# CEM Copperbelt ATANGA

# Kamoa-Kakula's Phase 1 to 3 concentrators produced a record 116,313 tonnes of copper in Q3, 2024

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## Sodimico SA Conducts Inventory of Mining Sites in Kasumbalesa

n Friday, October 17, 2024, the Congolese Industrial and Mining Development Company (Sodimico SA) initiated an inventory of mining sites in Kasumbalesa, located in the Haut-Katanga province.

Gilbert Tutu Tedeza, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sodimico, stated, "We are on a mission to assess the situation in Kasumbalesa, where we will visit various mining sites," following a meeting with the President of the Provincial Assembly, Michel Kabwe.

During this visit, the Sodimico Board of Directors seized the opportunity to seek the support of the deliberative body to address the challenges faced by the company.

"While passing through Lubumbashi, we met with the President of the Provincial Assembly to extend our congratulations on his election and discuss the various difficulties encountered by the company," Mr. Tutu added.cle on



# **DRC Mining Firms Forced to Import Power Amid Severe Electricity Shortages**

ining companies in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) are importing electricity from countries like Kenya and Ethiopia due to severe supply shortages, despite the nation's vast untapped hydropower potential that could power much of Africa.

The DRC's mining sector faces a power deficit of between 500MW and 1,000MW, according to the Chamber of Mines. This energy shortage has plagued both industry and households for years, forcing companies to seek alternative power sources to maintain operations.

This week, Gécamines, its subsidiaries, and the national electricity company, SNEL, convened to strategize and find "appropriate solutions" to the structural energy problems hampering the country's mining sector and economic growth.

Along with low electricity production, frequent power cuts further disrupt mining activities, hindering the sector's efficiency and expansion.



# Mining Local Content Bill Set to Boost Economic Opportunities for Zambians

lice President Mutale Nalumango has emphasized that the implementation of the Mining Local Content Bill will bring significant economic benefits to all Zambians.

Speaking at the Mining Local Content Conference and Expo in Kitwe, organized by the Zambia Association of Manufacturers (ZAM), Mrs. Nalumango stated that the bill will ensure that the wealth generated from Zambia's natural resources leads to job creation and sustainable economic growth.

Mines Minister Paul Kabuswe added that the bill is 90 percent complete and that legislation will soon be finalized. He noted that once implemented, the Mining Local Content Bill will encourage full participation by local communities in the mining sector.

The Zambia Association of Manufacturers welcomed the bill, stating it will establish a framework for compliance and foster mutual growth for Zambia's banefit

ZAM President Ashu Sagar affirmed that the association plans to proactively promote local participation, even before the bill is officially enforced.

Copperbelt Minister Elisha Matambo also highlighted the timely introduction of the bill, noting its significance as the Copperbelt region undergoes revitalization.



## DRC Govt Proposes Certification System for Mining Reserves

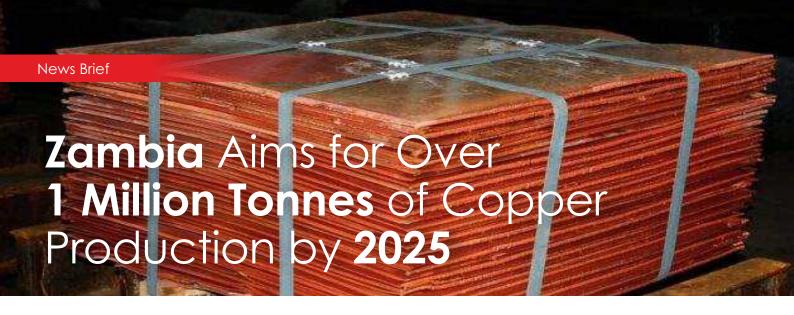
uring the 17th Council of Ministers meeting on Friday, October 11, in Kinshasa, Congolese Minister of Mines Kizito Pakabomba presented an information note on the government's need to establish mechanisms for certifying mining reserves.

Pakabomba emphasized that internationally recognized best practices for certifying mineral reserves involve a set of standards and methodologies used to evaluate, document, and certify mineral resources.

These practices are essential to ensuring transparency, accuracy, and credibility in the information regarding the country's mining reserves.

According to the Minister of Mines, several key steps are required to implement this certification system. These include conducting geological and technological studies, estimating resources, classifying reserves, and carrying out independent audits.

In September, Jean-Claude Katende, president of the African Association for the Defense of Human Rights (ASADHO), highlighted that such a certification system would help safeguard the country's interests, particularly in its dealings with investors.



ambia's Mines and Minerals Development Minister, Paul Kabuswe, has announced that the country aims to increase copper production to over 1 million tonnes by the end of 2025. He expressed optimism that the long-term goal of reaching 3 million tonnes by 2031 is achievable.

Minister Kabuswe made these remarks during a high-level panel discussion focused on policies to meet the ambitious copper production target at the ongoing Mining and Investment Insaka in Lusaka.

Finance Minister Situmbeko Musokotwane emphasized the importance of teamwork in achieving this target. He noted the necessity of maintaining a competitive tax regime compared to other mining nations.

Dr. Musokotwane assured that the government is committed to

tax stability and highlighted the role of supporting industries, such as transportation, in realizing this goal.

Infrastructure Minister Charles Milupi stressed the need for robust infrastructure to instill investor confidence that their products can reach market destinations.

He highlighted the importance of ensuring that essential support services, including energy, infrastructure, and skilled personnel, are in place to support the mining sector's growth.

# Mumbwa Identified as Key to Growing Zambia's Gold Reserves as Kabeta Cracks Down on Smuggling

ines Permanent Secretary, Barnaby Kabeta, addressed hundreds of miners in Nangoma constituency, who were impacted by the closure of Lwili Mine due to safety concerns and illegal operations.

The mine was shut down two weeks ago after the Zambian National Service was deployed to restore order following a rise in fatalities and other issues.

In his address, Kabeta assured the affected miners that operations at Lwili Mine would resume soon. "The Nangoma mine area will reopen on Friday. We need to know who is entering the mine, as we currently lack proper data on who is involved in mining," he said.

To improve oversight, the government has purchased a

processing plant to be installed in the area. This facility will monitor the retail value chain of gold extracted from the mines, helping to prevent smuggling.

Kabeta emphasized that the new measures will tackle gold smuggling from Mumbwa and other regions. He also revealed that the Ministry of Mines has identified Mumbwa district in Central Province as a key area for boosting Zambia's gold reserves.

"Mumbwa is part of the government's plan to build our gold reserves at the central bank. Additionally, royalty taxes will be collected from processing plants, not cooperatives," Kabeta explained.

He concluded by stating that the government's goal is to regulate mining activities while ensuring they contribute to the nation's economic growth.



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# Zambia's New \$30 Million Copper and Cobalt Mine Set to Open in Mufulira District

\$30 million copper and cobalt mine is set to open in Mufulira District, located in Zambia's Copperbelt Province.

Chilibwe Mine, which will be positioned off the Ndola-Mufulira road, is expected to operate for a lifespan of 10 years. The mine covers an area of 20 hectares and aims to produce 2,000 metric tonnes of copper and cobalt each month.

This initiative aligns with President Hakainde Hichilema's goal to ramp up copper production to 3 million tonnes per annum by 2032.

In a recent scoping meeting in Mufulira, the mine's management engaged key stakeholders to discuss the project's potential environmental and social impacts. Norton Munkondya, Chilibwe Mine's General Manager, emphasized the importance of community involvement.

Mufulira Mayor Taneili Kamanga urged mine management to prioritize the welfare of displaced residents. "We want the displaced individuals to benefit immediately; they need to receive something for free," the mayor stated.

The mine is projected to create local employment opportunities, beginning with 500 jobs at its opening, with the promise of additional positions as the mine expands.

Investments like this are expected to enhance revenue for public services, benefit local communities, and foster opportunities for local businesses.



# ERG Secures \$150M Financing to Boost DRC Copper and Cobalt Operations

urasian Resources Group (ERG) has secured a \$150 million preexport financing agreement with Bank of China Limited, London Branch, in collaboration with Glencore International.

This financing will support ERG's mining operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), particularly at Metalkol, a unit focused on reprocessing copper and cobalt residues.

The agreement hinges on a copper cathode supply contract from Metalkol, using future export revenues as collateral. This arrangement provides ERG with the liquidity needed to sustain its investments in the Kolwezi region.

"We are delighted to support the continued supply of critical minerals like copper from the DRC to customers around the world," said Jyothis George, Glencore's Head of Copper Marketing.

Mital Patel from Bank of China emphasized the importance of the deal, stating, "This transaction represents a classic pre-export structure, with a product that is critical to electrification and more environmentally friendly extraction."

ERG, owned by a Kazakh consortium that includes the government through Samruk-Kazyna, continues to strengthen its presence in the DRC with subsidiaries such as Société Minière de Kabolela et Kipese (SMKK) and Boss Mining.

# Midnight Sun Mining Expands Copper Exploration Near Kansanshi Mine

anadian exploration company Midnight Sun Mining has launched a new exploration phase at the Kazhiba target on its Solwezi property in Zambia.

This initiative is part of the company's ongoing cooperative exploration agreement with First Quantum Minerals, aimed at identifying near-surface oxide copper resources to supply the nearby Kansanshi mine, located less than 10 km away.

The exploration program involves 3,000 meters of reverse circulation drilling, partial ionic leach sampling, and an induced polarization survey, all designed to evaluate the high-grade oxide copper blanket at Kazhiba.

Midnight Sun President and CEO Al Fabbro emphasized the significance of the project, stating, "Kazhiba offers a high-grade oxide copper blanket, giving us a great opportunity to supply feedstock to Kansanshi mine operations."

In April, Midnight Sun and First Quantum entered a cooperation agreement to explore potential feed sources for Kansanshi's solvent extraction and electrowinning (SX/EW) oxide copper circuit. Kansanshi is transitioning to a large-scale sulphide development due to its depleted oxide reserves.

Midnight Sun's property is located just a few kilometers from Kansanshi, and a haul road owned by First Quantum connects the two sites.

Utilizing oxide copper from Midnight Sun's property could help First Quantum increase feed grades and make use of sulphuric acid produced by Kansanshi's on-site smelter.



# KAMOA-KAKULA'S PHASE 1 TO 3 CONCENTRATORS PRODUCED A RECORD 116,313 TONNES OF COPPER IN Q3, 2024

amoa-Kakula produced 116,313 tonnes of copper in concentrate in the third quarter of 2024, including 94,214 tonnes of copper from the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators and 22,099 tonnes of copper from the Phase 3 concentrator. Over the first nine months of 2024, Kamoa-Kakula produced a total of 303,328 tonnes of copper in concentrate.

Kamoa-Kakula's Phase 1 and 2 concentrators milled approximately 2.2 million tonnes of ore during the third quarter at an average feed grade of 4.9% copper.

Copper flotation recoveries for the quarter averaged 86.6%. Kamoa-Kakula's Phase 3 concentrator, which produced first concentrate on June 10, 2024, continued its ramp-up to steady state production during the third quarter.

During the quarter, the Phase 3 concentrator milled approximately 1.1 million tonnes of ore at an average feed grade of 2.6% copper with an average flotation recovery rate of 79.9%.

