

## News Release

# Nyrstar agrees to acquire an 85% interest in Coricancha mine in Peru

**Balen, Belgium** (1 October 2009) - Nyrstar NV today announced that it has agreed to acquire an 85% interest in the Coricancha mine in Peru for US\$15 million in cash from Gold Hawk Resources Inc (TSX-V:CGK) (**Gold Hawk**). Gold Hawk, a publicly listed Canadian based mining company, will retain a 15% interest.

The Coricancha mine is a poly-metallic mine with more than 60 years of operating history and currently comprises a 600-tonne per day ore processing facility, underground mine and reserves and resources containing zinc, lead, copper, gold and silver. The mine is located (approximately) 90 kilometres east of Lima, Peru in close proximity to a number of other significant mining operations and exploration properties. Operations at the mine have been suspended since May 2008 (see further below).

Once operations are recommenced, the expanded operations (see further below) are expected to produce annually (approximately) 20,000 dry metric tonnes (dmt) of zinc concentrate, 15,000 dmt of lead concentrate, 45,000 troy oz of gold and 2.4 million troy oz of silver<sup>1</sup>. In addition, it is estimated that the existing tailings facility contains (approximately) 35,000 troy oz of recoverable gold. The zinc concentrate will be suitable for treatment at Nyrstar's Hobart (AUS) and European smelters. The lead concentrate is a complex concentrate high in precious metals and therefore well suited for treatment at Nyrstar's Port Pirie (AUS) lead smelter.

Exploration at the mine by previous owners has been limited, with no modern exploration having been undertaken (e.g. diamond drilling, geochemical and/or geophysical exploration). Nyrstar intends to pursue an exploration program that is expected to significantly increase mineral resources and reserves and also move a significant portion of mineral resources into the proven and probable categories as development continues.

The acquisition remains subject to Gold Hawk shareholder approval. Gold Hawk intends to convene a shareholders' meeting during October 2009 seeking the requisite approvals. Subject to Gold Hawk receiving shareholder approval, completion of the acquisition is expected to occur during H2 2009. The Board of Gold Hawk will recommend the transaction to its shareholders.

Commenting on the acquisition, Roland Junck, chief executive officer of Nyrstar, stated:

"Consistent with our strategy, once the mine is operational, this transaction enables us to expand our multi-metals business in markets where we have expertise and proven capability, namely zinc, lead, copper, gold and silver.

We believe that the mine offers significant potential for improved and expanded production. To date this potential has remained largely unexplored due to restricted access to capital and limited historical exploration programs.

<sup>1</sup> For comparison, in 2008 Nyrstar produced (approximately) 16,000 troy oz of gold and 14 million troy oz of silver.

**NYRSTAR NV**  
ZINKSTRAAT 1  
B-2490  
BALEN  
BELGIUM

info@nyrstar.com  
www.nyrstar.com

## Contacts

Michael Morley  
Director, Legal and  
External Affairs  
T: +44 20 7408 8120  
michael.morley@nyrstar.com

## Investors

Chris James  
Group Manager,  
Investor Relations  
T: +44 20 7408 8161  
M: +44 7912 269 497  
chris.james@nyrstar.com

## Media

Geert Lambrechts  
Manager,  
Corporate Communications  
T: +32 14 449 646  
M: +32 473 637 892  
geert.lambrechts@nyrstar.com

Our strong financial position has enabled us to take advantage of this opportunity and we continue to actively explore additional opportunities.”

The mine has a strong and experienced management team that will continue to manage the day-to-day operations of the mine. The acquisition was funded from existing cash reserves.

### Background

Gold Hawk acquired the mine in March 2006 for US\$12 million and subsequently invested (approximately) US\$28 million on mine and processing plant rehabilitation and improvements. Gold Hawk commenced commercial production at the mine in October 2007 although operations were suspended in May 2008 following localized ground displacement at the mine caused by a third party irrigation system. Whilst further ground displacement was stabilized in July 2008, the mine will require a new tailings facility prior to recommencing operations. In the current credit environment Gold Hawk has experienced difficulties in securing the necessary funding to construct a new tailings facility. Accordingly, as part of the transaction, Nyrstar has also agreed to provide a three (3) year commercial loan facility of (up to) US\$20 million to provide funding for this purpose and to recommence the operations at the mine. Nyrstar will also assume a parent company guarantee provided by Gold Hawk in relation to a US\$13 million debt facility related to the mine. The debt facility is currently fully drawn and expires in February 2010.

In addition, Nyrstar intends to expand the scope of the operations (e.g. by the addition of a copper circuit to capture unrealized value from copper contained in the ore) and the scale of operations at the mine in order to (approximately) double the existing production capacity. The costs associated with doing so are currently estimated at (approximately) US\$15 million. It is expected that a new tailings facility could be constructed within (approximately) 6 months, thereby allowing operations to recommence during H1 2010 and ramp-up to expanded production levels by 2011.

### Resources and Reserves

The following is a summary of the most recent reserve and resource statement for the Coricancha mine prepared on behalf of the Gold Hawk in March 2009 pursuant to NI 43-101:

<b>Total Proven and Probable Diluted Mineral Reserve</b>						
Resource Class	Tonnes	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	Pb (%)	Zn (%)	Cu (%)
Proven	325,157	4.83	166.8	2.18	2.72	0.34
Probable	133,277	4.73	180.4	2.10	3.19	0.35
<b>Total Mineral Reserve</b>	<b>458,434</b>	<b>4.80</b>	<b>170.7</b>	<b>2.16</b>	<b>2.86</b>	<b>0.34</b>

<b>Total Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources</b>						
Resource Class	Tonnes	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	Pb (%)	Zn (%)	Cu (%)
Measured	486,582	6.43	187.9	2.50	3.27	0.39
Indicated	211,736	6.35	191.5	2.28	3.48	0.42
<b>Total Mineral Resource</b>	<b>698,318</b>	<b>6.41</b>	<b>189.0</b>	<b>2.43</b>	<b>3.33</b>	<b>0.40</b>

<b>Total Inferred Mineral Resources</b>						
Resource Class	Tonnes	Au (g/t)	Ag (g/t)	Pb (%)	Zn (%)	Cu (%)
<b>Total Inferred Resources</b>	<b>3,911,200</b>	<b>6.50</b>	<b>261.2</b>	<b>2.56</b>	<b>3.12</b>	<b>0.35</b>

[1 troy oz = 31.1035 grams]

**Note:** NI (National Instrument) 43-101 is an internationally recognised Canadian [mineral resource classification](#) scheme used for the public disclosure of information relating to mineral properties.

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**About Nyrstar**

The partner of choice in essential resources for the development of a changing world. Nyrstar is a leading global multi-metals' business, producing significant quantities of zinc and lead as well as other products (including silver, gold and copper). Nyrstar is listed on NYSE Euronext Brussels under the symbol NYR. For further information visit the Nyrstar website, [www.nyrstar.com](http://www.nyrstar.com)