



Board Appointments LSE – August 2011

Mining

Archipelago Resources Plc
Berkeley Resources Ltd
Hambledon Mining Plc
Kazakhmys Plc
Oracle Coalfields Plc
Vane Minerals Plc

Archipelago Resources Plc

Archipelago has announced the retirement of Colin Loosemore, the Company's founding and long serving Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, effective at the close of the Annual General Meeting on 3rd August 2011.

Mr Loosemore acquired the Toka Tindung Gold Project in North Sulawesi, Indonesia in 2002 and floated Archipelago on the AIM market in 2003. Mr Loosemore's persistence in leading a team during the last decade resulted in the construction of a processing plant at Toka Tindung in 2010 followed by commissioning and first production of gold in April 2011.

Mr. Loosemore will assume an executive role with Archipelago Metals Ltd, a currently unlisted Australian company spun out of Archipelago in early 2008 and of which Mr. Loosemore has been a director since inception. The two companies will continue a working relationship, with the Company focused on gold and Archipelago Metals focused on non gold projects, in particular an advanced feasibility stage chromite project in Vietnam.

Mr. Loosemore's replacement will be announced at Archipelago's Annual General Meeting on 3rd August and a statement will follow shortly afterwards.

Stephen Sulisty, Chairman of Archipelago, commented:

"I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Colin. He has served as Managing Director of Archipelago for 10 years and in that time has lead the Company in its transformation from a junior explorer to a significant gold producer. When Toka Tindung reaches full production in a few months time it will be testament to the hard work of Colin and his team. We wish him similar success in his new role with Archipelago Metals."

Berkeley Resources Ltd

The Board of Berkeley Resources Limited announced that it has appointed Mr Laurence (Laurie) Douglas Marsland as a non-executive Director, effective from 25 August, 2011. Mr Marsland is an engineer with more than thirty years' of diverse experience in the international mining industry, largely in senior management and executive director roles. Since 2000 he has worked extensively in Europe, including Spain.

Mr Marsland has a strong background in project management, and in the acquisition and development of government owned mining assets in Eastern Europe. His extensive experience will further strengthen the Board's strategic processes as the Company continues to work towards uranium production in Spain.

Mr Marsland worked for Minproc Engineers for more than 15 years in project engineering and engineering management of mining projects in Australia, West African, Latin America and USA. During this period he helped establish that company's North American arm, Mincorp Limited, before taking up the role of President and CEO of Laguna Gold and overseeing its listing on the TSX.

Subsequent experience includes Vice President, Project Development for Gabriel Resources, then Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Dundee Precious Metals Inc. where he was responsible for the development and operation of its mining assets after renegotiating the acquisition of the substantial Chelopech gold-copper mine from the Bulgarian Government. He is currently a partner in PLC Partners S.A., a private company incorporated to pursue resource development opportunities.

Mr Marsland is an Australian citizen, and resides in Sofia, Bulgaria. He has a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Curtin University and an MSc in Management from Stanford University.

Hambledon Mining Plc

The Board of Hambledon has announced the appointment of Dr Jeffrey O'Leary, aged 66, as a non-executive director with immediate effect.

Dr O'Leary has a BSc in mining geology and a PhD in geostatistics from the Royal School of Mines. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining and a chartered engineer. Dr O'Leary has worked on many projects and mining operations world-wide, including with RTZ plc, where he was chief mine geologist and geostatistician, and joint author of that company's mine valuation software, before joining the HSBC Group in 1984. While working at HSBC, Dr O'Leary was involved in a wide variety of debt, equity and mergers and acquisitions transactions, including the first debt/equity swap in the mining industry, which was used to finance the start-up of operations at the Los Pelambres Mine in Chile.

Dr O'leary was until his retirement in 2005 a director of the Mining & Metals team at HSBC. He was until 2009 a non-executive director of Moto Goldmines Ltd and is a non-executive director of European Goldfields Ltd. Dr O'Leary has also held a number of executive and non-executive positions on mining companies in North America, South America, Europe and Africa and was the senior lecturer in geostatistics at the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College London. Dr O'Leary has more recently has been involved with the development of two large iron ore projects in South America and the development of new gold and base metal projects in Europe.

With Dr O'Leary on board, Chris Thomas has indicated that he will retire as a director with immediate effect. Chris, in addition to his current responsibilities as Chairman of BBDO in Asia has also been promoted to Chairman of BBDO in the Middle East and Africa and Chairman of Proximity Worldwide. His additional responsibilities make it impossible to dedicate the time needed to Hambledon's growing business.

Chris Thomas said:

"I am proud of all that Hambledon has achieved - and have enjoyed working with

Nick Bridgen, George Eccles and Baurzhan Yerkeyev. I am convinced of the company's potential and look forward to it flourishing with Jeff on the board and the new leadership of Tim Daffern".

George Eccles, Chairman of Hambleton commented:

"We are delighted that Jeff has joined the board as we move towards the next phase of our operations at Sekisovskoye. He brings with him a wealth of experience in all mining matters and his background will be invaluable not only in our current operations but also in assessing any future projects in which Hambleton may get involved. Additionally he is an experienced non-executive director who can be relied upon to contribute to the board at the highest level.

