

# COPPER

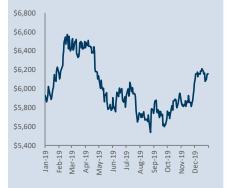
Current Spot

US\$6,159/t US\$2.79/lb

### **STOCKS IN FOCUS**

<b>Company</b> Minotaur Exploration Stavely Minerals Xanadu Mines Hot Chili Limited OZ Minerals Sandfire Resources Merdeka Copper Gold Jiangxi Copper MMG Mining		Jurisdiction Queensland stern Victoria Mongolia Chile Global Global Indonesia Global Global
Explorers	Ticker	Mkt Cap
Minotaur Exploration	MEP	\$16m
Stavely Minerals	SVY	\$190m
Xanadu Mines	XAM	\$26m
Developer	Ticker	Mkt Cap
Hot Chili Limited	НСН	\$57m
Producers	Ticker	Mkt Cap
OZ Minerals	OZL	\$3.5b
Sandfire Resources	SFR	\$1.1b
Merdeka Tbk	MDKA	\$2.7b
Jiangxi Copper	358.HK	\$7.0b
MMG Ltd.	1208.HK	\$3.1b





Please refer to important disclosures at end of the report (from page 36)

Thursday, 23 January 2020

# **Copper Sector**

# Copper to lead the charge in 2020

EQUITY RESEARCH

Financial Advisers | Stockbroking & Research | Special Situations Financing

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Analysts | Jeff Sansom | Matthew Keane | Helen Lau

## **Quick Read**

Argonaut regards copper as a key commodity pick into the 2020's based on a recovery of underlying demand from China, improving trade relations between China and the US, and a looming supply deficit based on low discovery rates of new deposits and declining mine grades. Copper remains an exploration and M&A focus for mid to large cap diversified miners, however the pool of advanced stage exploration/development assets is shallow. We reviewed ~70 copper companies to identify our key copper investment ideas.

# **An Emerging Thematic**

**Positive lead indicators:** In an apparent easing of the global macroeconomic landscape Chinese manufacturing PMI displayed expansion in November (50.2) and December (50.2), Chinese business confidence outlook improved and the US/China signed a Phase One Trade Agreement. This culminated in a 32% yoy increase in copper concentrate imports and is supportive of our view of a strengthening long-term copper outlook.

**Heading into deep deficit by the early-2020's:** The green revolution is expected to drive increased penetration of less carbon intensive technologies. On average, renewable energy systems require 5x more copper vs conventional power generation and EVs require 3x more copper vs conventional vehicles. Copper demand is expected to outstrip supply from the early to mid-2020's with a deficit growing to ~8Mt by 2030.

**Exploration - running hard to stand still:** Maturing copper deposits battle grade decline and exploration expenditure is finding less copper at greater cost. Global exploration expenditure increased from US\$15.4b between 1990 and 2008 up to US\$25.8b from 2009 to 2019, however was only successful in identifying 102.4Mt of contained copper in 21 major discoveries, compared to 992.5Mt copper in 199 discoveries in the 19 years prior.

## **Key Picks**

### **Explorers**

Minotaur Exploration (MEP:ASX): SPEC BUY; Stavely Minerals (SVY:ASX): SPEC BUY; Xanadu Mines (XAN:ASX): SPEC BUY.

### Developers

Hot Chili Limited (HCH:ASX): SPEC BUY.

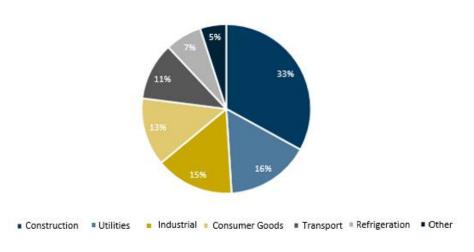
### Producers

OZ Minerals (OZL:ASX): BUY, \$11.26 TP; Merdeka Copper Gold Tbk (MDKA:ID): BUY, IR 1,257 TP; Sandfire Resources (SFR:ASX): BUY, \$7.50 TP; Jiangxi Copper (358:HK): BUY, HK\$12.70 TP; MMG Mining (1208:HK): BUY, HK\$2.40 TP. Construction/manufacturing sectors drive copper demand...