Following the commissioning of the Phase 3 concentrator's fine-grinding mills in September, sustained improvements in processing throughput and recovery rates were achieved.

During the third week of October, the concentrator milled a record 19,198 tonnes over a 24-hour period, which is equivalent to an annualized processing rate of over 6.5 million tonnes per annum, after accounting for availability.

This achievement is 30% higher than the nameplate capacity of the Phase 3 concentrator. In addition, in late September, over 24 hours the copper recovery rate of the concentrator averaged 87%, exceeding the nameplate recovery rate of 86%. Kamoa's engineering team expects to consistently achieve, on an ongoing basis, the nameplate recovery rate of 86%.

Annual production guidance for Kamoa-Kakula has been revised to between 425,000 and 450,000 tonnes of copper in concentrate for 2024, compared with the original 2024 guidance of between 440,000 and 490,000 tonnes. 2024 cash cost (C1) guidance for Kamoa-Kakula remains unchanged.

The revised guidance reflects production loss due to intermittent grid power, in particular prior to the installation of additional on-site generator capacity, as well as imported power that now supports Kamoa-Kakula's operations.

Approximately 36,000 tonnes of copper production are estimated to have been lost due to intermittent power over the first nine months of 2024, including 20,500 tonnes in the first quarter.

Guidance also considers the ramp-up rate of the newly constructed Phase 3 concentrator, which reached steady-state production after quarterend.

Kamoa Copper continues to work closely with the DRC's state-owned power company, La Société

Nationale d'Electricité (SNEL), to deliver solutions for the identified causes of instability experienced across the southern DRC's grid infrastructure since late 2022.

The project work, which is budgeted up to \$200 million and funded by Kamoa Holding, commenced in late Q1 2024 and is expected to be completed by the end of 2025. The funding is assigned to increasing transmission capacity and improving the reliability of the grid.

The project consists of grid infrastructure upgrades, such as an increase in grid capacity between the Inga II dam and Kolwezi, a new harmonic filter at the Inga Converter Station, as well as a new static compensator at the Kolwezi Converter Substation.

In addition, various smaller initiatives have been identified to strengthen the transmission capability and improve the long-term stability of the southern grid.

This includes the restringing of powerlines in the southern grid and repairs to the direct current (DC) infrastructure. In addition to this, Ivanhoe Mines Energy DRC is working with SNEL to put in place maintenance contracts to maintain key generation capacity and transmission infrastructure.

Ramp-up of the Phase 3 concentrator to steadystate completed early in fourth quarter; commissioning of underground infrastructure in the Kamoa 1 mine to improve mining costs First ore to Kamoa-Kakula's Phase 3 concentrator was achieved on May 26, 2024, up to two quarters ahead of the originally announced schedule, with first concentrate reported on June 10, 2024.

The new 5-million-tonne-per-annum (Mtpa) Phase 3 concentrator is located adjacent to the Kamoa 1 and 2 underground mines, approximately 10 kilometres north of the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators located above the Kakula underground mine. Ramp-up to steady-state production of the Phase 3 concentrator was completed early in the fourth quarter.

The Phase 3 concentrator is 30% larger in capacity, compared with the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators. The process design is very similar, therefore the bulk of the equipment is the same as or similar to that installed in the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators, resulting in a commonality of spare parts, while also leveraging prior operational and maintenance experience.

Construction of underground infrastructure at the Kamoa 1, Kamoa 2 and the Kansoko mines continued during the quarter and into the fourth quarter.

Construction of the Kamoa 1 underground-tosurface ore conveyor system, similar in design to Kakula, and first truck tip are nearing completion and are expected to be commissioned imminently.

Until this ore handling system is operational, ore from underground will continue to be hauled to surface by truck. Mining costs are expected to improve once the truck tip and conveyor are commissioned as notable efficiencies will be gained from this new infrastructure. A second truck-tip is under construction and is expected to be commissioned at the end of Q2 2025.

Concurrently, underground development at Kamoa 1 and 2 continues to focus on opening-up access to ore reserves well in advance of the mine plan. Kamoa-Kakula's mining engineering team are targeting to have completed enough underground development for 18 months of accessible mining reserves by the end of 2025.

This provides the mine with flexibility to achieve a consistent head grade from the higher- and lower-grade mining areas. A similar strategy has also been employed at the Kakula underground mine.

During the third quarter, approximately 40% of the Phase 3 concentrator's feed was from surface stockpiles. The Phase 3 concentrator will continue to process surface stockpiles during the fourth quarter, increasingly supplemented with development ore from the Kamoa 1 and 2 underground mines as the underground-to-surface ore conveyor system is commissioned. Therefore, the team is targeting an increase in the feed grade to the Phase 3 concentrator to between 2.8% and 3% copper during Q1 2025.

As of September 30, 2024, a total of 4.57 million tonnes of ore at an average grade of 3.11% copper is stored in multiple surface run-of-mine (ROM) stockpiles across the Kamoa-Kakula Copper Complex.

This includes 2.24 million tonnes of ore at an average grade of 3.62% at Kakula and 2.32 million tonnes of ore at an average feed grade of 2.61% at Kamoa and Kansoko.

Sale of copper concentrates produced by the

Phase 3 concentrator commenced early in the third quarter. Concentrate produced from Phase 3 is being toll-treated into blister copper at the Lualaba Copper Smelter (LCS) to maximize profitability until the on-site smelter is completed.

As such, total inventory, including in the on-site warehouse and at LCS, increased to approximately 16,000 tonnes of copper in concentrate at the end of the quarter. LCS is located approximately 50 kilometres from Kamoa-Kakula, near the town of Kolwezi.

It is expected that from early in Q1 2025, 20,000 to 30,000 tonnes of copper in concentrate produced by the Phase 3 concentrator will start to be stockpiled on-site in anticipation of the heat-up and ramp-up of the on-site smelter from Q1 2025. Once fully ramped-up the smelter is expected to maintain approximately 17,000 tonnes of copper within the circuit.

Direct-to-blister copper smelter project is 94% complete and on schedule for construction completion by the end of 2024

Kamoa-Kakula is building Africa's largest smelter, which will have a capacity of 500,000 tonnes of >99%-pure blister-anode copper per annum.

The direct-to-blister flash smelter is under construction adjacent to the existing Phase 1 and Phase 2 concentrator plants. The smelter incorporates leading-edge technology supplied by Metso Finland and will comply with the world-leading International Finance Corporation's (IFC) emissions standards.

The smelter project is 94% complete and is on schedule for construction completion by the end of 2024. Equipment delivery is nearing completion, with the only major outstanding delivery being the slag ladles.

Installation of mechanical equipment and piping is nearing completion. The refractory installation for the electric slag-cleaning furnace is complete and the refractory installation for the direct-to-blister furnace has begun.

Electrical installation is well advanced in all areas and some early commissioning activities for power and water reticulation commenced during the third quarter.

Furnace heat-up is expected to commence in Q1 2025, with Kamoa-Kakula's smelter team targeting a ramp-up to 75% capacity in Q3 2025, reaching 90% in the fourth quarter of 2025, subject to concentrate blend.

Recruitment of the 970-personnel operating team is nearing completion, with management and technical training well underway.

250 of the newly recruited workforce have been temporarily deployed to similar copper smelters in China and Zambia to gain operational experience, ahead of commencing smelter commissioning activities at Kamoa-Kakula in the coming months.

The smelter will have a processing capacity of approximately 1.2 Mtpa of dry concentrate feed and is designed to run on a blend of concentrate produced from the Kakula (Phase 1 and 2) and Kamoa (Phase 3 and future Phase 4) concentrators.

Where possible, Kamoa-Kakula will continue to toll-treat concentrates domestically, with surplus concentrates smelted at LCS.

As a by-product, the smelter will also produce 600,000 to 700,000 tonnes per year of high-strength sulphuric acid, depending on the sulphur content of the feed concentrate.

There is a strong demand for sulphuric acid in the DRC, as it is used to leach copper from oxide ores through the SX-EW (solvent extraction and electrowinning) process.

Offtake contracts for the high-strength sulphuric acid produced by the smelter are well-advanced with purchasers local to the Kolwezi area.

The on-site smelter will offer transformative financial benefits for the Kamoa-Kakula Copper Complex, most significantly a material reduction in logistics costs, and to a lesser extent reduced concentrate treatment charges and local taxes, as well as revenue from acid sales.

Logistics costs accounted for approximately 30% of Kamoa-Kakula's total cash cost (C1) during 2024 to date, and the volume of required trucks is expected to approximately halve following the smelter start-up as each truck will transport 99+%-pure blister copper anodes instead of wet concentrate with 40-50% contained copper.

Project 95 to unlock up to 30,000 tonnes per annum of additional copper growth from Phase 1 and 2 concentrators from 2026

Project 95 aims to improve copper recovery rates of the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators from 87% to 95%, unlocking up to 30,000 tonnes per annum of additional copper production.

The Project 95 scope of work consists of modifications to the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators as shown below, as well as the construction of a new cell at the tailings storage facility.

The modifications to the existing Phase 1 and 2 concentrators consist of a new coarse-fine cyclone bank, flash flotation cells, coarse rougher tailings tank, additional feed tanks to the rougher scavenger and cleaner scavenger flotation cells. and new cleaner flotation cells.

In addition, a new fine-regrind milling plant adjacent to the Phase 1 and Phase 2 concentrator plants will be constructed, with high-intensity grinding (HIG) mills, rougher tailings cyclones, and slime thickeners.

Following the completion of Project 95, the copper grade of the tailings stream from the Phase 1 and 2 concentrators will be significantly reduced from approximately 0.7% to 0.2% copper.

To avoid sterilizing the higher-grade tailings currently in Cell 1, tailings from Project 95 will be placed into a separate cell within the tailings storage facility, Cell 2.

The construction of Cell 2, originally intended to take place during the future Phase 4 expansion, will be brought forward to separate the existing high-grade tailings from the new lower-grade tailings produced by Project 95.

The construction of Cell 2 is expected to cost approximately \$82 million and be constructed in parallel with the Project 95 concentrator modifications. Geotechnical work has already commenced on Cell 2, which will be a downstream-tailings design and comply with the Global Industry Standard on Tailings Management (GISTM).



n the mineral-rich heart of Africa's Copperbelt, stretching across the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia, a new chapter in copper mining is being written. At the forefront of this transformation stands DGC AFRICA, through its specialized division DGC MetPro Solutions. This innovative entity is reshaping the landscape of copper extraction with its state-of-the-art Metallurgical, Process, Asset Management, and Optimization Solutions, meticulously crafted to address the unique challenges of the region.

At the heart of DGC MetPro Solutions' success lies a powerful network of strategic partnerships and a team of industry-leading experts. The company's primary alliance with DGC AFRICA provides the backbone of operational capabilities and industry connections. This is complemented by collaborations with key industry leaders: LogiProc, a process-driven engineering firm specializing in innovative solutions for complex industrial challenges; Refractory & Metallurgy Solutions (RMS), bringing expertise in refractory design and life optimization; EAMS Africa, offering cuttingedge asset management solutions; and Engconomics, an engineering consultancy focused on performance optimization. The core team comprises seasoned professionals with over three decades of experience in chemical engineering, metallurgy, environmental management, and industrial engineering. This amalgamation of partnerships and expertise allows DGC MetPro Solutions to offer a truly comprehensive and innovative approach to the complex challenges faced by the mining and metallurgical industry in the Copperbelt region.

