



## Board Appointments LSE – April 2011

### **Mining**

**African Minerals Ltd**  
**Aureus Mining Ltd**  
**Coal of Africa Ltd**  
**ECR Minerals Ltd**  
**Frontier Mining Ltd**  
**Noventa Ltd**  
**Nyota Minerals Ltd**  
**Sirius Minerals Plc**  
**UK Coal Plc**

#### **African Minerals Limited**

African Minerals Limited is pleased to announce the appointments of Mr. Bernard Robert Pryor, and Ms. Nina B Shapiro, both as Independent Non-Executive Directors. Mr. Pryor, aged 53, is currently the Chief Executive of Q Resources plc. Between 2006 and 2010 he held senior executive positions within Anglo American PLC as Head of Business Development, and CEO of Anglo Ferrous Brazil Inc. From 2000 to 2006 he was Director and Chief Operating Officer of Adastra Minerals Inc, developing the Kolwezi tailings deposit in DRC. Before that he held several global minerals consulting positions.

Mr. Pryor is a graduate of Imperial College, London, from where he received a BSc (Hons) in Metallurgical Engineering.

Ms. Shapiro, aged 62, recently retired from her last role as VP, Finance and Treasury and member of the Management Group, for the International Finance Corporation of the World Bank Group. She has had a distinguished career serving for more than 30 years in the World Bank, well respected for innovative work in the emerging and developed capital markets, as well as in project and structured finance.

Ms. Shapiro is a graduate of Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts from where she received a BA. She also holds a MBA from Harvard Business School and an MRP from Harvard Graduate School of Design.

Commenting on the Board changes, Frank Timis, Executive Chairman of African Minerals said, "It is with great pleasure that I welcome Bernie and Nina to the board of African Minerals, where their combined extensive mining and international investment knowledge and experience will be a major asset to African Minerals as we continue to grow the Company.

#### **Aureus Mining Inc**

Aureus Mining Inc. ("Aureus" or the "Company"), the TSX (AUE) and AIM (AUE) listed Exploration and Development company focused on gold in Sub-Saharan Africa, announces that David Allan Knight (56) has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director of the Company. David is a Partner at Macleod Dixon LLP and practices principally in the areas of securities and mining law. David is a Member of the

Canadian Institute of Mining and the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada.

As a result of Mr Knight's appointment Marvin Singer's resignation is now effective. Mr Knight resigned from Armstrong Corporation in September 2002. In January 2003 Deloitte & Touche were appointed by a secured creditor of Armstrong as receiver manager of the assets of Armstrong and on March 13, 2003, Armstrong was petitioned into bankruptcy by such creditors.

### **Coal of Africa Limited**

Subsequent to the appointment of Mr John Wallington as Chief Executive Officer in mid-June 2010, Coal of Africa Limited ("CoAL" or the "Company"), the AIM/ASX/JSE listed coal mining and development company operating in South Africa (ticker: CZA), continues to implement organisational changes that will transform it into a fully-fledged operating coal mining business.

CoAL is therefore pleased to announce that it has appointed Mr Wayne Koonin as Financial Director, effective 1 April 2011. Mr Koonin qualified as a Chartered Accountant (South Africa) in 1997 and holds a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) and a Bachelor of Accounting (Honours) degree, both from the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa.

Over the past 12 years, Mr Koonin has gained extensive international experience working in senior financial roles for Canadian, South African, British and Swiss based exploration, development and operating mining companies, covering a variety of commodities, including coal. As a result, he has had exposure to various international accounting standards, taxation and regulatory environments, as well as responsibility for entities listed on the JSE Limited ("JSE"), Australian Securities Exchange ("ASX"), Financial Times Stock Exchange ("FTSE"), Alternative Investment Market ("AIM") and National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations ("NASDAQ").

In addition to his extensive financial and management experience on an international level, his successes include managing the turnaround of various mining businesses, implementing various financial and operational systems, capital raising and debt financing exercises, multiple corporate finance transactions and a JSE listing. Mr Koonin has most recently been the Chief Financial Officer of Platmin Limited, a platinum mining company listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX"), AIM and JSE.