### **Dr Copper**

Given its appealing physical and chemical properties, copper continues to be one of the most highly consumed non-ferrous metals with the primary demand driver related to its conductivity properties used in electrical infrastructure. In 2019 total copper consumption was ~25Mt.

### Figure 1. Copper demand by source



### Source: CRU Group

...giving copper the nickname "Dr Copper" as it 'predicts' economic cycles. Copper is colloquially referred to as Dr Copper because of its ability to 'predict' the turning points of the global economy, with copper market activity used as a lead indicator for global economic cycles. A healthy and growing economy will generally exhibit increased construction and manufacturing activity, both of which demand significant volumes of industrial metals, including copper. This increased demand is generally associated with an increased copper price, however, in a weaker or slowing economy, construction and manufacturing activity is subdued resulting in lower copper demand and a depressed copper price.



## **Copper Demand**

According to CRU Group, over the past 5,000 years 550Mt of copper has been produced, however to keep up with forecast demand, we will need to produce the same volume of copper in the next 25 years.

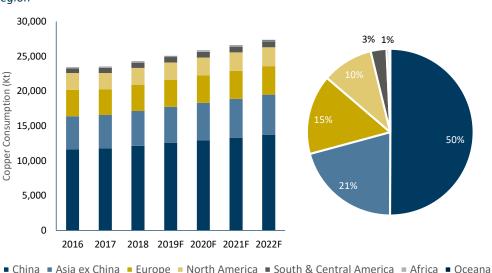
2019 provided a challenging globalEasing of geopolitical tensions to support copper demand growthbackdrop but...Last year was challenging for the copper market, characterised by a global macroeconomic<br/>backdrop which included escalating trade tensions between the US and China which<br/>suppressed copper demand and arguably dampened global economic growth.

This year started off positively with some major underlying macro fundamentals showing improvements:

- The US and China signed a Phase One trade deal to lower existing tariffs and suspended new ones, providing improved trade conditions supportive of global economic growth;
- China eased monetary policy by reducing the Required Reserve Ratio (RRR), signalling that the Chinese Central Bank intends to support the slowing economy; and
- Expansion of China's official Manufacturing PMI data during the last quarter of 2019 indicated growth in the manufacturing sector, signalling economic stabilization.

...easing macro conditions indicate a strengthening copper market.

This favourable backdrop and continued downstream copper demand recovery in late 2019 underpins our positive view on copper in the short to mid-term and we believe that 2020 should show a progressive strengthening of the copper market.





Source: varied sources including Bloomberg Intelligence



# Our optimism is driven by Chinese lead indicators.

### Near term optimism from China lead indicators

China's import and export growth on a US dollar basis increased 16.3% and 7.6% year on year (yoy) in December, much stronger than prior month and respective market estimates of 9.6% and 2.9%. Imports and export growth was primarily driven by:

- Consecutive expansion of official manufacturing PMI in November (50.2) and December (50.2);
- Increased business confidence outlook among exporters after the announcement of signing Phase One Trade Agreement between the US and China; and
- Increased imports from the US.

The strong recovery in imports and exports through December is a turnaround for market sentiment, which eases concerns about a possible economic slow-down in China in 2020. This positive recovery of imports and exports is supportive of Chinese GDP growth of +6% in 2020 compared to current market consensus of <6%.

An expanding manufacturingChina's PMI expansion at the end of 2019 was driven by a turnaround in the new orderssector...subindex and strong expansion in the output subindex of 52.6 and 53.2 for November andDecember respectively, leading to stronger increased commodity imports. Most notably<br/>copper concentrate imports in December 2019 were up 31.9% yoy.

During December, Chinese exports of consumer products were strong with exports of toys, plastic products and furniture increasing 26.1%, 22.7% and 14.2% yoy respectively. A survey conducted by Chinese Customs in November / December 2019 indicates that the majority of the 3,000 exporters surveyed expressed an optimistic outlook for exports in the coming quarter.

### Imported Copper Momentum May Persist

Imports of unwrought copper in December 2019 increased 10% month on month (mom) and 23% yoy to 527kt on the back of:

- Downstream demand recovery;
- A shortage of copper scrap; and
- Arbitrage profits between LME and SHFE.