The Copperbelt, long revered for its abundant copper deposits, now faces a complex array of challenges that threaten its continued prosperity. Declining ore grades force mining operations to process larger volumes of material for the same copper yield. Rising operational costs squeeze profit margins, while increasingly stringent environmental regulations demand more

sustainable practices. The intricate mineralogy of the region's deposits further complicates extraction processes, and limitations in infrastructure add another layer of complexity to operations.

In this evolving landscape, DGC MetPro Solutions emerges as a beacon of innovation and efficiency. By harnessing cutting-edge technologies, forging strategic partnerships, and drawing upon deep industry expertise, the company offers a comprehensive suite of services tailored to the Specific needs of copper mining operations in the DRC and Zambia. This holistic approach not only helps mining companies navigate current challenges but positions them to thrive in an increasingly competitive global market.

#### Core Solutions:

Metallurgical Process Optimization: At the heart of DGC MetPro Solutions' offering is its advanced metallurgical process optimization service. This cornerstone solution tackles the complex ore compositions prevalent in the Copperbelt head-on. The company's team of seasoned experts collaborates closely with mine operators to significantly enhance copper recovery rates through a variety of innovative techniques. These include fine-tuning leaching and solvent extraction processes, boosting electrowinning efficiency, and implementing cutting-edge flotation technologies for superior mineral separation. By optimizing these critical processes, DGC MetPro Solutions helps mining operations extract more copper from the same amount of ore, improving both yield and profitability.

Smelter Management: For operations employing pyrometallurgical processes, DGC MetPro Solutions offers revolutionary smelter management solutions. These strategies are designed to increase throughput and reduce energy consumption, addressing two of the most pressing concerns in modern copper production. The company's expertise in emissions control, particularly in managing sulphur dioxide, ensures that smelting

operations can meet and exceed stringent environmental standards. Moreover, DGC MetPro Solutions specializes in converting existing furnaces to more efficient processes, simultaneously boosting productivity and reducing environmental impact. This dual focus on efficiency and sustainability helps copper producers stay competitive while meeting their environmental responsibilities

Asset Integrity Management: Recognizing the harsh operating conditions prevalent in the Copperbelt, DGC MetPro Solutions has partnered with EAMS Africa to provide robust Asset Integrity Management solutions. This strategic collaboration marries DGC's deep understanding of local conditions with EAMS's cutting-edge asset management software and global best practices. The result is a suite of services that includes tailored condition monitoring systems for critical equipment, predictive maintenance solutions to prevent costly downtime, and lifecycle management approaches that extend equipment longevity even in the most corrosive environments. By keeping vital equipment running efficiently and reliably, this service helps mining operations maximize uptime and productivity.

Process De-bottlenecking: In collaboration with LogiProc, DGC MetPro Solutions offers a comprehensive process de-bottlenecking service. This offering focuses on identifying and eliminating bottlenecks in copper processing plants, a common issue that can significantly hamper productivity. The team works on upgrading grinding and classification circuits for improved throughput, optimizing materials handling systems to reduce delays and increase efficiency, and implementing advanced process control systems for real-time optimization. These improvements can lead to substantial increases in plant productivity and efficiency, allowing mining operations to process more ore and extract more copper without major capital investments.

Water and Tailings Management: Water scarcity



and tailings management are two of the most pressing environmental concerns in the Copperbelt region. DGC MetPro Solutions addresses these issues head-on with its sustainable water and tailings management solutions. The company offers innovative water recycling and treatment technologies that significantly reduce freshwater consumption, a critical factor in water-stressed areas. Advanced tailings management strategies, including paste and filtered tailings solutions, help minimize environmental impact and maximize water recovery. Furthermore, DGC MetPro Solutions provides geotechnical expertise for the safe and efficient design of tailings storage facilities, ensuring long-term environmental stability. These solutions not only help mining operations meet regulatory requirements but also position them as responsible corporate citizens in their communities.

#### Case Studies:

The effectiveness of DGC MetPro Solutions' approach is evidenced by several compelling case studies from the field:

Vibration Monitoring for Raw Ore Mill: At a major zinc producer, the company's online vibration monitoring solution identified high vibration levels in a raw ore mill. This early detection allowed for the planned replacement of critical components, preventing a catastrophic

failure. The intervention saved the client USD 134,600 and avoided 18 days of lost production, demonstrating the significant value of predictive maintenance.

Online Monitoring for Iron Ore Producer: A comprehensive site-wide online vibration monitoring solution implemented for a senior iron ore miner helped avoid a staggering loss of 23 million tons in iron ore production. The system eliminated over 6,500 hours of equipment downtime and led to the timely replacement of 756 defective bearings, showcasing the power of predictive maintenance in boosting overall production efficiency.

Condition Monitoring at Cement Plant: At a cement plant, DGC MetPro Solutions' electrical motor condition monitoring (MCM) solution detected abnormal rotor insulation in a 2350 kW vertical mill drive motor. This early intervention prevented a potential \$330,000-\$400,000 replacement cost and significantly extended the motor's economic life, demonstrating the value of advanced diagnostics in preserving critical assets.

Oil Monitoring for Copper Dump Trucks: In a large open-pit copper mining operation, the implementation of an online oil monitoring solution for a fleet of 60 dump trucks enabled the extension of service intervals from 500 to 678 hours. This optimization resulted in a remarkable 26% reduction in maintenance costs and oil consumption, showcasing how data-driven solutions can lead to substantial operational savings.

Commitment to Sustainability and Local Talent:

Beyond providing technological solutions, DGC MetPro Solutions is deeply committed to developing local talent in the DRC and Zambia. The company offers comprehensive training programs and knowledge transfer initiatives, ensuring that the benefits of their advanced solutions are sustainable and contribute to long-term regional development. This approach not only enhances the immediate operational efficiency of their clients but also builds capacity within the local workforce, contributing to the overall growth and sustainability of the mining sector in the region.

As global demand for copper continues to rise, driven by renewable energy technologies and electric vehicle production, the Copperbelt's importance in the global supply chain is set to grow. DGC MetPro Solutions is strategically positioned to play a crucial role in this future, helping mining operations in the DRC and Zambia to embrace digital transformation, implement circular economy principles, drive towards carbon-neutral mining operations, and develop strategies for extracting copper from increasingly complex and lower-grade deposits.

In conclusion, DGC MetPro Solutions represents a new paradigm in copper mining services for the Copperbelt. By combining deep industry expertise, cutting-edge technology, and a steadfast commitment to sustainability, the company is not just solving today's challenges but is actively preparing the region's copper industry for a prosperous and responsible future. As mining companies in the DRC and Zambia look to optimize their operations and meet the growing global demand for copper, DGC MetPro Solutions stands ready as a partner to forge a new era of efficient, sustainable, and profitable copper production in the heart of Africa.

www.dgc-africa.com



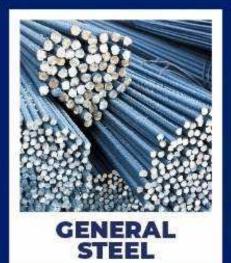
>37,800 Unique Users Per Month

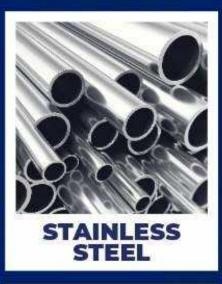
>1,100,000 Social Media Impressions > 53,980 Page Views Per Month

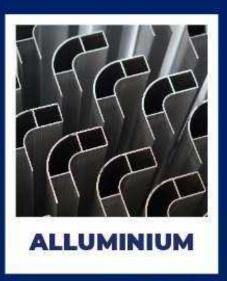
# MACSTEEL

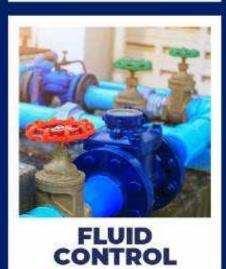
**Pursuing Reinvention** 

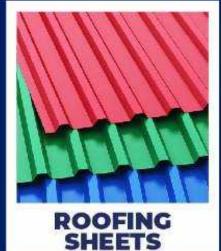


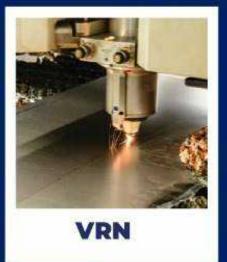




















# FQM REPORTS 13% RISE IN COPPER PRODUCTION FOR Q3

irst Quantum Minerals (FQM) has reported a 13 percent increase in copper production for the third quarter of this year, accompanied by a doubling of income tax payments globally.

Production at the company's Kansanshi mine in Solwezi rose to 49,810 tonnes of copper up 20 percent or 8,303 tonnes compared with the previous quarter, while its Sentinel mine in Kalumbila produced 58,412 tonnes, up 9 percent or 4,817 tonnes compared with the second quarter of 2024.

"While it is pleasing to see continued strong operational performance from the Zambian operations during the third quarter, this was marred by a tragic accident in September resulting in the death of a colleague at Kansanshi.

We continue to support the family, and we remain committed to ensure the safety of our colleagues across the business.

While ZESCO power restrictions continue, our Zambian team's proactive actions have resulted in minimal production impacts.

The S3 Expansion continues to make good progress for production in the second half of 2025," said Tristan Pascall, Chief Executive

Officer of First Quantum.

For the third quarter of 2024, First Quantum reported a gross profit of US\$456 million globally, compared with US\$333 during the second quarter of 2024.

The third quarter financial results were boosted by higher copper and gold sales volumes alongside stronger realised gold prices.

Kansanshi Mine reported its highest quarterly copper production since the fourth quarter of 2021, attributable to continued mining of higher feed grades.

This was further supported by a successful swap of the sulphide and mixed mills to increase the throughput of mixed material containing higher grades.

Gold production for the third quarter reached 31,659 ounces, the highest quarterly production since the first quarter of 2022.

The company also revised upwards its copper production guidance for the full 2024 year for Kansanshi to 155,000-165,000 tonnes from 130,000-150,000 tonnes, while Sentinel production guidance remained is forecast at 220,000-230,000 tonnes for the year.

Meanwhile, FQM's new Enterprise nickel mine at Kalumbila had its first full quarter of commercial production, producing 4,827 tonnes of nickel during the third quarter, a decrease from 6,147 tonnes in Q2 2024. The plant has been stable and achieved record throughput in August 2024.

Mr Pascall said that despite the ongoing energy crisis in Zambia, First Quantum's proactive sourcing of supplementary power mitigated disruptions, enabling normal operations for most of the quarter, adding that the impact of higher costs associated with the imported power was partially offset by strong gold by-product credits.

He also reported that the S3 Expansion at Kansanshi was progressing well with the assembly of the SAG and ball mills completed and installation of the gearless mill drives underway, and that the majority of capital expenditure was expected in 2024, with first production anticipated in the second half of

He said that the company remains optimistic about the future growth of its Zambian operations, highlighting its commitment to the country and the people of Zambia.