As part of his package, and subject to shareholder approval, Mr. Koonin will be entitled to receive CoAL shares.

To coincide with the appointment of Mr Koonin as Finance Director, the Company's current Finance Director Mr. Blair Sergeant has resigned, effective 1 April 2011. This follows the relocation of his family back to Perth, Australia, after a three year secondment to CoAL's offices in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr Sergeant will continue to be involved with the Company through his appointment as Managing Director of Lemur Resources Limited, which aims to develop a Madagascan coal asset in which CoAL has a major shareholding. Mr Sergeant will remain on hand until the end of April 2011 to assist with handover of responsibilities to Mr Koonin and in order to complete certain tasks. The Board extends its gratitude to Mr Sergeant for his contribution over the last three years.

As part of the Company's re-organisation, Mr Simon Farrell, Deputy Chairman, will move to a non-executive role on the CoAL Board, with effect from 1 April 2011. Mr

Farrell will now concentrate on a co-coordinating role for the Tshipise Energy Project (a Gas Joint Venture Project in which CoAL has a 50% interest) and the proposed Limpopo Major Industrial Complex Project, which is conceptually exploring the formation of an appropriate structure between the South African Government and industry that would drive the development of downstream beneficiation projects relating to power, synfuel and steel manufacture. The Company believes these projects could have significant potential for the Limpopo Province, in particular, and South Africa in general.

### **ECR MINERALS Plc**

ECR Minerals plc is pleased to announce that Stephen Clayson has been appointed an Executive Director of the Company and that Luca Tenuta has been appointed a Non-Executive Director. These changes are effective 1 April 2011.

Stephen James Clayson (British, aged 25), Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer. Stephen Clayson has been Chief Financial Officer of ECR since September 2010, and was extensively involved in the Company's affairs for some two years prior to his appointment as Chief Financial Officer. He has acquired substantial experience in the mineral exploration and development sector and in the operations of listed companies since 2006.

Mr Clayson is beneficially interested in 2,246,059 ordinary shares of the Company; in 400,000 warrants issued pursuant to the Company's announcement of 12 May 2010, each of which is exercisable to acquire one ordinary share of the Company at a price of 1p per share; and in 3,900,000 options issued as announced on 6 January 2010 under ECR's unapproved share option plan, each of which is exercisable to acquire one ordinary share of the Company at a price of 2.5p per share.

Luca Tenuta (Italian, aged 34), Non-Executive Director. Luca Tenuta has over 10 years of experience in financial and corporate matters. He started his career as a credit and risk analyst for Banca Intesa London (today San Paolo IMI) and Credit Suisse First Boston. During his time in banking he was responsible for European aerospace and defence, engineering and energy companies and structured debt/equity transactions for non-investment grade counterparties. He subsequently gained experience in the natural resources sector as CEO of Uranio AG and of Worldwide Natural Resources plc. He is currently Chairman of Ecovista plc, a company listed on PLUS, and is active in the international property sector.

Luca holds an MA in Economics and Finance from Universita' La Sapienza in Rome. He is also an FSA approved person with the designation CF30.

Patrick Harford, Managing Director of ECR Minerals plc, comments, "On behalf of everyone at ECR, I would like to thank Mick Elias for the highly professional service he has given to the Company since 2004, through some difficult times. He has our very best wishes for the future.

I am pleased to welcome Luca Tenuta as a Non-Executive Director of the Company and Stephen Clayson, who has been Chief Financial Officer of the Company since September 2010, as an Executive Director. I have no doubt that both will play an important role in the growth and development of ECR in the future."

### **Frontier Mining Ltd**

Frontier Mining Ltd (AIM: FML), the AIM listed gold and copper exploration and development company focused on Kazakhstan, is pleased to announce the appointment of Yerbulat Tastanov to the Board of Directors as an executive director, Head Of Government Relations.

Mr Yerbulat Adiyatovich Tastanov, Ph. D, aged 62, is a member of KazAtomProm Technical Counsel and a Member of Mining Reserves Development Committee of the Ministry of Industry and Trade of Kazakhstan. He is considered one of the most prominent mining experts in Kazakhstan.