We expect import momentum, which started in the second half of 2019, to continue throughout 2020 and that an improved demand outlook will be predominantly driven by the power and automobile sectors.

Chinese copper concentrate imports in December 2019 were down 11% mom but up 32%
 yoy. Softer imports were primarily due to weaker spot TC/RCs which were down to US\$57/t compared to US\$59/t in November. Year on year, spot TC/RCs were down 33% however the increased volume of copper concentrate reflected China's expanded smelting capacity and shortage of scrap metal. We expect imports of copper concentrate to China to continue to strengthen through 2020 amid a low TC/RC environment and as Chinese refining/smelting demand continues to remain strong, potentially exceeding

global concentrate supplies.

...strong import growth driven by power and vehicle sectors...

...softer TC/RCs and expanded Chinese smelter capacity...

...indicate Chinese demand could exceed supply in the near term.



Renewable technologies are more copper intensive...

...driving strong forecast copper

demand growth of over 3% pa.

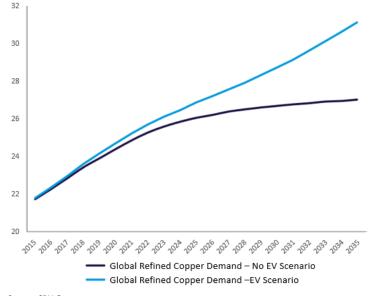
### Renewable Energy thematic accelerating demand growth

Given the momentum and traction that the renewable energy thematic has generated, the world now looks set for a structural demand shift for copper as we progressively transition towards a less carbon intensive future with greater penetration of electric vehicles (EVs) and renewable energy systems. On average, renewable energy systems require five times more copper compared to conventional power generation, and EVs require three times more copper compared to conventional vehicles.

In addition to the copper demand for EV's, every EV will require a charging port and charging infrastructure. Copper demand for charging ports alone could reach an additional ~500ktpa copper by 2027. To put the EV copper demand scenario into simple metrics, the International Copper Alliance and the Copper Development Association forecasts the following copper intensity:

- Flywheel for pumped hydroelectricity: ~0.3t Cu / MW
- Wind turbines: ~3.6t Cu / MW
- Solar panels: 4-5t Cu / MW
- Conventional car: 50lb Cu / vehicle
- Hybrid Vehicles: 85lb Cu / vehicle
- Battery Electric Vehicle: 183lb Cu / vehicle
- Hybrid Bus: 198lb Cu / vehicle
- Battery Electric Bus: 811lb Cu / vehicle
- EV Charging port: 18lb Cu / charging port

In late 2019, China announced an upward revision to its target for EVs to 25% of total vehicle sales by 2025. To achieve this, we expect that EV sales in China will increase by 40% in 2020 and then to 32% from 2021 to 2025. Together with the expected increase in global growth in EV sales and the subsequent increase of supporting infrastructure (charging stations), the outlook for copper demand appears strong with a forecast cumulative average growth rates (CAGR) of demand in excess of 3% pa out to 2030 versus 1-2% over the past decade.





Source: CRU Group

There have been no significant

discoveries in the past decade.

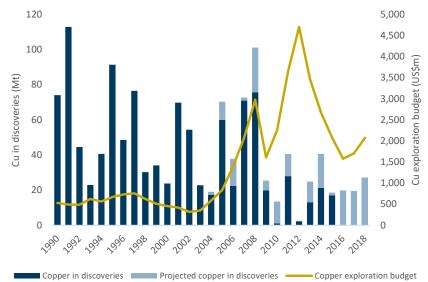


**Copper Supply** 

### Exploration more challenging, costing more to find less

Copper exploration expenditure has increased by 68% from US\$15.4b between 1990 and 2008 up to US\$25.8b from 2009 to 2019. However, this increased exploration expenditure has only been successful in identifying 102.4Mt of contained copper in 21 major discoveries, compared to 992.5Mt copper in 199 discoveries in the 19 years prior. This implies that the lower discovery rates of the last decade will impact the projects available for future development.





Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence

The outcome of this exploration expenditure is that globally, there are approximately 35 years of copper in Reserves (at current consumption rates). South America remains the most prolific for new copper discoveries accounting for approximately 55% of new copper discoveries between 1990 and 2018.