Barrick's Lumwana copper mine was officially launched on 3rd October 2024, by the Zambian President, His Excellency Hakainde Hichilema, accompanied by members of his cabinet.

The feasibility study for the Super Pit Expansion is expected by the end of the year, paving the way for construction to start in

Once completed, the \$2 billion project1,4 unlocks the potential to transform Lumwana into a long-life, high-yielding, top 25 copper producer1 and a Tier One2 copper mine.

The expansion involves first doubling throughput of the existing process circuit and then significantly increasing mining volumes. Plant throughput will grow from the current 27Mt to 52Mt, doubling the mine's annual

average of 240kt a year 3,4.

The process plant expansion is supported by a ramp-up of total mining volumes, which are planned to increase incrementally year-onyear, from 150Mt in 2025 to approximately 240Mt in 2028 and then to an average rate of 290t per annum from 2030 onwards 3,4.

Speaking at the groundbreaking ceremony also attended by the Barrick board of directors, Barrick president and chief executive Mark Bristow said a critical element of the Super Pit Expansion was its focus on creating a sustainable legacy through the development of local capacity within the region, which would benefit both local communities and businesses throughout the construction and operational phases.

The expansion will need around 550 additional

the ramp up and an additional 2,500 construction workers for a three-year period to 2028.

"We are also planning to build critical infrastructure, including an airstrip and an industrial supplier park. This will enable key suppliers to establish themselves in the area, creating an economic hub that will further fuel growth and development in the wider region," Bristow said.

"Mining plays a key role in Zambia's economic structure and our partnership with Barrick is creating one team with a shared vision to develop a new economic frontier in the North-Western Province of the country and beyond," said President Hakainde Hichilema.



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## SOLAR EXPLOCHEM ZAMBIA LIMITED

- Manufacturers and suppliers of Bulk Emulsion Explosives
- Manufacturers and suppliers of Cartridge Emulsion Explosives
- Assembly of Non Electronic Detonators
- Trading in Ammonium Nitrate and other Explosives Accessories.









### Corporate News

# First Africa Metals Confirms High-Grade Lithium at Misika Project in Zambia

K-based mining exploration company First Africa Metals has reported that rock chip sampling has confirmed exceptionally high-grade lithium-bearing pegmatites at its Misika project in Zambia's Southern

Independent laboratory analysis of the rock chip samples, along with X-ray diffraction (XRD) data, reveals that outcropping pegmatites from existing shallow artisanal open pits contain spodumene, montebrasite, pollucite, and lepidolite.

The highest-grade lithium-bearing samples (>7% lithium oxide) consist primarily of montebrasite, a lithium ore noted for its low impurity levels.

The Misika pegmatite zone is currently identified as approximately 1 km wide with a strike length of just over 2 km. This zone remains open in all directions, as indicated by advanced spaceborne thermal emission and reflection radiometer (ASTER) and Sentinel-2 remote sensing data.

The lithium mineralization is associated with highly fractionated pegmatites, which typically feature higher concentrations of lithium-bearing minerals

This is corroborated by low potassium-rubidium ratios, reaching as low as 2.4, with an average of 11.75 for corresponding lithium oxide grades down to 1%.

A recent ASTER survey has identified 132 pegmatite targets at the Misika project,

"The results from our projects are highly encouraging for both lithium and tin exploration. The exceptionally high-grade lithium results indicate not only the presence of spodumene but also montebrasite—an ore known for its low impurity levels and higher spot price than spodumene.

This combination of high-value ores positions us favorably in the current lithium market," stated Mark Potter, Director of First Africa Metals.

"We are strategically located in the fertile Choma Belt, known for hosting lithium and tin deposits within some of the most highly fractionated pegmatites, which may reveal additional valuable mineral deposits as exploration progresses.

We are excited to explore further potential for discovery and expansion in the region and will keep the market updated on our progress," he added.



# REGISTRATION **SUPPLIERS**

Kroup Mining And Processing Ltd operates a Copper Oxide Hydrometallurgical Plant comprising of Crushing, Heap Leaching, Solvent Extraction and Electrowinning circuits.

We invite suppliers that meet the legal and regulatory standards for mining and/or trading COPPER OXIDE ORE to register with us.

## Chemical Properties

- Grade of a minimum of 3% ASCu
- Gangue Acid Consumption (GAC) less than 150 Kg/ton

## **Physical Properties**

- · Fines composition cannot exceed 10% w/w (i.e. fines =< 1mm).
- The top size of copper ore should not exceed 400mm in the broadest cross
- At least 10 tons of supply per consignment.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

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#### LOCATION

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t its 54th quarterly press conference on October 8 in Kinshasa, Kibali Gold Mines announced significant new deposit discoveries near its plant, boosting the mine's long-term growth prospects.

Mark Bristow, Barrick's Chairman and CEO, shared that these discoveries will help maintain Kibali's status as Africa's largest gold mine for years to come.

Bristow revealed that the newly identified "ARK" target, just 4 km from the processing plant, holds the potential for a high-grade deposit of several million ounces.

This discovery, along with deeper extensions of the KCD deposit, will help replenish Kibali's gold reserves, ensuring sustainable production.

The mine is on track to meet its Tier 1 production and cost targets for 2024, solidifying its position as one of the continent's most profitable gold operations.

Kibali has also broadened its mining portfolio in the DRC, consolidating new exploration areas for both gold and copper. Over the past 15 years, the mine has fostered regional economic growth through its multi-stakeholder partnership model, supporting local communities and infrastructure development in Haut-Uélé.

To date, Kibali has spent \$2.87 billion on payments to local contractors and suppliers, and it is working with the government to strengthen local content initiatives, benefiting over 500 Congolese companies.

On the environmental front, Kibali is advancing its biodiversity efforts by relocating 64 white rhinos to Garamba National Park. Additionally, its renewable energy rate is set to rise from 79% to 85% with the activation of a 16-megawatt solar plant and a battery energy storage system, complementing its three existing hydroelectric plants.

This will enable the mine to run on fully renewable energy for six months of the year, aligning with Barrick's emissions reduction strategy.

Kibali's commitment to sustainability and local partnerships continues to shape its role as a pioneering mine in the DRC.

# Kibali Gold Mine Discovers Major Deposits, Expands Exploration in **DRC**





# Africa Finance Corporation Advances Zambia-Lobito Rail Project with Concession Agreements

he Africa Finance Corporation (AFC) has significantly advanced the Zambia Lobito Rail project by entering into concession agreements with the governments of Angola and Zambia.

This ceremonial signing took place on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 79) with the participation of U.S. Secretary of State Antony J.

Blinken and the Biden Administration's G-7 Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment (PGI). The agreements empower the AFC to take the lead in funding, constructing, owning, and operating this vital infrastructure project aimed at enhancing commercial connectivity between the two nations.

In collaboration with the governments of Angola, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Zambia, the U.S. Government, the European Union, and the African Development Bank, the AFC was designated as the principal developer of the Zambia Lobito Rail project last year.

This partnership underscores a global commitment to leveraging improved infrastructure to foster regional integration and economic development.

The project entails the construction of a Greenfield rail line of approximately 800 kilometers, connecting the Zambia Railways Line in Chingola, Zambia, to the Benguela Rail Line in Luacano, Angola.

Once completed, this trade corridor is expected to facilitate the efficient flow of commodities and encourage investments in sectors such as

mining, digital infrastructure, agriculture, health, and electricity access.

Coinciding with the signing of the concession agreements, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) awarded the AFC a \$2 million grant—the first time the AFC has utilized USTDA financing.

This grant will aid in completing essential environmental and socioeconomic studies for the project. The funding will enable comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIA), ensuring compliance with global best practices and environmental standards.

The AFC's leadership in this initiative is critical, as the railway will provide an efficient evacuation route for minerals and metals from the region.

It will also establish a vital trade corridor across Africa, linking the Port of Lobito on the Atlantic Ocean to the Port of Dar es Salaam on the Indian Ocean.

This corridor aims to enhance global and intra-African trade by offering an alternative strategic route for Zambia and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to access international export markets.

Economic estimates suggest the railway could generate nearly \$3 billion in benefits for Angola and Zambia. The project is expected to create over 1,250 jobs during both the development and operational phases while reducing carbon emissions by approximately 300,000 tons annually. These figures highlight the project's potential for job creation,

environmental sustainability, and economic growth.

Both Angola's Minister of Transport, Ricardo Viegas d'Abreu, and Zambia's Minister of Transport, Frank Tayali, expressed enthusiasm for the project.

Minister d'Abreu emphasized the transformative potential of the partnership with the AFC in reinforcing Angola's role as a regional logistics hub.

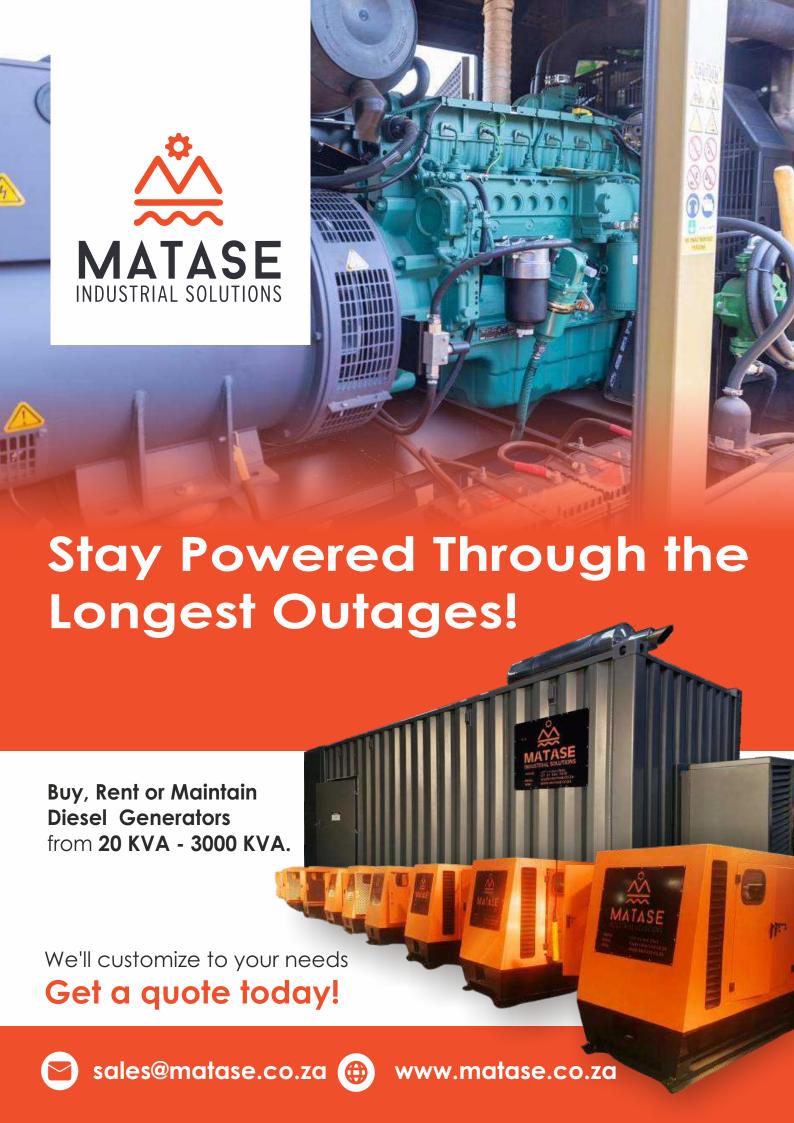
Minister Tayali highlighted the project's significance as a milestone in modernizing infrastructure and boosting Zambia's economic competitiveness.