From October 2008 to March 2011, he was President of the Kazakh State Academy of Science Center for Earth Sciences, Metallurgy and Ore Enrichment, which consists of 6 Research Institutes and is the highest Kazakhstan State research center for mining. From June 2005 to October 2008, he was general director of LLP Scientific Production Enterprise Manganese.

From 1992 to 2004, Mr Tastanov held various positions in ENRC group, Kazakhstan's largest mining company, including Director of Strategy and Innovation at Kazchrom, Deputy Chairman of Zhairam MBC, and Deputy Director of Pavlodar Aluminum Plant.

Mr Tastanov worked with the Kazakh Polytechnic Institute from 1966 to 1992. Having graduated from the institute he went on to work with it from being a young engineer to a Senior Scientist, Professor, Head of the Alumina Industrial Research Laboratory and Dean of School of Metallurgy. He holds a PhD in Metallurgy.

As a Director of Frontier, Mr Tastanov will be responsible for overseeing Frontier's compliance with various regulations and its work with government agencies, and for developing the Company's strategic and operational plans in Kazakhstan.

Erlan Sagadiev, CEO of Frontier Mining, commented: "Mr Tastanov, with his 30 years of theoretical research and practical experience in mining in Kazakhstan, will be one of our main human assets, helping us to do what we want to do both strategically and technologically. We welcome Mr. Tastanov to Frontier and look forward to working with him.

### **Noventa Limited**

Noventa is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Ian David Benning and Prof. Lars Göran Berglund as Directors of the Company.

Mr. Benning, 47, who resides near Johannesburg and is a dual British and South African citizen, is an experienced professional mining engineer with three decades of experience in the African mining industry. This experience has been gained in the operational mining, mining equipment and mining finance sectors. Mr. Benning has recently been appointed to the head of the South African operations of Hemisphere Corporate Services, a Perth-based private company that has a wide range of mining related interests. Immediately prior to this, he served as an investment adviser to the Johannesburg office of African Global Capital, a private equity investor into the African mining industry. Previously he has worked for such major corporations as Absa Capital (part of Barclays Group), Rand Merchant Bank and Anglo American Group.

Mr. Benning is a Registered Professional Engineer in South Africa and is an Associate of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. He holds a MBA from Henley Management College and a BSc in Engineering (Mining) from University of Witwatersrand.

Mr. Berglund, 69, is a Professor of Medicine at Lund University, Sweden, as well as Chairman and controlling shareholder of West Air Europe AB, an air cargo group with an annual turnover of more than €70m.

Commenting on the appointment, Eric Kohn, Chairman of Noventa said, "We are delighted to welcome Ian and Goran to the Board of Noventa. Ian's broad experience

of various aspects of the African mining industry will be invaluable, while we look forward to benefitting from Prof. Berglund's wisdom and experience."

Prof. Berglund holds 115 095 ordinary 0.8p shares in Noventa ("Ordinary Shares") and holds 1,925,000 warrants (received at the time of making subscriptions for previous placings in Noventa Ordinary Shares) in Noventa that would be exercisable into 96,250 Ordinary Shares.

### **Nyota Minerals Ltd**

The Board of Nyota is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Chase as CEO of Nyota Minerals Limited, effective from 1st June 2011. Richard trained and practiced as a mining geologist before moving to the City of London and is currently Managing Director of Ambrian Partners Limited, the investment banking subsidiary of Ambrian Capital plc.

Chairman Melissa Sturgess commented: "We are delighted to welcome Richard to Nyota. He is a skilled and respected operator in both the technical and corporate sectors of the resources industry. His experience will be invaluable to Nyota as it seeks to put its Tulu Kapi project into production and develop the wider regional exploration potential of our ground in Ethiopia. We know Richard extremely well, as he has been one of our senior advisers since the inception of Nyota."