### Figure 5. Geographic distribution of copper discoveries (1990 to 2018)

Source: S&P Global Market Intelligence

...but grade decline continues to weigh heavily on all producers.

South America has remained the

most prospective jurisdiction for

copper discoveries...



A solid pipeline of near-term projects...

... the longer term pipeline is less appealing and more complex.

Grade decline continues to impact

mature operations...

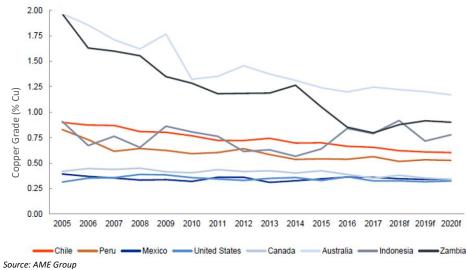
While there is a solid pipeline of new projects and mine expansion projects, the grade of existing and new supply is diminishing. In addition, the lead time from discovery to development for copper projects is expanding, with the highest contribution of new copper supply from IOCG or porphyry deposit. These deposits are generally exploited by large scale, low grade operations (increasingly underground block cave or sub-level cave) which take 10-15 years to develop. Additionally, exploration activities are entering higher risk jurisdictions as "low-hanging fruit", or copper reserves discovered in safer jurisdictions, are suffering from grade decline and are becoming exhausted.

### Grade decline continues to weigh on miners

In 2018, Chile and Peru were the highest copper producing countries in the world delivering approximately 40% of global output. On a global scale, ~62% of total ore mined was sourced from open pit sulphide operations, 21% was mined from open pit oxide operations and 9% from underground sulphide operations.

Given the long history of copper mining, global copper grades have been in decline, and on average, have reduced by 1.8% each year between 2005 and 2017 from an average of 0.79% down to 0.59%. This grade decline is not centred around any single jurisdiction and all eight of the largest copper producing countries continue to record lower copper grades.

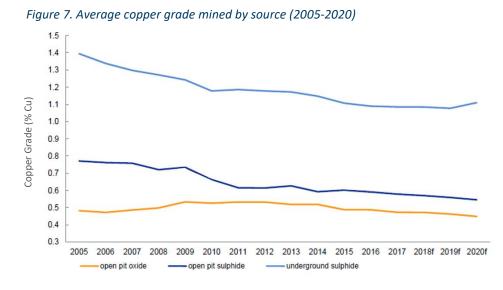




...as the desirable open pit sulphide ore becomes exhausted...

At a more granular view, reserves of the most 'desirable' source, namely open pittable sulphides, have reduced by an average of 2.8% pa from 0.77% down to 0.58%. Reserves of open pit oxide ore have remained relatively flat at 0.48% and underground sulphide ore grades have reduced on average by 2.1% pa. from 1.39% down to 1.09% Cu.

Current examples of large, open pit sulphide mines which continue to struggle against grade decline include BHP Billiton Spence and Escondida mines and Freeport McMoran's Grasberg mine.

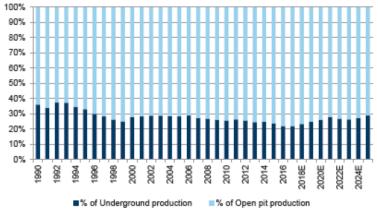


Source: AME Group

### Supply risk as we move to more complex orebodies and challenging jurisdictions

Given the grade decline profile of open-pit mines, we expect that copper will be increasingly sourced from more complex underground mines, with current estimates predicting an increase from ~22% of total current production to over 30% by 2027. Examples of this include the transition of the Chuquicamata, Grasberg and Oyu Tolgoi open pit mines to more technically complex, higher grade underground block cave operations.





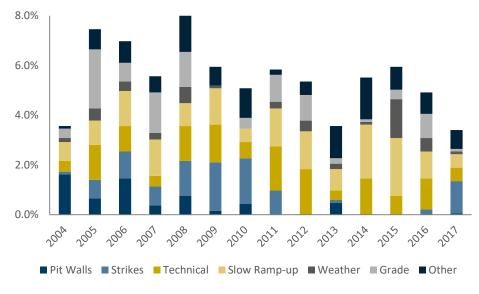
Source: Wood Mackenzie

... in challenging jurisdictions...