Samaila Zubairu, President & CEO of the AFC, described the Zambia Lobito Rail Project as a transformative development for the region, unlocking substantial trade, industrialization, and socio-economic growth opportunities.

He reiterated the AFC's commitment to delivering world-class rail infrastructure that promotes regional integration and provides crucial export routes for copper and other essential minerals, vital for the global energy transition.

The Zambia Lobito Rail project signifies a major step forward in enhancing regional connectivity and fostering economic development.

By linking key mining regions, agricultural clusters, and businesses in Zambia and the DRC to the Port of Lobito, the project is poised to facilitate efficient cargo movement and create enduring benefits for both countries and their citizens.







# Ivanhoe Mines Announces MOU with Govt of Zambia to Facilitate Exploration & Development Activities

vanhoe Mines Executive Co-Chairman Robert Friedland and President Marna Cloete announced today that on August 26, 2024, a memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed with the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development (Ministry of Mines) of the Government of the Republic of Zambia to support Ivanhoe Mines in commencing exploration activities in the country.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Minister of the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development, Hon. Paul Kabuswe MP, and Permanent Secretary Dr. Hapenga Kabeta, as well as members of Ivanhoe Mines' senior management team.

The MOU outlines how Ivanhoe Mines intends to co-develop prospective projects together in partnership with the Ministry of Mines, to ensure the long-term sustainable development of Zambia's mineral resources, while providing a sustainable contribution to the Zambian economy and its communities.

In parallel with the signing of the MOU, Ivanhoe Mines has applied for a significant exploration licence package in Zambia, with adjudication and award targeted by year-end.

The MOU includes commitments by the Ministry of Mines to share information, identify prospective land packages, provide access to existing and new geological data collected by the Zambian Government (including the recently announced 750,000-km2 country-wide airborne geophysical survey), provide guidance and support in relation to the application of new licences, as well as provide a stable and predictable fiscal and regulatory environment.

Following successful exploration or mining licence applications, Ivanhoe Mines intends to invest in exploration and project development activities following the same model of success

that led to the discovery and development of the world-class Kamoa-Kakula Copper Complex in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

In doing so, Ivanhoe will comply with all applicable legislation and conduct exploration activities in collaboration with the Geological Survey of Zambia, with a view to co-developing viable projects in a joint venture with the Government of Zambia.

On August 14, 2024, the President of the Republic of Zambia, H.E. Hakainde Hichilema, announced the start of a nationwide high-resolution aerial geophysical survey to map the country's mineral and water resources.

The program is part of the nation's target of quadrupling annualized copper production to achieve 3 million tonnes by 2031. This achievement would rank Zambia as the second-largest copper producer globally, compared with tenth as projected for 2024 as shown in Figure 1

Ivanhoe Mines Announces MOU with Govt of Zambia to Facilitate Exploration & Development Activities 2

Figure 1. Projected global copper mine production by country in 2024 ('000 tonnes of copper)

The Republic of Zambia's Minister of Mines and Minerals Development, Hon. Paul Kabuswe MP commented:

"The MOU is more than just an agreement on paper; it is a promise and commitment to work together in good faith, to build on shared interests, and to strive for excellence in all our endeavours.

The Zambian Government, through the Ministry of Mines, remains committed to supporting investors by providing the necessary regulatory frameworks and infrastructure that will enable such investments to flourish.

"Zambia is open for business and committed to maintaining an environment that attracts and retains investment by demonstrating our readiness to work with industry leaders like Ivanhoe Mines to realize the full potential of our natural resources.

"The Government of Zambia stands ready to support Ivanhoe Mines every step of the way, to ensure that its investment not only thrives but also contributes meaningfully to the growth and development of our nation."

Ivanhoe Mines Founder and Executive Co-Chairman Robert Friedland commented:

"Ivanhoe Mines is just getting started in expanding our global exploration footprint to discover more of the vital green metals that the world so desperately needs for advanced industrialization and electrification.

Over the past 20 years, our geologists have discovered over 50 million tonnes of copper under the western edge of the Central African Copperbelt in the Democratic Republic of the Congo... an area we now call the Western Foreland shelf.

Leveraging our decades of experience, and by thinking outside the box, we turned what was previously believed to be an unmineralized region, into one of the world's newest and most prolific copper production districts.

We are now entering Zambia, as well as Angola, where we have high conviction that new discoveries are waiting to be uncovered.

"The spirit of this agreement is the same as the partnership we embarked upon with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo when we started exploring and developing Kamoa-Kakula ... which is fast becoming the world's third largest copper mine, only three years since we commenced production ... this industry-leading feat would have not been possible without first forming strong partnerships with our host governments and communities."



# Kamoa Copper Signs \$75 Million in Contracts with 22 Local Subcontractors to Boost Congolese Participation

o further President Félix Tshisekedi's vision of empowering local businesses, the Director General of the Regulatory Authority for Subcontracting in the Private Sector (ARSP) oversaw the signing of contracts between 22 Congolese subcontracting companies and the Kamoa Copper company in Lualaba province.

The contracts, valued at \$75 million, will provide these companies access to various markets within Kamoa's operations, such as the supply of sulfuric reagents, acid, underground pipe installation, and gardening services.

## List of Subcontracting Companies and contracts:

E-Logic Sarl: IT Services (\$2,455,938)

Kasongo Kipabi Sarlu: Gardening Services (\$94,982)

S'anza Sarl Fuel: Fuel Management System (\$1,877,285)

Oil Corporation SAS: Supply of Lubricants (\$219,717)

Swift Service Sarl: Equipment Rental (\$469,560)

Établissements Progress: Fiber Optic Services (\$216,000)

Thyme Investment Sarl: Conveyor Belt Maintenance (\$262,200)

Minka Corporation Sarl: Cleaning Services

(\$82,343)

Hydraulic Engineering Sarl: Hydraulic Hoses Services (\$610,182)

Macken Pieces Sarl: Hydraulic Hoses Services (\$3,050,909)

High Technology Sarl: Security Escort Services (\$418,320)

La Main Verte: Gardening Services (\$369,198)

Gael Sarl: Gardening Services (\$194,344)

Bustani Sarl: Gardening Services (\$733,241)

Glorhis Multi-Services Sarl: HDPE Pipe Installation (\$9,273,497)

Metal and Civil Construction of Kolwezi: HDPE Pipe Installation (\$9,273,497)

Genesis Construction Africa Sarl: HDPE Pipe Installation (\$9,273,497)

Perfect Logistics Sarl: HDPE Pipe Installation (\$9,273,497)

Mukondoli Engineering & Logistics Sarl: Fire Extinguisher Maintenance (\$163,922)

Eagle Global Sarl: Supply of Chemical Reagents (\$13,154,400)

Taky Corp 1 SASU: Ore Transport Services (\$13,608,000)

Total value of contracts awarded in July and August 2024: \$75,074,532

During the contract-signing ceremony, Kamoa Copper administrator Annabelle Oosthuizen

emphasized the company's dedication to integrating local businesses into its value chain

She highlighted the significance of these threeyear contracts and the long-term potential for growth in the Congolese mining sector.

"The area where mining companies can thrive in this country is through the supply chain. These contracts symbolize not only an opportunity for the present but also for future generations," Oosthuizen stated.

ARSP Director General Miguel Kashal praised President Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi for his role in enabling Congolese subcontractors to participate in mine excavation work—an area traditionally dominated by foreign companies.

"It is not just about obtaining a contract; it must be sustained. In the past, foreign companies did not allow local subcontractors in excavation work, which is critical to production.

Today, thanks to the Head of State's efforts, mining companies trust Congolese subcontractors. We must uphold and maintain this trust for the long term. God bless these companies," Kashal said.

These developments mark a significant step forward in the local empowerment of Congolese businesses in the mining sector, boosting both economic growth and job creation in the region.



rc Minerals, a base metals exploration and development company, has confirmed that its copper joint venture (JV) with Anglo American in Zambia is on track.

Despite Anglo's recent rejection of an all-share takeover bid from BHP, the company remains focused on copper, a key element in its new strategic direction.

"It's all about copper, and that's the number one priority for Anglo and other major companies exposed to base metals," said Nick von Schirnding, Arc Minerals' director and executive chairman, in a recent interview. He described the JV project in Zambia's Copperbelt as "the most exciting copper tenement in the world, certainly in Africa."

The \$90 million project, located in the Dome region of the Zambian Copperbelt, is fully funded, with \$75 million allocated for on-ground exploration.

Drilling, which began last year, is set to resume in June after being halted by seasonal rains. Initial drilling reached depths of 950 meters, revealing not only copper but also nickel mineralization.

The upcoming drilling campaign, which is expected to continue until late November or early December, depending on weather conditions, will provide further insights.

Arc's tenements, covering 870 km<sup>2</sup>, are situated near significant copper mines like First Quantum Minerals' Sentinel and Kansanshi mines, as well as Barrick's Lumwana mine.

Zambia's history with copper mining dates back nearly a century. However, exploration and investment were hampered after the Zambian government nationalized the industry, including Anglo's assets, in 1969.

The re-privatization that followed saw the industry go through several turbulent phases under different administrations, some less favorable to investors.

President Hakainde Hichilema, who took office in 2021, has made significant efforts to attract investment and create a more favorable environment for mining, which is crucial to Zambia's economy.

"The new administration has made impressive strides in turning things around," von Schirnding said, noting the government's commitment to tackling corruption and improving infrastructure.

The Dome region benefits from relatively good infrastructure, including access to water and power. While the road network is mixed, Arc has graded roads in the area, and the government has committed to further infrastructure development in the region.

Looking ahead, questions remain about funding as the project moves beyond exploration and development. Concerns about Anglo's financial capacity to bring its copper assets to fruition have been raised, particularly as the company shifts its focus towards copper, partly funded by the planned sale of its steel-making coal assets in Australia and its stake in diamond giant De Boers

Von Schirnding, who has a long history with Anglo, remains optimistic about the JV's prospects. He described the deal with

Anglo as "the best exploration earn-in ever drafted."

However, despite the initial excitement, investor interest has waned, with Arc Minerals' share price halving since the announcement.

"The excitement starts now," von Schirnding said in a recent call to investors, expressing confidence in the JV's future.



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As mines become deeper, more remote, and technically challenging, the need for ground support solutions from one reliable and cost-effective supplier is more important than ever. As the Ground Support Division, our offering spans the entire customer value chain, built on significant investments in research and development, customer insights, and deep knowledge of industrial processes and digital solutions. From solid rock bolts and cable anchors to mesh, injection chemicals, resin capsules, and digital ground support solutions – all of our products and systems help make mining a safer place to work, reinforcing your operations every step of the way.



