

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2015 (1436), MUSCAT, Sultanate of Oman  
("Oman")

**Strategic & Precious Metals Processing LLC FZC ("SPMP")**

### **Completion of Financing of Oman Antimony Roaster Project**

The Board of Strategic & Precious Metals Processing ("SPMP"), developers of the world's first clean antimony and refractory gold roasting plants, is pleased to announce that it has this morning achieved Financial Close on its equity and debt funding package, equivalent to US Dollars \$70m. SPMP will now progress to construction of the 20,000 tonne per annum antimony and associated products in the Port of Sohar Freezone, Oman.

Antimony is a critical metal. It is a value added product used in a variety of important electronics related plastics such as in catalyst in flame-retardants for printed circuit boards for computers and servers. It is also used in everyday items from car batteries to catalysts for polymer fiber facilities. The plant in Sohar will be the first major new facility to western world environmental standards, providing value added products for the GCC plastics industry and for consumers in Europe and in Asia.

The antimony roaster, sited in a 22 Ha location in the Sohar Port Freezone Industrial Park, is a modern facility representing approximately 12% of world antimony product output capacity, the remainder historically only being available in China.

Commenting on the signing, Khalid Al Yahmadi, Chairman of SPMP said, " We are delighted to reach this important milestone for the project and welcome such an important strategic metal and technology activity to Sohar. We thank Dr Jamil Jaroudi, the CEO at Bank Nizwa and his colleagues for their diligent work, our partners: OIF, DNR Industries and Tri-Star, our advisors at Greenstone for their support and persistence, and now look forward to a successful build and production of this antimony roasting plant, which is of importance not only for Oman but also for the rest of the World.

Commenting on the antimony roaster project, Jason Peers, Director of SPMP and CIO of DNRI said " This facility is a breakthrough in automation

and modern process allowing environmentally conscious consumers of this critical metal in the plastics industry to source from a plant with the highest efficiencies and stringent environmental controls. The project is good news for Sohar, for Oman and the world antimony consumers. It will employ over 150 direct staff at the facility and create significantly more jobs, and long term opportunities for SME's in Sohar to provide transport, logistics, finance, engineering, production and management services. The employment and economic multiplier effect of this will be very high indeed for the locality. We

are also excited about the second phase of the project, using the clean roasting technology to treat refractory gold concentrates, another world-class technology and mineral processing opportunity for Oman.

Commenting on the future of mineral processing in Oman, Ismail Emin Eyi, the CEO of SPMP observed, "Oman has a strong future to become into a global minerals processing hub. The metals & minerals industry is changing fast and the strategic benefits offered by Oman are being recognised, this needs further nurturing. The factors that made it attractive for this project will also attract other companies not only in different minerals but also in downstream activities in value added metal and mineral manufacturing. The free zones have the space, the attractive fiscal regimes, great infrastructure, but there is also a built-in understanding and appreciation of the minerals and trading industry amongst the Omani people. The region has the energy and the desire financially to make this sector one of the top 3 sectors of non-oil growth for the economy. Our key contribution, apart from technology, meaningful employment and foreign investment, is the desire to train our staff, current and future, to leave a legacy of the importance of mining & minerals sector and have a centre of excellence for the mining & mineral processing industry for the youth of Oman.

For more Information please visit our website

[www.spmp.co.om](http://www.spmp.co.om)