With the expected shift to underground mining operations in more challenging and remote jurisdictions and increasingly complex geological conditions, we see supply disruptions could continue to play a significant role in the supply of refined copper. Historically, technical and ramp-up issues have been the primary supply constraint, with labour and weather issues also impacting supply.

# ...we expect a shift toward more complex, underground mines...





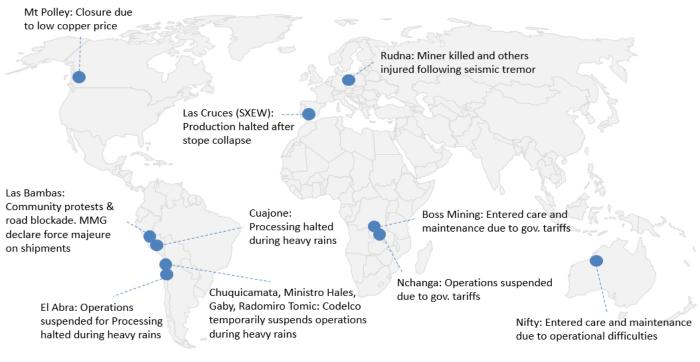
### Figure 9. Global copper supply disruptions (as a % of global supply) 2004-2017

Source: Wood Mackenzie

# ...with much of forecast future production potentially at risk.

A study in the Journal of Cleaner Production, entitled "Re-thinking complex orebodies: Consequences of the future world supply of copper" found that of the 308 largest undeveloped copper orebodies, ~96% of potential future copper supply is subject to multiple and concurrent risks. These risks include access to reliable power infrastructure, access to reliable high quality water sources, grade, complexity/significant variability within the orebody as well as a number of other environmental, social and governance (ESG) risks, all of which suggest potential downside risks to future copper supply.

### Figure 10. Disruptions to copper production in 2019





Copper demand is expected to outstrip supply in 2022...

... with a forecast supply deficit of up to 8Mt in 2030.

This supply/demand imbalance is

on copper price...

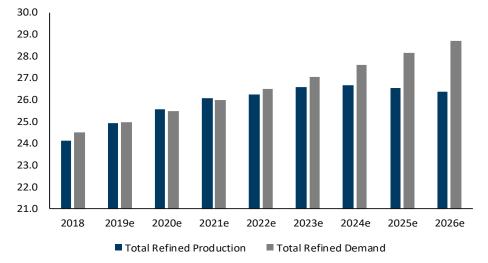
expected to have a positive impact

## **Implications for the Copper Market**

The above forecast growth in copper demand is likely to be exacerbated by a decline of copper supply (total production including scrap), which is indicated to slow out to 2022 before moving into decline from 2023 onwards.

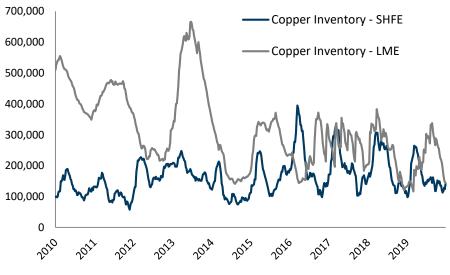
As a result, industry commentators have forecast a supply deficit in the copper market (both scrap and refined copper) in the mid to early 2020's potentially reaching a deficit of 2.5Mt by 2026 and as high as 8.0Mt by 2030.





Source: Bloomberg Intelligence / International Copper Study Group (ICSG)

Collectively, London Metals Exchange (LME) and Shanghai Futures Exchange (SHFE) copper inventories tracked up through the first half of 2019, but then moved into decline in the second half of the year. On current consumption rates of ~24.4Mtpa, the exchange inventories equate to about six days' worth of supply, roughly where inventories have hovered since 2014.



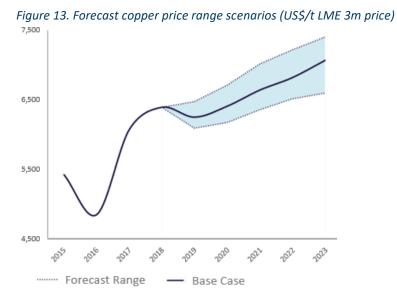
### Figure 12. LME and SHFE copper inventories (tonnes)

Source: Bloomberg



This supply/demand imbalance is likely to impact the copper price...