# Manono Lithium Secures Exploitation Permit for DRC Project

n September 20, Manono Lithium SAS announced the successful conversion of its Exploration Permit into an Exploitation Permit for the Manono lithium mine, granted by the Ministry of Mines on September 13.

A company representative highlighted the significance of this milestone for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and its local communities: "This is a crucial step that will bring jobs, investment, and numerous

benefits to the region.

The project will also contribute to global climate change efforts by increasing lithium supply to international markets. We are committed to its timely and successful development."

According to a press release from Manono Lithium, its primary shareholder is a subsidiary of Zijin Mining Group Co. Ltd., a major international mining company listed on the Hong Kong and Shanghai stock exchanges.

Ranked 5th globally by Forbes, Zijin has invested over \$3.5 billion in the DRC since 2014, contributing to large-scale projects like the Kolwezi copper mines and the Kamoa-Kakula complex. These ventures have generated more than 20,000 direct and indirect jobs in the region.

Zijin Mining Group has also been recognized for its strong environmental, social, and governance (ESG) practices, reinforcing its commitment to sustainable development.

# Musamu Resources Calls for Manganese Processing Plant and Increased Local Participation in Zambia

usamu Resources Limited Executive Chairperson, Dr. Sixtus Mulenga, has urged ZCCM-IH to consider establishing a manganese processing plant in Zambia.

Speaking at the Mining and Investment Insaka in Lusaka today, Dr. Mulenga emphasized the importance of greater involvement of Zambians in the manganese mining sector.

He highlighted that the development of a national steel industry could accelerate Zambia's industrialization, with the manganese sector playing a key role.

Dr. Mulenga stressed that the sector's success relies on the inclusion of artisanal,

small-scale, and large-scale miners, alongside the establishment of processing plants.

He also called on the government to continue fostering a favorable economic environment to attract affordable international capital and support the growth of local investors in the manganese industry.



iversified metals producer Jubilee Metals has completed its due diligence on Project G, an open-pit copper mining operation in Zambia, and has decided to increase its ownership from 51% to 65%.

This acquisition, initially announced in August, marks Jubilee's second open-pit copper venture in Zambia, following the implementation of Project Munkoyo.

In a related move, Jubilee has expanded its power allocation under the recently announced private power purchase agreement (LHPC agreement), securing an additional 2 MW of electricity.

This will ensure that all Zambian operations, including the Roan concentrator, operate at full capacity. The Roan plant, equipped with a newly commissioned front-end module and an existing milling and flotation facility, is now fully powered by renewable energy sources.

Jubilee's copper strategy in Zambia is focused on achieving a production target of

25,000 tonnes per year. This will be made possible by the enhanced processing capabilities at the upgraded Roan plant and the planned second copper tank house at the Sable refinery.

For Project G, Jubilee has opted to pay the acquisition value of \$2 million in cash rather than shares, with an additional \$500,000 earmarked for operational upgrades.

The project is expected to begin operations by December, with pre-concentrated run-of-mine (RoM) material being delivered to the Sable refinery.

As part of the agreement, Jubilee has taken over as manager and operator of Project G's open-pit operations. The project will ramp up over the next six months, targeting the production of 3,000 tonnes of preconcentrate material per month.

This will result in an additional 350 tonnes of copper units per month (4,200 per year) being sent to Sable for refining. A resource drilling program is underway to increase production to 20,000 to 25,000 tonnes of

RoM ore per month.

CEO Leon Coetzer expressed his enthusiasm for the acquisition, emphasizing that Project G is part of the company's broader strategy to capitalize on Zambia's abundant near-surface copper resources.

"The strategic acquisition of two open-pit operations demonstrates our ability to leverage our process capabilities and secure significant copper resources.

With predictable high-grade assets and our owner-managed operations, we are well-positioned to meet our 25,000 t/y copper production target," Coetzer said.

He also highlighted the company's commitment to sustainability, noting that all power requirements for Jubilee's Zambian operations have been converted to renewable energy, with future reliance on hydro and solar power.

"This is vital for the green energy transition and ensures the copper we produce has a minimal carbon footprint," he added.

# GoviEx Uranium Completes Successful Metallurgical Testwork at Zambia's Muntanga Project

SX-V-listed GoviEx Uranium has successfully completed an extensive metallurgical testwork program at Mintek in South Africa, aimed at demonstrating the viability of the heap leach process for its Muntanga project in Zambia.

The testwork confirmed that uranium recoveries of 90% or higher were achieved from the main deposits, Muntanga and Dibbwi East, which represent 80% of the measured and indicated resources.

Additionally, it showed short recovery times

within 20 days, low acid consumption, and fast kinetic rates, supporting the feasibility of small on-off leach pads for the project.

The program involved comminution, agglomeration, 6-meter sulphuric acid column leaching, ion exchange, and uranium elution and precipitation for six mineralization zones across the project, using material from a 2023 diamond drilling campaign.

This work was far more comprehensive than previous tests, which were limited to 2-meter leach columns.

"These positive results confirm the straightforward metallurgy of the Muntanga project and will improve the accuracy of the upcoming feasibility study, expected by yearend," said CEO Daniel Major.

"With high uranium recoveries and low acid consumption, the data strengthens our confidence in the project's processing design." The Muntanga project covers three mining licenses and three exploration licenses, spanning a total of 1,226 km².



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# Zijin Mining Eyes Major Expansion of Kamoa-Kakula Copper Mine in the DRC

hina's Zijin Mining Group Co. is considering a significant expansion of the Kamoa-Kakula copper mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), which could make it one of the largest copper sources globally.

The company's chairman, Chen Jinghe, revealed plans to boost production to 1 million tonnes annually—well above the current target of 600,000 tonnes—potentially challenging BHP Group's aging Escondida mine in Chile, the world's largest copper mine.

"We are conducting research and making plans to achieve 1 million tonnes of production," said Chen in an interview at Zijin's headquarters in Xiamen, China.

The Kamoa-Kakula project is a joint venture with Ivanhoe Mines Ltd., owned by mining billionaire Robert Friedland, with each company holding a 39.6% stake, while the DRC

government owns 20%.

Kamoa-Kakula's Current Standing and Future Potential

Kamoa-Kakula is already the world's third-largest copper mining complex and one of the few high-quality, large-scale copper mines to begin operations in the past decade.

Its growth is aligned with the increasing global demand for copper, driven by the green energy transition. The mine is also integral to Zijin's ambitions to become a top-three global copper producer.

Although Chen provided no specific details on the expansion, he highlighted challenges such as power supply issues, high logistics costs, and transport bottlenecks that need to be addressed. Additionally, the project aims to improve cost control and optimize investments.

Ivanhoe Mines, responding via email, noted that they are conducting an updated life-of-mine

engineering study on the Kamoa-Kakula complex, with results expected in Q1 2025. Decisions regarding the proposed Phase 4 expansion and other future investments will be based on this study.

In 2023, the Kamoa-Kakula mine produced nearly 400,000 tonnes of copper. The current ramp-up targets more than 600,000 tonnes per year, and earlier projections from Zijin suggest peak production could reach 800,000 tonnes.

Competition with Global Copper Giants

If the expansion to 1 million tonnes materializes, Kamoa-Kakula could rival BHP's Escondida mine, which produced around 1.07 million tonnes in 2023. Another major competitor is Freeport-McMoRan's Grasberg mine in Indonesia, which produced approximately 750,000 tonnes last year. The planned expansion reflects the critical role Kamoa-Kakula plays in the global copper supply chain and underscores Zijin's drive to solidify its position as a leader in the copper industry.

# Midnight Sun Shares Drop After Zambia Rejects Kazhiba License Renewal

idnight Sun Mining Corp. (TSXV: MMA) saw its shares drop sharply late Thursday following the Zambian government's rejection of its application to renew the exploration license for the Kazhiba target, part of its flagship Solwezi project.

Kazhiba is one of three key targets within Midnight Sun's 506 km<sup>2</sup> property in Zambia, which has already yielded significant copper discoveries.

The area is underlain by a previously undiscovered basement dome similar to those found at First Quantum's Kansanshi mine, a major copper producer in the region.

These basement domes are believed to be linked to copper mineralization at nearby mines, including Kansanshi, Sentinel (both operated by First Quantum), and Barrick's Lumwana mine.

Kazhiba's 22 Zone, located just 10 kilometers

from Kansanshi's western gate, was identified in 2012 through shallow drilling that followed up on a subtle copper anomaly. One of the discovery holes intersected 11.3 meters of 5.71% copper near the surface.

This year, Midnight Sun planned to further explore Kazhiba to define its copper oxide resources, with potential to supply ore to the nearby Kansanshi mine under a cooperative exploration agreement with First Quantum.

The company had submitted an application for the final three-year renewal of the Kazhiba license as per Zambian mining regulations.

However, the Zambian mining licensing committee rejected the application in June without issuing a formal notice to Midnight Sun. Instead, the decision was posted on the committee's website.

Midnight Sun claims that the ministry did not provide any explanation for the rejection and subsequently issued the license area to a new entity.

As a result, Midnight Sun has suspended operations at Kazhiba but is exploring legal options to defend its exploration rights. "While we are disappointed with the current situation, we believe it will be rectified.

We are taking all possible steps to expedite a swift resolution so we can resume our exploration at Kazhiba," said Midnight Sun's CEO, Al Fabbro.

Despite the setback at Kazhiba, Midnight Sun emphasized that its other two licenses—covering the Dumbwa target, under an earn-in agreement with KoBold Metals, and the Kansanshi-style Mitu target, part of the cooperative exploration plan with First Quantum—remain unaffected.

Exploration will proceed as planned at Mitu, which has shown promising results, including an 11.6-meter drill intercept at 3.44% copper.

Following the news, Midnight Sun Mining's shares dropped 11.2% by market close on Thursday, leaving the company with a market capitalization of C\$58.7 million (\$43.5 million).



andvik has signed an agreement to acquire Universal Field Robots (UFR), a fast-growing Australia-based provider of autonomous interoperable solutions for the surface mining and underground mining markets. UFR will be reported in Digital Mining Technologies, a division within business area Sandvik Mining and Rock Solutions.

UFR's solution portfolio is built on a common autonomy platform, which is a strong complement to Sandvik's automation offering and includes OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) agnostic robotic and autonomous solutions for trucks, loaders and auxiliary equipment.

The acquisition will help to increase the addressable market for Sandvik and further strengthens the market position of Sandvik AutoMine® – the world's leading mining automation platform.

Adding to the AutoMine® platform's existing capabilities to integrate third party equipment, UFR will significantly expand the number of compatible third-party equipment types, providing customers with flexible opportunities to optimize the performance of their full mining equipment fleets, regardless of the OEM.

"Universal Field Robots is an important strategic addition to Sandvik Mining and Rock Solutions, which will strengthen our growth potential and provide key capabilities in the development of our mining automation solutions portfolio going forward," says Stefan Widing, President and CEO of Sandvik.

Contracts, Mergers and Acquisitions

UFR has approximately 40 employees and is headquartered in Brisbane, Australia. In the financial year that ended in June 2024, the company generated revenues of approximately SEK 80 million.

The impact on Sandvik's EBITA margin will be limited. The impact on Sandvik's earnings per share (excluding non-cash amortization effects from business combinations) will be positive.

