

Good greenfields hits for Shaw

Polymetallic explorer Shaw River Resources Ltd has announced good gold hits at its Hedland gold project in Western Australia's Pilbara region.

Managing director Vince Algar said the latest drilling confirmed "the gold endowment of this excellent geological address defined by two major intersecting mineralised Pilbara geological structures, the Tabba Tabba and Mallina shear zones".

Shaw has a groundholding of more than 6,000sq km in the Pilbara, turf intimately known by two of the company's non-executive directors, Denis O'Meara and Dave Flanagan (who is developing Atlas Iron Ltd's iron ore plays in the same region).

Algar said the current reconnaissance drilling at Hedland (50km east of Port Hedland) was testing several geochemical and structural targets defined by VTEM (versatile time domain electromagnetics) and airborne drilling just over a year ago.

No exploration work had been done at the project before Shaw began its programme there.

New intercepts, which are 1.5km and 3km north of the gold intercepts announced in mid-November at the Screamer anomaly, include results from the Hunky Dory and Transformer anomalies, which have identified further related gold mineralisation.

Best results included: 9m @ 1.81 g/t gold from 77m including 2m @ 5.76 g/t gold from 83m and 2m @ 1.5g/t gold from 77m in **STRC026** at Transformer; and 1m at 2.21 g/t gold from 101m in **STRC017** at Hunky Dory.

"Further results of the ongoing RC drilling programme are expected later in December, with follow up work to start in early 2008 once geological interpretation of these first pass results has been undertaken over Christmas," said Algar.

Shaw is also chasing nickel, zinc, copper, lead, silver and uranium on its tenements and the company's intention is to target "opportunities that have the potential to yield 1 moz gold, 5,000t uranium oxide, 18,000t nickel, 78,000t copper or 149,000t zinc metal".

– Barry Avery

Mutiny advancing work on two fronts

Diversified resources company Mutiny Gold Ltd is rapidly moving forward with development of its two Australian projects – the Cassilis gold project in Victoria and the Secret Creek copper-gold project in Western Australia.

Mutiny expects results from exploration activities from both projects to be released in the next two months.

The company continues to meet its strategic milestones at Cassilis on time, with the completion of the 50m drill drive in the hanging wall of the Cassilis reef at the end of the Shamrock Adit. The 3.5m by 3.5m drill drive has been developed to aid the definition of the Cassilis reef at depth.

This is the first suite of drill holes to target the historic reef below the level where mining ceased in 1916. The first drill hole of a 12-hole programme began in December, with first assay results due by the end of 2007.

Recent target drilling into the Cassilis from the Shamrock Adit recorded excellent grades of up to 22 g/t gold and this programme was expected to extend that discovery.

Further work was also planned at the Donnelly's copper-gold prospect, which was a focal point of the Secret Creek project.

Managing director John Greeve said the company was extremely encouraged with the recent exploration at Donnelly's, recording chip samples of up to 26% copper and an apparent mineralised zone in excess of 1,500m in length.

"The company is setting out to drill Donnelly's in the New Year and is continuing its systematic exploration approach," Greeve said.

"We are doing this in a manner which enables the momentum at Cassilis to be maintained."

Emmerson IPO closes oversubscribed

Northern Territory-focused gold company Emmerson Resources Ltd was set to make its debut on the ASX in mid-December, after closing its \$15 million IPO heavily oversubscribed – raising a total of \$20 million

including the full \$5 million of oversubscriptions.

Managing director Rob Bills said the investor response to the IPO had been outstanding, with a very strong level of institutional and retail investor interest, and applications received for substantially more than the \$20 million maximum subscription level.

"We are delighted with the outcome, which will put us in a very strong position to commence a focused exploration programme across our high quality portfolio of tenements in the Tennant Creek mineral field of the NT," Bills said.

"The company will enter 2008 in a strong funding position and with the capacity to really hit the ground running in terms of our exploration strategy.

"Our objective is to build on the extensive work we have already completed on re-evaluating the entire Tennant Creek field and to start activities geared towards delivering a new generation of high-quality discoveries."

Emmerson will issue a total of 100 million shares at 20c each under the IPO and, on listing, it will have a total of 203.5 million shares and 21.5 million unlisted options on issue – giving it a market capitalisation at the listing price of \$40.7 million.

Emmerson has a dominant ground position, covering 2,700sq km in Tennant Creek, which is one of the highest grade gold provinces in Australia.

Its asset base also includes ownership of the only gold treatment facility in the region – the Warrego carbon-in-pulp processing plant – and a substantial geological database covering more than 50 years of exploration history plus extensive infrastructure and equipment.

Sweeter Mount Morgan deal for Norton

With almost a year past since Norton Gold Fields Ltd entered into an agreement to acquire the Mount Morgan gold project in Queensland, it announced it had restructured the acquisition to settle with the vendors for a single cash payment of \$4.5 million.

The original terms of the acquisition had Norton providing consideration of 10,468,900

Norton shares and \$3.125 million in cash. The new terms represent a saving of \$3.5 million for the company.

"With more than \$40 million in the bank, we have taken advantage of strong cash flows from our Paddington operation to minimise shareholder dilution. Our ability to do this highlights the strength of our balance sheet, the strong performance focus at our Paddington operation, and our commitment to preserve and enhance shareholder value," managing director Tim Prowse said. "The Mount Morgan project is a good addition to our Paddington gold mine at Kalgoorlie (Western Australia), giving Norton operations in two states and expanding on our gold production base," chairman Anthony McLellan said. The former Mount Morgan gold mine is 35km from Rockhampton, Queensland, while the acquisition includes 30 mining leases covering 677.5ha.

The tailings dams and mullock dumps at Mount Morgan contain about 8mt of material potentially available for re-processing – there is further potential within the mineralised slag dumps. Norton plans to develop a tailings re-treatment project on the site. The initial target is to treat 4mt of tailings and mullock with an average grade of 1.69 g/t containing 225,000oz of gold, of which some 180,000oz is likely to be recoverable over an initial four-year period. Considerable drilling, metallurgical testing and design work has already been carried out. Technical and economic reviews are planned for completion over the coming months. The development plan includes relocation of its 750,000 tpa capacity Kundana CIP gold processing plant from WA to Mount Morgan.