Given the forecast tightening of the copper market, Argonaut forecasts a modest increase in the copper price to US\$6,600/t (US\$3.00/lb) in 2020.



Source: CRU Group

Taking a longer view, consensus forecasts see copper price progressively strengthening to US\$7,413/t or US\$3.26/lb in 2025 while the World Bank is more conservative and expects the copper price to improve towards a long term average of US\$7,000 per tonne, or US\$3.18/lb from 2026.

# Argonaut copper price forecast

Argonaut has updated its pricing and foreign exchange assumptions.

### Table 1: Argonaut forecast assumptions

Pricing Assumptions										
Base Metals	Unit	H1 2020	H2 2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	LT	Current Spot
New	US\$/lb	2.90	3.10	3.15	3.25	3.25	3.50	3.25	3.00	2.69
Previous	US\$/lb	2.95	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00	
Change	%	-2%	3%	5%	8%	8%	17%	8%	0%	
Consensus	US\$/lb	2.81	2.81	2.91	3.03	3.08	3.26	3.25	3.00	
FX Assumptions										
	Unit	H1 2020	H2 2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	LT	Current Spot
AUD/USD										
New	#	0.69	0.70	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.69
· · · ·	#	0.69 0.70	0.70 0.72	0.72 0.72	0.72 0.72	0.72 0.72	0.72 0.72	0.72 0.72	0.72 0.72	0.69
New										0.69
New Previous	#	0.70	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.69
New Previous Change	# %	0.70 -1%	0.72 -3%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.69
New Previous Change Consensus	# %	0.70 -1%	0.72 -3%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.72 0%	0.69
New Previous Change Consensus USD/CNY	# % #	0.70 -1% 0.69	0.72 -3% 0.69	0.72 0% 0.70	0.72 0% 0.70	0.72 0% 0.70	0.72 0% 0.71	0.72 0% 0.71	0.72 0% 0.71	

# We expect copper price to be stronger for longer

...and the AUD to weaken in 2020 but remain flat at US\$0.72 in the long-term. In 2020, Argonaut expects Chinese demand for copper to increase and to persist through until 2025. We expect supply to remain constrained during this time with the copper price increasing to US\$3.50 in 2024, up 17% on previous estimates, with prices moderating in 2025 to US\$3.25 (up 8% on Argonaut previous estimates) and then back to a long term average of US\$3.00.

Argonaut has revised commodity price assumptions, expecting the Australian dollar to be weaker against the US dollar in 2020 but strengthening to our original estimates of US\$0.72 from 2021 forward.

...with consensus estimates of US\$3.26/lb in 2025.

Argonaut has updated its copper price and FX assumptions...



With a bullish view on copper we look for investment opportunities.

We looked at ~70 listed copper companies...

the copper thematic begin to play out. We look to the Australian market for ideas to gain copper exposure. Our research has identified 67 copper companies listed on the Australian Stock Exchange.

With improvements in copper market lead indicators and with many forecasting a

strengthening copper price through 2020 and beyond, it appears that we could be seeing

Of this, 50 are explorers, 10 are developers and 7 are producers. The full list of companies we identified is included in Appendix 1.

# ...ranging from early stage exploration companies...

### **Copper explorers – Key picks**

**Our thoughts on Copper exposure** 

Of the explorers, we see a large number of companies engaged in early stage exploration activities, and as such it is difficult to get read through to the potential prospects of each given many are operating within the same highly prospective regions. As a result, we look at those companies who have achieved farm-in and / or Joint Venture (JV) agreements with larger producers. These agreements generally ensure certainty around cash flows for exploration activities.

Partnership from a mid to large cap miner can also provide improved corporate governance and more refined exploration techniques. These factors offer significant advantages versus those juniors who must brave it alone and compete for capital in a current market that is relatively unsupportive for junior exploration companies. Additionally, we see these JV's as a form of early stage recognition of the quality of the exploration assets and whilst not indicative of success, provides an added level of due diligence for the projects. Outside of this, we look at companies that hold advanced exploration targets and those that we believe will continue to deliver positive news flow related to exploration progress. Our key picks include Minotaur Exploration (MEP), Stavely Minerals (SVY) and Xanadu Mines (XAM).