The parties have agreed not to disclose the purchase price. The transaction is expected to close during the fourth quarter of 2024.

# GoviEx to acquire 51% interest in Zambia exploration license

SX- and OTCQX-listed GoviEx Uranium has obtained an option to acquire a 51% interest in the Lundazi exploration licence from Stalwart Investments. This move is a key part of GoviEx's strategy to expand its footprint in Zambia's uranium sector.

The Lundazi licence spans 817.9 km², an area notable for the Karoo Supergroup formations, which are known to host significant sandstone-based uranium deposits. This geological setting makes the Lundazi region a promising site for uranium exploration.

The geology in Lundazi closely mirrors that of GoviEx's ongoing Muntanga project, also located in Zambia. GoviEx has made substantial progress at Muntanga, with a feasibility study scheduled for release in the second half of this year.

After the study's publication, GoviEx plans to secure financing and aims to make a production decision. If successful, production at Muntanga is expected to commence approximately two

 $years\,after\,construction\,begins.$ 

"The Lundazi licence is a strategic addition to our portfolio, aligning with our broader efforts in Zambia. The geological parallels between Lundazi and Muntanga are especially promising, enabling us to apply our existing knowledge and experience in the region," said GoviEx CEO Daniel Major on September 9.

Under the terms of the agreement, GoviEx can earn a 51% stake in the Lundazi licence by investing up to \$1.5 million over three years, with an initial commitment of \$300,000 in the first year.

The agreement allows GoviEx the flexibility to terminate the transaction at any time with 60 days' written notice, thus minimizing risk.

Should GoviEx proceed through the full three-year option, a joint venture will be established for further exploration and potential development of the Lundazi licence. Initial exploration efforts will include geological mapping and radiometric surveys, with drilling anticipated in 2025.

"The local geology of Lundazi is strikingly similar to that of our Muntanga project, which is why this opportunity is particularly exciting," added GoviEx's chief geologist, Jerome Randabel.

He noted that data from previous explorations reveal numerous geological faults in the Lundazi area, which are promising indicators of uranium deposits.

GoviEx has also expanded its geological database for Lundazi, integrating radiometric data from government maps dating back to the 1960s, along with more recent surveys.

This comprehensive dataset includes approximately 750 data points from the Luano and Luangwa Valleys, combined with 92 original government magnetic and radiometric maps, providing essential tools for identifying anomalies and guiding preliminary exploration efforts.

Similar deposits in the region, such as the Kayelekera project in Malawi, have proven economically viable, further underscoring the potential value of the Lundazi licence.

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# DRC Achieves Milestone with First Local Export of Germanium Concentrate

he Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is set to make its first export of locally processed germanium concentrate, produced in Lubumbashi by Société Terril de Lubumbashi (STL), a subsidiary of Gécamines.

Germanium is a strategic metal crucial for various high-tech applications, including aerospace, optical technologies, and space exploration.

According to a press release from Gécamines obtained by DESKECO, the inaugural batch of concentrated germanium will be shipped this week to Umicore, a Belgium-based mining company, for further processing and utilization in advanced technological applications.

Previously, STL relied on a refiner to bring germanium to market, but this time, the company

has taken the initiative to handle the processing independently.

Gécamines' president, Guy Robert Lukama, highlighted this achievement as a significant milestone in the transformation of strategic metals, enhancing the DRC's geostrategic position.

"With the production of germanium at STL, we are becoming a major player in the global production of this strategic metal, positioning the DRC favorably in its relationships with international partners," Lukama stated.

This success is not solely attributed to STL; the company benefited from the expertise and support of Umicore, thanks to a technological and commercial partnership established in May 2024.

Umicore's experts assisted STL personnel in setting up the germanium processing circuit, facilitating a smoother transition to local production.

"With their support on-site, along with their human and industrial resources in Belgium, our team is rapidly advancing in mastering various metal technologies, making us almost unique in the world for this specific metal," remarked Grant Dempsey, general manager of STL.

Buoyed by this success, Gécamines aims for STL to also produce other valuable minerals found in Lubumbashi, including gallium, cobalt, zinc, lithium, tin, cadmium, and coltan in the near future.

# Zambia Aims for Copper Production Surge Amid \$12 Billion Investment Boom

ambia's Minister of Mines and Minerals Development, Hon. Paul Kabuswe, MP, recently announced that the country's mining sector has successfully attracted US\$12 billion in investments.

However, despite this impressive capital influx, the minister raised concerns about stagnant copper production, which has

plateaued at 750,000 metric tons.

Minister Kabuswe reaffirmed the government's commitment to significantly increase production, with a target of three million metric tons within a set timeframe.

"The mining sector remains the key driver of our country's economic transformation," Kabuswe stated, underscoring the sector's essential role in fostering national growth and development.

As part of efforts to further strengthen the sector, Zambia is hosting its first-ever Mining and Investment Indaba, themed "Mining Beyond Copper, Celebrating 100 Years of Mining." This event will highlight diverse opportunities within the mining industry beyond copper and encourage collaboration among stakeholders.

# DRC Govt Blocks Chemaf's Sale of Copper & Cobalt Mines to China's Norin Mining

he government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has opposed Chemaf SA's plan to sell its copper and cobalt mines to China's Norin Mining, according to a document reviewed by Reuters.

In June, Chemaf, a long-time partner of commodities trader Trafigura, announced its agreement to sell its mining operations in the DRC to a subsidiary of China North Industries Corp (Norinco), a state-backed defense and industrial giant.

The sale was driven by financial difficulties that had delayed the expansion of Chemaf's Etoile and

Mutoshi projects amid falling cobalt prices.

However, DRC's Mines Minister, Kizito Pakabomba, has stated that the proposed deal violates lease agreements between Chemaf and the state miner Gecamines.

The council of ministers adopted the Ministry of Mines' recommendation to halt the transaction, citing a breach of contract.

"Given the clear violation of the terms of the farmout contract between Gecamines and Chemaf, it was recommended that the current transaction be stopped following Gecamines' opposition," the council's minutes noted. A spokesperson for Chemaf indicated that the company would continue discussions with DRC authorities to move the transaction forward.

Gecamines, which holds the mineral rights to Chemaf's mines, has also expressed opposition to the deal with Norin Mining.

China, through its state-backed mining companies, has become the largest investor in the DRC as it seeks to secure copper and cobalt resources for its rapidly growing electric vehicle industry.

Norinco already operates the Comica and Lamikal copper and cobalt mines in the DRC, the world's top cobalt producer.



ngloGold Ashanti has initiated a \$2.5 billion share and cash takeover of Centamin, the African gold miner producing 470,000 ounces annually.

Centamin's board has irrevocably supported the offer, which values Centamin shares at 163 pence, reflecting a 36.7% premium to its previous closing price and a 37.6% premium to its 30-day volume-weighted average price.

Centamin operates the Sukari gold mine in Egypt, which produced 224,738 ounces in the first half of this year. The company recently completed a definitive feasibility study on its Doropo project in Ivory Coast, estimated to cost \$373 million.

If successful, the acquisition will increase AngloGold's annual gold production to 3.1 million ounces, making it the world's fourth-largest gold producer.

Sukari is also expected to reduce AngloGold's all-in sustaining costs (AISC), which averaged \$1,196/oz over the past year, compared to

AngloGold's current guidance of \$1,500 to \$1,600/oz.

Initial market reactions were mixed: AngloGold's shares dropped over 7% on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, while Centamin's stock surged 24% to 148.3 pence in early trading on the London Stock Exchange.

AngloGold CEO Alberto Calderon stated that the deal would be cash-flow positive in the first year of full production and accretive to net asset value from the outset.

He added that AngloGold would leverage its corporate infrastructure and expertise in exploration, operations, and asset optimization to unlock further value.

This acquisition is part of a recent wave of mergers and acquisitions in the mining sector, following Newmont's \$14.5 billion takeover of Newcrest and Gold Fields' C\$2.16 billion bid for Osisko Mining. Mining sector deals across all metals grew 3% year-on-year to \$64 billion in 2023, according to PwC.

Under AngloGold's offer, Centamin shareholders will receive 0.06983 new AngloGold shares and \$0.125 in cash per share, valuing Centamin at £1.9 billion (\$2.5 billion). AngloGold shareholders will own approximately 83.6% of the combined company, while Centamin shareholders will hold about 16.4%.

Centamin shareholders are also entitled to their recently declared interim dividend of \$0.0225 per share, payable in September.

Centamin CEO Martin Horgan expressed confidence that the transaction would support the continued growth of Centamin's assets. He highlighted Sukari's importance within the Nubian Shield, a promising gold district benefiting from Egypt's recent liberalization of mining regulations.

The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter, with Centamin shareholders set to vote on the scheme around October 28. No prior approval from the Egyptian government is required, apart from competition approval.





# EU Pledges \$35 Million in Grants to Boost South Africa's Green Hydrogen Sector

he European Union has announced two grants worth approximately \$35 million to support South Africa's green hydrogen initiatives, aimed at accelerating its decarbonization goals.

The first grant, valued at 140 million rand (\$7.8 million), is intended to assist South African state-owned enterprise Transnet with infrastructure upgrades.

The funds will be used to enhance critical logistics, including railways, ports, and pipelines, which are necessary for developing the green hydrogen sector.

The second grant, amounting to 25 million euros

(\$27.6 million), will help South Africa further develop its green hydrogen value chain, facilitating the production and export of hydrogen made from renewable energy sources.

Green hydrogen, produced by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen using renewable energy, is increasingly seen as a key solution to reducing carbon emissions across industries like transport, petrochemicals, and steel.

South Africa, as Africa's most industrialized nation, has been positioning itself as a leader in the green hydrogen revolution.

"These two European Union grants will be

implemented in a way that contributes to South Africa's strategic objectives," said Kadri Simson, the European Commissioner for Energy, during the announcement in Pretoria.

The EU has been heavily investing in green hydrogen projects across Africa, aiming to secure future supplies of this clean fuel as part of broader decarbonization efforts. South Africa's energy and electricity minister.

Kgosientsho Ramokgopa, emphasized the significance of the grants, stating, "Green hydrogen provides some of the best opportunities for the country to really industrialize."

# BHP Predicts Copper Demand to Surge by 1 Million Tonnes Annually Amid Energy Transition

lobal mining giant BHP released a report on September 30, highlighting that the global energy transition will drive copper demand up by an additional one million tonnes per year through 2035.

The shift towards copper-intensive technologies, particularly in renewable energy and electric vehicles (EVs), has already doubled global copper production rates.

In its report titled BHP Insights: How Copper Will Shape Our Future, the company noted that global copper demand has grown at a 3.1% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) over the past 75 years.

Although this growth slowed to 1.9% in the 15 years

leading to 2021, BHP now expects a rebound, forecasting a 2.6% CAGR in the period through 2035.

In 2023, global copper demand reached 31 million tonnes (mt), consisting of 25mt of copper cathode and 6mt of scrap. Looking ahead, BHP's Chief Commercial Officer Rag Udd projects that copper demand will rise by 70% by 2050, hitting 50mt annually.

By then, the energy transition is anticipated to account for 23% of global copper demand, up from 7% today. The digital sector is also expected to increase its copper demand share from 1% to 6%.

