



SAGITTARIUS MINES, INC.

SMI'S LEADING SHAREHOLDER, XSTRATA NAMED AS SECTOR LEADER IN THE DOW JONES SUSTAINABILITY INDEX FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

NEWS RELEASE

Gen. Santos City, 01 October 2009

Sagittarius Mines announces that Xstrata plc, the mother company of its leading shareholder Xstrata Copper, has been named as the Mining Sector Leader in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) for 2009/10.

This is the third consecutive year that Xstrata topped all other mining companies in sustainability performance. It was also named sector leader in 2008 and 2009.

The DJSI invites the world's largest 2,500 companies to participate in its annual survey which is based on sustainability trends. The assessment covers economic, environmental, and social performance with a clear focus on long-term shareholder value creation.

Xstrata has been identified as the company best prepared to seize the opportunities and manage the risks deriving from economic, environmental, and social development in the mining sector.

"We are proud that our sustainable development and management practices at SMI and Tampakan Copper-Gold Project are aligned with that of Xstrata's," said SMI General Manager Mark Williams.

"As SMI advances the feasibility study phase of our Tampakan Copper-Gold Project, we can assure our stakeholders that our activities will continue to be governed by the standards set by the Philippine laws, our host communities, and the leading standards of our leading shareholder."

SMI adheres to and operates within the structure of Xstrata's leading standards of corporate governance as set out in Xstrata's Statement of Business Principles, Sustainable Development Policy and 17 Sustainable Development Standards. Our compliance with these standards is regularly audited on an internal and external basis. The annual external audit was conducted in June, while the next internal quarterly audit will be in November until December.

As part of the Xstrata Group, we endorse the principles set out in the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Labour Organisation Conventions. Xstrata is a signatory to the UN Global Compact and has aligned its SD framework with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption.

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Notes to editors:

Tampakan Project

The Tampakan project is on the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, approximately 65 kilometers north of General Santos City. The current project borders four Provinces – South Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Sarangani, and Davao Del Sur. The Tampakan copper gold deposit is in the province of South Cotabato, municipality of Tampakan.

The Tampakan deposit represents one of the largest undeveloped copper-gold deposits in Southeast Asia. The latest mineral resource estimate confirmed 2.2 billion tonnes containing 12.8 million tonnes of copper and 15.2 million ounces of gold at a 0.3% copper cut-off grade.

On 30 March 2007, Xstrata Copper acquired 62.5% of the controlling interest in the Tampakan Project and assumed management control through its Philippines based affiliate Sagittarius Mines, Inc.

Xstrata Copper

Xstrata Copper is headquartered in Brisbane, Australia, with regional offices in Santiago and Antofagasta, Chile; Lima and Arequipa, Peru; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Toronto, Canada, and is one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc.

Xstrata Copper's mining operations and projects span seven countries and include mines, mineral processing plants and port facilities in North Queensland, Australia; mining and processing operations and port facilities in Chile, Peru and Argentina in South America; and mining and processing plants in Canada. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with facilities in Canada, the United States and Asia.

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer, with annual attributable production capacity of over one million tonnes.