### **Copper developers – Key pick**

Looking to the developers, we exclude those that are under suspension or have challenges related to the asset (judicial reviews, deep mineralisation or significant development capital requirements). Hot Chili (HCH) is our key pick, holding a potential future tier-1 producing asset that could fit nicely into any major copper producers' portfolio of assets.

### **Copper producers – Key picks**

...to mature copper producers and discuss our top picks below.

For the producers, again, we exclude any operations that are under suspension and look to copper producers that have a track record of generating strong cash flows while holding a pipeline of growth projects to potentially sustain and improve operations through the forecast stronger copper pricing environment. Our key picks include OZ Minerals (OZL), Sandfire Resources (SFR), Merdeka Copper Gold Tbk (MDKA:ID), Jiangxi Copper (358:HK) and MMG Mining (1208:HK).

More detail on our top picks are shown on the following pages.



# **SPEC BUY**

Current Price	
Market Cap	

\$0.045 \$16.4m

Ticker: Sector:	Metals 8	MEP & Mining
Shares on issue (m): Market Cap (m): Net Cash (\$m): Enterprise Value (\$m):		364.4 16.4 3.0 13.4
52 Wk High / Low: 12m Av Daily Vol (m):	\$0.08	\$0.04 0.55
Project/s Jericho Elouise Cloncurry Alliance		Stage Explor. Explor. Deration
Directors:		

### Directors:

Roger Higgins	Non-Executive Chairman
Andrew Woskett	Managing Director
Antonio Belperio	<b>Executive Director</b>
George McKenzie	Non-Executive Director





Please refer to important disclosures at end of the report (from page 36)

# SNAPSHOT

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Thursday, 23 January 2020

# **Minotaur Exploration (MEP)**

# Taking Jericho by the horns

Analysts | Matthew Keane | Jeff Sansom

## **Quick Read**

Minotaur (MEP) has three significant farm-in and Joint Venture agreements with OZ Limited (OZL) for three areas in Cloncurry, with significant commitments for exploration expenditure over the coming years. Resource drilling at the Jericho JV is expected in Q2 2020, Eloise exploration activities and land access arrangements are progressing and project generation within the Cloncurry Alliance area is underway.

## **Key Points**

**JV agreements provide exploration certainty**: Minotaur holds three JV's with OZL for exploration tenements surrounding the historical Eloise copper-gold mine in Cloncurry, Queensland. The project areas include, Jericho, Eloise and the Cloncurry Alliance.

**The Jericho Project is free-carried to production:** Following discovery of high grade copper mineralisation at the Jericho project, under a structured JV (80% OZL), Minotaur is free-carried (by OZL) through to production and until positive cash flow is achieved. OZL has commenced underground mine development studies and finalising block models. Metallurgical test results indicate a potentially clean, high quality copper-gold concentrate and further drilling at Jericho will be subject to completion of mining studies by OZL.

JV commitments for the Eloise Project: OZL acquired a 70% interest in 13 Eloise licences (surrounding the historical Eloise copper-gold mine) for A\$10m exploration expenditure. OZL committed a further A\$3m exploration expenditure over 2 years. In addition, Sandfire Resources (SFR) holds 60% interest in two Eloise exploration licences.

**The Cloncurry Alliance:** Minotaur and OZL have also entered into the "Cloncurry Alliance" with the aim of collaborating to identify prospects within a 24,000km<sup>2</sup> area to the south east of Cloncurry. OZL will fund A\$1m over 2 years for project generation activities and can earn up to 70% of each target following A\$4m of exploration expenditure over 3 years.

**Windsor acquisition provides further opportunity:** In November 2019, Minotaur announced the acquisition of the Windsor Project, located in Charters Towers region in Queensland with highly encouraging historical and current polymetallic resources within the district. The Agreement terms include consideration of \$250,000 and \$150,000 of Minotaur scrip for 100% of the Project.

## **Our View**

2020 resource definition (Jericho) and exploration activities (Eloise and Cloncurry Alliance) are fully funded through the OZL JV and we expect that Minotaur will focus on estimating a JORC compliant resource at Jericho. With a strong pipeline of exploration results expected during 2020 we see room for growth in the share price.