Evs continue to be a major driver of copper

demand, with the transport sector's copper consumption projected to grow from 11% in 2021 to 20% by 2040, according to the report.

However, BHP warns of significant challenges to meet this growing demand, citing the rising cost of production and declining ore grades, which have dropped by 40% since 1991. The company estimates that an investment of \$250 billion will be required by 2050 to bridge the gap between copper supply and demand.

GlobalData, the parent company of Mining Technology, forecasts global copper production to reach 22.9mt in 2024, reflecting a 3.2% increase over 2023 levels.

# Andrada Mining Reports Promising Drilling Results at Brandberg West

ndrada Mining CEO Anthony Viljoen has announced highly encouraging initial drilling results from the Brandberg West project, revealing significant high-grade intersections of tin, tungsten, and copper.

The Brandberg West project is located within exploration license EPL 5445 in Namibia's Erongo region, approximately 100 km from Andrada's flagship Uis Tin Mine.

Historically, the Brandberg West open pit mine was operated by Gold Fields Limited until the 1980s, when exploration ceased due to a global collapse in tin prices.

The mine previously produced tin and tungsten concentrates with secondary copper, though the copper was not processed for sale.

Viljoen explained that the mineralization occurs within multiple generations of quartz veins, trending east-west and northwest-southeast, with most veins being sub-vertical and well-exposed in both historically mined areas and surrounding regions.

"These intersections highlight the commercial potential of the license, with tin grades reaching up to 4%, tungsten over 2%, and copper typically between 0.5% and 2%," said Viljoen.

He added that the inclusion of tungsten and copper strengthens Andrada's portfolio of critical metals, reinforcing the company's belief in the mineral-rich potential of the Erongo region.

The results, according to Viljoen, validate Andrada's strategy of focusing on areas with historical mining activity to expand its resource base.



# Hitachi introduces new-gen excavator, backhoe loader to Southern Africa

apanese multinational Hitachi's African business, Hitachi Construction Machinery Africa (HCAF), is making available to the Southern African market the Zaxis 7G Series excavator and the BX100 Shinrai-Power backhoe loader

These machines introduce higher efficiencies and increased safety for the mining and construction sectors, complementing its existing range of excavators, wheel loaders and rigid dump trucks in the region.

HCAF sales and marketing director Riaan Carstens says the increasingly turbulent economic environment is putting more pressure on customers to remain competitive.

The new product offerings, with their focus on high productivity and lower total cost of ownership, can improve efficiencies for users.

The Zaxis 7G series marks a significant advancement on the preceding 5G models, with the latest machine offering various improvements from engine technology to the hydraulic system, as well as cabin features.

Additionally, the new series has proven to use up to 24% less fuel, in ideal operating conditions.

"The enhancement of the 7G lineup is a strategic move to address the evolving demands of the

industry. By focusing on increased safety and productivity, we are not only responding to the critical need for machines to perform more efficiently, but also ensure the well-being of their operators with the latest ergonomical enhancements of the new 7G Cabins," Carstens states.

Hitachi has also made improvements on the excavator's safety features and ease of maintenance.

The Zaxis 7G series product lineup includes the ZX490LCR-7G, ZX690LCR-7G and ZX890LCR-7G models that are designed for the mining and quarrying industry, while the ZX350LC and LCH-7G models are engineered to handle the construction environment.

The upgraded cab ensures an improved working environment and comfort for operators, while enhanced visibility, 360° camera system and LED lights improve safety.

Notably, the 7G series' improved hydraulic system allows for a smoother operation while reducing cycle times and fuel burn.

In turn, the Shinrai-Power BX100 backhoe loader is a significant addition to HCAF's portfolio, offering versatility, performance and safety improvements for customers.

The BX100's features, including a 99 hp engine and an operating weight of 8.6 t, are tailored to enhance productivity and user comfort, making it a reliable choice for professionals seeking a machine that delivers both strength and efficiency.

This model is also more fuel efficient than its predecessors, ensuring more cost-effective operations.

HCAF sales and dealer support manager Wade Peterson tells Engineering News & Mining Weekly that various accessories can be fitted onto the BX100, making it suitable for more applications beyond mining, quarrying and construction.

For example, the machine is well suited for hill cutting, digging, trenching, loading and materials handling in the agriculture and forestry sectors.

HCAF's introduction of these machines to the Southern African market is testament to the company's commitment to the region, particularly to address the unique challenges and opportunities presented by this market.

The company believes the continent is ripe for more growth and development of infrastructure as urbanisation and industrialisation propels its expansion — with HCAF standing ready to offer future-proof equipment to realise these ambitions.

Fortescue

# Fortescue and Liebherr Secure Orders for 100 Battery-Powered Mining Trucks

ustralian miner Fortescue Metals Group and German-Swiss manufacturer Liebherr have secured orders for 100 autonomous battery-powered mining trucks, as part of their initiative to reduce carbon emissions.

Fortescue's executive chairman, Andrew Forrest, revealed the trucks were developed to support the company's goal of achieving netzero emissions by 2030.

Fortescue and Liebherr teamed up in 2022 to create electric versions of the T 264 truck, with expressions of interest for hundreds more vehicles already received.

The 240-tonne trucks, although more expensive than diesel models, offer greater reliability and productivity. The two companies also signed a \$2.8 billion partnership to supply 360 trucks, 55 electric excavators, and 60 battery-powered dozers to Fortescue.

Fortescue has already saved \$300-400 million per year on fuel costs using battery-powered trucks, a key factor in reducing the company's emissions.

Additionally, it has developed fast-charging technology for these trucks, adapted from Formula E racing car technology. Fortescue aims to use these innovations to transition toward green iron production, anticipating strong demand from steel plants worldwide.



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he price of cobalt has reached its lowest level since January 2016, according to a daily assessment by Fastmarkets, a UK-based agency specializing in metal prices.

On September 24, 2024, cobalt prices on the London Metal Exchange had dropped by 54% since early September 2022, standing at \$22,382 per tonne.

This significant price decline is attributed to an oversupply, primarily from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Indonesia, the world's top two producers of cobalt.

According to the Cobalt Institute, global demand for cobalt was projected to reach 197,000 tonnes in 2023, against a supply of

210,000 tonnes.

In 2024, production is expected to further surpass demand, with an estimated 245,000 tonnes of cobalt produced compared to a demand of 237,000 tonnes.

The DRC, the world's leading cobalt producer, delivered around 140,000 tonnes from its mines in 2023 and is forecast to produce 110,000 tonnes in 2024, according to the Central Bank of Congo. This surplus contributes to the global oversupply, making the DRC particularly vulnerable to falling prices.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned that declining cobalt prices could negatively affect the DRC's external financial

position in 2024. Reduced export revenues could shrink the country's foreign currency reserves, making it harder to finance imports.

In response to the ongoing market challenges, the DRC considered imposing export quotas earlier this year in an effort to boost prices. However, this option has not been implemented yet, and future price recovery will likely depend on a surge in global demand.

Despite the current market downturn, experts maintain a positive long-term outlook for cobalt. The global energy transition, along with rising production of electric vehicles, is expected to drive future demand for the metal.



he Kisanfu cobalt mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is projected to be the largest contributor to global cobalt supply growth in 2024, adding an estimated 23,000 tonnes more than in 2023.

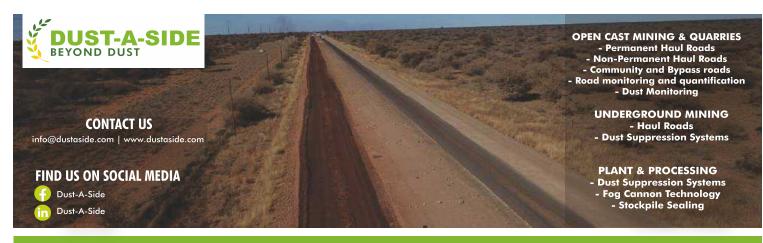
This announcement, made by the Cobalt Institute on October 28, 2024, forecasts a substantial market surplus for the year.

In its annual report from May 2024, the

Cobalt Institute reported a cobalt surplus of 14,200 tonnes for 2023—nearly double that of 2022—highlighting the pivotal role of Kisanfu, which added 32,500 tonnes to the global supply in 2023. This growth underscores the mine's significant impact on cobalt production worldwide.

In addition to Kisanfu, another major contributor to this year's cobalt surplus is CMOC's Tenke Fungurume mine in the DRC. The Cobalt Institute estimates that Tenke's output will increase by 14,000 tonnes in 2024, outpacing new supply from all Indonesian mines, projected at 13,000 tonnes.

These production increases have enabled CMOC to overtake Glencore as the world's leading cobalt producer as of 2023, solidifying its position through large-scale operations at both Kisanfu and Tenke Fungurume.



# REDUCTION IN VISIBLE AND HARMFUL RESPIRABLE DUST SAFER ROADS AND HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

With 46 years' experience in underground and surface mining, Dust-A-Side promises you added value that reaches above dust suppression alone. GO BEYOND Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) with our range of haul road and plant solutions. We guarantee enhanced health and safety with optimized production cycle times and return on investment through water savings and reduction in fleet running costs by cutting costs of fuel consumption, and repairs and maintenance frequency.





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OUR PROMISE TO YOU WHEN USING OUR DUST-A-SIDE BITUMEN SOLUTION

#### **OUR COMPLETE PRODUCT PORTFOLIO**













FUEL SAVINGS

(A)

7

BUILD A SMARTER HAUL ROAD THAT ACTUALLY SAVES YOU MONEY



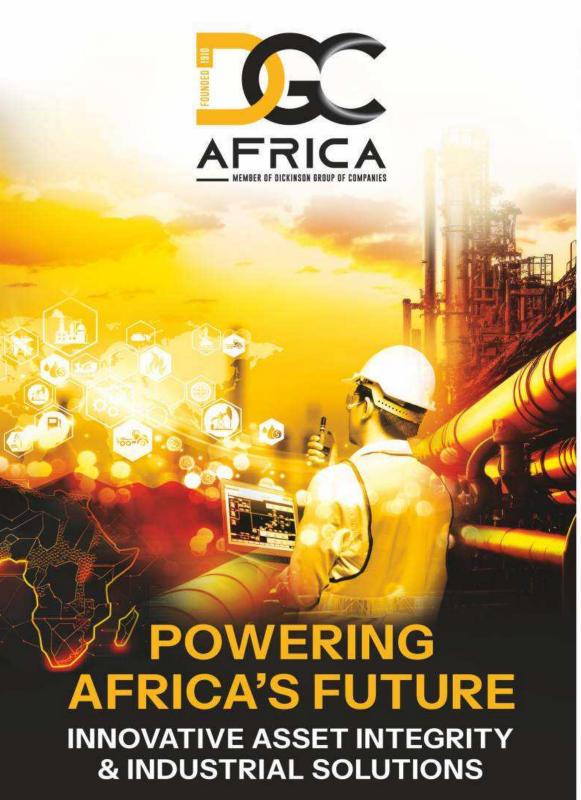


ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY

NO RECAPPING REQUIRED

INCREASED PRODUCTIVITY

EFFECTIVE DUST SUPPRESSION



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