Hill Mines/ UKH Minerals SILVER/LEAD/ZINC</i> .....	4
<i>CANADA - Advanced Explorations - IRON ORE</i> .....	5
<i>AUSTRALIA - Exco Resources - COPPER/GOLD</i> .....	5
<i>CANADA - Hard Creek Nickel - NICKEL/COBALT</i> .....	5
<i>BOTSWANA - Discovery Metals - COPPER/GOLD</i> .....	6
<i>CANADA - North American Palladium/ Vale Inco - NICKEL/PGM</i> .....	6
<i>BRAZIL - Largo Resources - VANADIUM/PGM</i> .....	6
<i>CANADA - Garson Gold - GOLD</i> .....	7
<i>USA - Galway Resources - MOLYBDENUM</i> .....	7
<i>CANADA - Abacus Mining and Exploration/ New Gold/ Teck Cominco - COPPER/GOLD</i> .....	7
<i>CHILE - Global Copper - COPPER/MOLY</i> .....	8
<i>BRAZIL - Brazauro's - GOLD</i> .....	8
<i>AUSTRALIA - Navigator Resources - GOLD</i> .....	8
<i>USA - Coral Gold Resources - GOLD</i> .....	9
<i>RUSSIA – Aricom - IRON ORE</i> .....	9
<i>SOUTH AFRICA - Braemore Resources/ Pan Palladium/ Impala Platinum/ Ivanhoe Nickel and Platinu - PGM</i> ..	9
<i>TUNISIA - Maghreb Minerals - LEAD/ZINC/BARITE/FLUORSPAR</i> .....	10
<i>USA - Revett Minerals - COPPER/SILVER</i> .....	10
<i>CANADA - Erdene Gold/ Donkin Coal Alliance/ Xstrata Coal Canada/ Xstrata Coal Donkin Management - COAL</i> .....	10
<i>MEXICO - Creston Moly Corp - MOLYBDENUM</i> .....	11
<i>PERU/ARGENTINA - Xstrata Copper - COPPER</i> .....	11
<i>PERU - Northern Peru Copper Corp/ with China Minmetals Nonferrous Metals/ Jiangxi Copper Co - COPPER</i>	11
<i>AUSTRALIA - Universal Resources - COPPER/GOLD</i> .....	12
<i>AUSTRALIA - Auzex Resources - MOLYBDENUM/BISMUTH</i> .....	12
<i>SOUTH AFRICA – Wesizwe/ Western Bushveld Joint Venture (Platinum Group Metals, Anglo Platinum Royal Bafokeng Resources) - PGM</i>	12
<i>PERU - Minera Santa Luis/ Pan Pacific Copper/ Mitsui Mining and Smeltin/ Nippon Mining &amp; Metals – COPPER</i> .....	13
<i>PERU - Detour Gold Corp - COPPER</i> .....	13
<i>AUSTRALIA – Minemakers - POLYMETALLIC</i> .....	13
<i>CANADA - Golden Queen Mining - GOLD/SILVER</i> .....	14
<i>DRC - Moto Goldmines - GOLD</i> .....	15
<i>ROMANIA - Gabriel Resources/ Rosia Montana Gold Corp - GOLD</i> .....	16
<i>USA - Freeport McMoRan Copper and Gold - GOLD</i> .....	16
<i>BOLIVIA - IRON ORE</i> .....	17
<i>CANADA - Fortune Minerals - COBALT/GOLD/BISMUTH</i> .....	17

Guatemalan power transmission grid, and a new 150 MW pet-coke fired power plant will be installed in Phase 2 of the project, during years 2 through 5 of operations.

The Phase 1 capital cost is estimated to be C\$640 million, which includes direct costs of C\$355 million, indirect costs of C\$157 million, a contingency of C\$65 million and owner's costs of C\$63 million. Based on a nickel price of C\$6.50/lb, an iron credit of C\$0.20/lb. and royalties and other costs of C\$0.49/lb, the ferro-nickel project's IRR is estimated at 14.3% and its NPV at C\$275 million with a 10% discount rate. The IRR is estimated at 19.8% and its NPV at C\$667 million at a long term nickel price of C\$8.00 per lb. Cash operating costs are estimated to average \$2.66/lb over the 30-year project life. During the first five years of production (while power is being purchased) they are estimated to be \$3.47/lb. Thereafter, assuming the construction of a solid-fuel power plant, cash operating costs are estimated to be \$2.34/lb for years 6 through 20.