Richard James Chase (39) holds a BSc (Hons.) in Geology from the University of Birmingham and an MSc in Exploration Geology from the University of Rhodes, South Africa. In addition he is a Member of Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining and a Fellow of The Geological Society. He has 19 years experience in the resources sector: 8 of those working in the mining industry as an exploration and mining geologist with SAMAX Resources, which was acquired by Ashanti Goldfields in 1998 for US\$135 million, and the last 8 with Ambrian Capital Plc.

Whilst working for SAMAX Resources, primarily in Tanzania, he was a member of the gold exploration and development teams at both Golden Pride and Geita. At Geita he initiated the company's exploration and was involved throughout the evaluation of the project, which included the 1.6Moz resource delineated at the Kukuluma deposit, the main driver behind the company's acquisition by Ashanti Goldfields.

In September 2000 Richard joined BNP Paribas as an analyst in the metals and mining equity research team. In January 2003 he joined Ambrian Partners where he was instrumental in setting-up the broking business which is now the leading AIM broker and Nominated Adviser to the Basic Materials Sector.

Richard is currently a director of two Ambrian entities. He will resign from these positions prior to becoming a director of Nyota: Ambrian Partners Limited and Ambrian Nominees Limited.

### **Sirius Minerals Plc**

The Directors of Sirius Minerals Plc (AIM: SXX, OTCQX: SRUXY), the globally diversified potash development group, are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Peter Woods as a Non-Executive Director of the Company and of Jas Sembi as Company Secretary, both with immediate effect.

Peter John Esdaile Woods, 73, is a consulting geologist and engineer with extensive experience in the potash industry having worked for 13 years as Chief Geologist at the Boulby Potash Mine in North Yorkshire, initially on its development and start-up of. Since leaving Boulby, Peter has consulted to a number of potash companies and projects including Selection Trust on the Red Sea potash project in Saudi Arabia and for two years on the Environmental Protection Scheme for the ASEAN potash project

in Thailand. In addition he has reviewed potash projects in Spain and Russia. He has been advising York Potash Ltd since its establishment and has continued to do so following its acquisition by Sirius in January this year.

In addition to Peter's potash knowledge he has the valuable experience of serving as one of the Secretary of State's Appointees on the North York Moors National Park Planning Committee from 1996 to 1999. He has also become a widely involved member of the North Yorkshire community having lived in the area on and off for over 40 years.

Chris Fraser, Managing Director and CEO of Sirius, said, "Having now worked closely with Peter for over a year on the creation and evaluation of the York Potash Project, I can without doubt say he will bring irreplaceable experience in both potash and the local environment to our company. As well as being a talented geologist, Peter also has a passion for the environment. He will bring to the Board of Sirius his valuable perspectives on sustainable development and those of someone living in the local community. I know Peter will make a great contribution to building Sirius into the New Potash Powerhouse."

Mr Woods currently holds 4,199,916 ordinary shares of the Company, equivalent to 0.4% of the issued share capital of the Company.

Jas Sembi joins the Company as Company Secretary replacing London Registrars plc who steps down from this position, which they have held since July 2009.

#### **UK Coal Plc**

UK Coal plc ("UK Coal" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that Keith Heller has been appointed as a Non-Executive Director of UK Coal with immediate effect. He will also Chair the Company's Safety Committee.

Keith (63), a Canadian national, has forty years' experience in all aspects of logistics management, the last fifteen of which were at CEO level. He has a track record of delivering turnarounds in safety critical businesses through strong leadership, operational management and people development and mentoring. He has led two major business turnarounds at Canadian National Railways and at English Welsh and Scottish Railways, from which he recently retired following its sale to DB Schenker Rail. He continues as a consultant and advisor to the Board of DB Schenker Rail and was a Board member of the Railway Safety and Standards Board. He maintains appointments and a home in the UK.

Commenting on the appointment, Jonson Cox, Executive Chairman of UK Coal said 'We are very pleased to welcome Keith to the Board. He has a long and very relevant career history. He has a strong record of driving change in safety, culture and business improvement in a traditional safety-critical industry. We look forward to his contribution to our Board'.

## **About Opus**

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**Mark Burridge, former CEO of Cambrian Mining Plc**

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**Lady Barbara Judge, Chairman, UK Atomic Energy Authority**

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