"At the same time we are extremely sorry to be saying good-bye to Chris who was one of the founder directors of the Company and whose enthusiasm and commercial expertise have been an invaluable support to Hambleton for many years. He leaves with our very best wishes and thanks."

Kazakhmys Plc

Kazakhmys has announced the appointment of Charles Watson as an independent non-executive Director.

Mr Watson, an engineer by training, started his career at Bechtel Group, before completing an MBA at Insead. Mr Watson then spent 29 years at Shell. Latterly, Charles Watson was Executive Vice President covering Russia and the CIS, Chairman of Shell Russia and Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Sakhalin Energy Investment Company. His overall responsibilities included oversight of Shell's activities in Kazakhstan.

Following Mr Watson's appointment, five of the nine Board members will be independent, which fully meets the requirements of the UK Corporate Governance Code. Mr Watson will become a member of the Audit Committee.

Kazakhmys' Chairman Vladimir Kim said, "We are delighted to have someone of the calibre and highly relevant recent experience of Charles Watson joining our Board. His expertise in major project delivery and knowledge of the region will be of great assistance as we continue to grow our business and deliver our growth projects and strategy."

Oracle Coalfields Plc

Oracle Coalfields, the UK developer of a 1.4 billion tonne coal resource in the south-eastern desert of the Sindh Province, Pakistan, has announced the appointment of Adrian Loader as Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Mr William Adrian Loader comes to Oracle with extensive international experience from Royal Dutch Shell in energy management, projects, strategy, business development and new market entry. He has held regional responsibility for Shell's operations in Pakistan and, as President of Shell Canada, he has been responsible for Shell's oil sands open pit mining activities and their expansion.

Mr Loader has previously been appointed to the following public company boards - Alliance-Unichem, Shell Canada Ltd, Alliance-Boots and Candax Energy Inc where he served as Chairman. He is currently a Director of Holcim Ltd, a member of the Garda World International Advisory Board and a member of the Advisory Board of Lane, Clark and Peacock.

Loader is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development and holds a Masters degree in History from Cambridge University.

Commenting on Mr Loader's appointment, Shahrukh Khan, CEO, Oracle Coalfields, said:

"I am delighted to welcome Adrian to the team at Oracle Coalfields. His expertise in corporate management and governance and energy development as well as his long standing history of board experience will prove invaluable. Adrian's appointment as Chairman is an important corporate development at Oracle and he brings us a step closer to mine development and first production of coal."

Vane Minerals Plc

Vane Minerals, has announced the appointment of David Newton as Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Steven Van Nort has stepped down as Chief Executive Officer but will continue as a Director of VANE.

David, 39, is a chartered accountant with 14 years of experience in corporate finance and capital markets. He has completed numerous transactions, including fund raisings for both private and public businesses, IPOs, acquisitions and disposals with specific experience in quoted stocks in the natural resources sector. David qualified as a chartered accountant with Ernst & Young in 1997 and is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investments. In addition to Ernst & Young, David has worked for the London Stock Exchange plc, Williams de Broe plc, Seymour Pierce plc and most recently XCAP Securities plc.

Sir Richard Needham, Chairman of VANE Minerals, commented:

"I am delighted to welcome David to the VANE team. He brings a wealth of financial expertise to the Company and will strengthen our capabilities to execute the strategy of growing company value through the development of our copper, gold and uranium projects in the US and Mexico.

On behalf of the board of Vane, I would like to express my thanks to Steven Van Nort for serving as Vane's Chief Executive Officer until this point and we are pleased that he has chosen to continue as a Director of Vane."

About Opus

Executive Search

Opus Executive Partners have established an international reputation for excellence in Executive Search, advising companies on the appointment of Chairmen, Presidents, CEOs, CFOs, COOs, and Senior Vice Presidents in Exploration, Corporate Development, Production, Corporate Affairs and Engineering. We excel at identifying, assessing and attracting senior management talent to our clients. Achieving results quickly, skillfully and effectively have made us the partner of choice.

We work in partnership to completely understand your business strategy, goals, values and culture. For each assignment we meet key stakeholders; prepare a detailed assignment brief; identify necessary leadership competencies and management credentials; interview world-class talent from diverse backgrounds; conduct comprehensive due diligence of candidates; negotiate remuneration and benefit packages; and carry out post-appointment evaluations to ensure candidate transition and integration.

Non-Executive Search

Today's boardroom must fully reflect and support a company's corporate entity and its values. At Opus Executive Partners we appreciate the unique governance challenges our clients can face and the specific solutions they need.

Our Partners have conducted board appointments for over 30 years, strengthening board structures, diversifying board composition and improving overall governance. They understand the complex relationships and pressures between board members, management and shareholders, and are well versed in corporate governance, regulation, and in liaising with key stakeholders.

“We used Opus for search of Executives and Directors as well as general research. They provided a bespoke, thorough and responsive service, displaying a good understanding of our sector. They completed all assignments successfully”

Mark Burridge, former CEO of Cambrian Mining Plc

“As the natural resources specialist search firm, Opus Executive Partners did a thorough and very successful job in solving a difficult, unusual, worldwide search for the UKAEA.”

Lady Barbara Judge, Chairman, UK Atomic Energy Authority

‘Naturally Resourceful’
www.opusexecutive.com
+44 (0) 20 7 958 1700