Skye's hydromet project would expand annual output by an average of 49 Mlb beyond the ferro-nickel project's production. The new plant would employ high-pressure acid leach technology to process Fenix limonite resources producing a nickel/cobalt hydroxide intermediate for further refining. A sulphur-burning acid plant would produce sulphuric acid, to leach the plant feed, as well as by-product steam for use in the autoclaves and to supply approximately one-third of the power required for the hydromet project. The Preliminary Assessment has been completed. [www.skyeresources.com](http://www.skyeresources.com)

---

<b>Country: SOUTH AFRICA</b>	<b>Owner in UK</b>	<b>PGM</b>
------------------------------	--------------------	------------

---

December 13: **Ridge Mining's** 50% owned subsidiary, **Blue Ridge Platinum** has signed loan agreements for the provision of \$107 million project finance for the continued development of the Blue Ridge platinum group metals mine on the Eastern Limb of the Bushveld Complex in South Africa. The development of the 149,000 oz/y (6E) mine commenced in January 2007 and has been funded to date by equity provided by Ridge and its joint venture partner **Imbani Platinum**.

The finance is being provided by a consortium of South African banks comprising the Standard Bank of South Africa, Investec Bank, the Development Bank of Southern Africa and the Industrial Development Corp of South Africa.

Under the terms of the loan agreements Blue Ridge Platinum will enter into hedging arrangements to protect the Rand price of metals for the first few years of the production. Full details of the quantum and pricing of this hedging will be announced once these have been fixed.

The Blue Ridge mine will produce 6E (platinum, palladium, rhodium, ruthenium, iridium and gold) in concentrate, and remains on target for production in the fourth quarter 2008. The project has a planned mine life of 18 years. Development commenced at the beginning of 2007 and all critical path items are on target to meet the production target. [www.ridgeminig.com](http://www.ridgeminig.com)

---

<b>Country: AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>Owner in AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>PGM</b>
---------------------------	---------------------------	------------

---

December 14: **Intec** announces that the Development Approval has been granted for the Hellyer Residues Project in Tasmania, ahead of the expected schedule. After receiving a positive assessment and required approval conditions from the Tasmanian

Department of Tourism, Arts and the Environment, Waratah-Wynyard Council has today promptly issued the Development Approval for the project. Intec is now assessing the conditions of the approval.

The company now intends to obtain the requisite Building Permit in order to commence site works at Hellyer forthwith. This is in preparation for the stockpiling of electric arc furnace (EAF) dust feedstock, to be transported from the Australian mainland onto the Hellyer site from January 2008. Further engineering work will continue to be conducted for the major plant infrastructure during the March 2008 quarter, with the intention of finalising project finance and/or project partners during the ensuing quarter. Several companies have already expressed interest in becoming involved in the project. The receipt ahead of schedule of the Development Approval for the residues project represents the achievement of another major milestone and the project remains on-schedule for construction in 2008 and operation in 2009.

The Intec Hellyer mill, the Hellyer tailings resource and the associated assets are 100% owned by Intec. The mill was restarted as the Hellyer Zinc Concentrate Project in December 2006 in joint venture with **Polymetals**, one of Australia's largest unlisted mining groups. Under the terms of this 50/50 joint venture agreement, Polymetals will operate the Intec Hellyer Mill for four years (expiring 1 December 2010) or until 6 Mt of tailings have been processed, whichever comes first. At the end of the agreement, Intec has the right to purchase Polymetals' half share for A\$1.

**Intec Hellyer Metals** is also in the process of implementing at Hellyer the first commercial project using the Intec Process, a patented Australian hydrometallurgical technology for the recovery of base and precious metals from a range of different feed stocks. Scheduled for construction in 2008 and operation in 2009, the Hellyer Residues Project to recycle EAF dust (a zinc-bearing waste from steel recycling) will share the Hellyer site, offering a number of synergies between the two operations. [www.intec.com.au](http://www.intec.com.au)

---

<b>Country: ZAMBIA</b>	<b>Owner in AUSTRALIA</b>	<b>NICKEL</b>
------------------------	---------------------------	---------------

---

December 14: **Albidon** has completed a placement with Jinchuan Group and ZCCM Investments Holdings to raise \$25 million. The company has also secured a further \$20 million in financing from Barclays Capital. Together these monies fulfill the remaining funding required for development of the Munali nickel project in Zambia and will also ensure Albidon retains sufficient funds for exploration, increased drilling activities and business development activities.

Munali (100% Albidon) is located approximately 60 km south of Lusaka. The project area comprises the Enterprise deposit and a number of other nickel prospects around the Munali intrusion, the most advanced of which is the Voyager prospect along strike from Enterprise.

Jinchuan is China's largest producer of nickel, cobalt and platinum group metals and is a major producer of copper. The Jinchuan Group's current nickel production is approximately 100,000 t/y, with a target to reach 150,000 t/y by 2010. The investment in the Munali project is a key part of Jinchuan's strategy to meet this goal.

The project's forward program includes completing the construction of the Munali concentrator plant – scheduled for mid second quarter 2008. On continuing development of the Enterprise decline, the target is to intersect the first production levels March 2008, in time for the first ore into the concentrator. Albidon will also complete the initial resource estimate on the Voyager prospect. [www.albidon.com](http://www.albidon.com)