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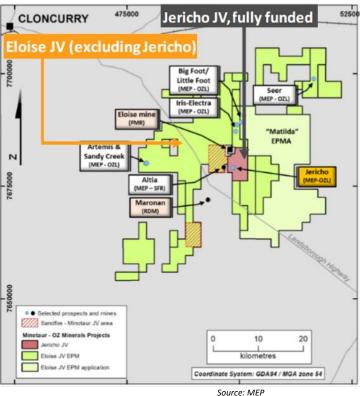


Figure 1: Location of Jericho and Eloise JV's and the Cloncurry Alliance area



Source: MEP



# **SPEC BUY**

Current Price	\$0.89
Market Cap	\$197m

Ticker: Sector:	Metals &	SVY & Mining
Shares on issue (m): Market Cap (\$m): Net Cash (\$m): Enterprise Value (\$m):		213.8 190 2.9 187
52 Wk High / Low: 12m Av Daily Vol (m):	\$0.05	\$0.01 4.05
52 Wk High / Low: 12m Av Daily Vol (m):	\$1.42	\$0.15 0.65
<b>Project/s</b> Stavely Ararat		Stage ploration ploration

### Directors:

Christopher Cairns	Executive Chairman & MD
Jennifer Murphy	Executive Director
Peter Ironside	Non-Executive Director
Amanda Sparks	Non-Executive Director

Share Price and Volume Graph



Please refer to important disclosures at end of the report (from page 36)

# **SNAPSHOT**

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Thursday, 23 January 2020

# **Stavely Minerals (SVY)**

# Thursday can be the best day of the week

Analysts | Matthew Keane | Jeff Sansom

## **Quick Read**

Following exploration activity through 2019, Stavely (SVY) was successful in discovering high-grade copper lodes, intercepting up to 40% copper, within the Thursday Gossan prospect. This discovery compliments the proximal wide, lower-grade porphyry style copper mineralisation. Further drilling should continue to identify additional high-grade copper mineralisation.

## **Key Points**

Established resources is a great starting point: Located in western Victoria, the Stavely and Ararat projects both host JORC complaint resources. The Ararat Project is a VMS style deposit with an inferred resource of 1.3Mt at 2.0% Cu for 30Kt contained copper. The Stavely Project holds both porphyry style mineralisation with a chalcocite-enriched blanket lode style of mineralisation. The project hosts an inferred resource of 28Mt at 0.4% Cu for 110kt contained copper.

Thursday Gossan high-grade Cu discovery: In mid-2019 Stavely announced a high-grade discovery within the Thursday Gossan Prospect. The intersection (SMD050) included a 32m wide high-grade zone of mineralisation assayed with up to 40% Cu. A follow-up hole (SMD051) also retuned similar high-grade intersections. Exploration activity is expected to focus on extensions of this mineralisation.

Significant Intercepts: Significant high-grade intercepts include:

- SMD050 with 32m at 5.88% Cu, 1.00g/t Au and 58g/t Ag from 62m Inc 12m at 14.3% Cu, 2.26g/t Au and 145g/t Ag Inc 2.0m at 40% Cu, 3.00g/t Au and 517g/t Ag.

-SMD051 with 8.0m with 9.69% Cu, 0.40g/t Au and 16.8g/t Ag from 177m Inc 2.0m at 17.3% Cu, 0.57g/t Au and 13.1g/t Ag from 179m and 59m at 1.80% Cu, 0.43g/t Au and 15.4g/t Ag from 98m

Thursday delivers wide, lower-grade porphyry style intersections: Additionally, exploration has identified potentially significant porphyry mineralisation with wide lowgrade intercepts within SMD0044 of 952m 0.23% Cu and 70m at 0.51% Cu including 10m at 2.43% Cu and 0.3g/t Au. SMD044W1 also returned 393m at 0.32% Cu and 18m at 3.62% Cu, 0.28g/t Au and 15g/t Ag, including 7m at 7.74% Cu, 0.46g/t Au and 32g/t Ag, including 2m at 15.7% Cu and 1.07g/t Au and 65g/t Ag.

## **Our View**

We believe that exploration related news flow will be the major catalysts through 2020 and should exploration activities continue to identify additional intersections of highgrade copper mineralisation, then further re-rating of the stock is likely to follow.



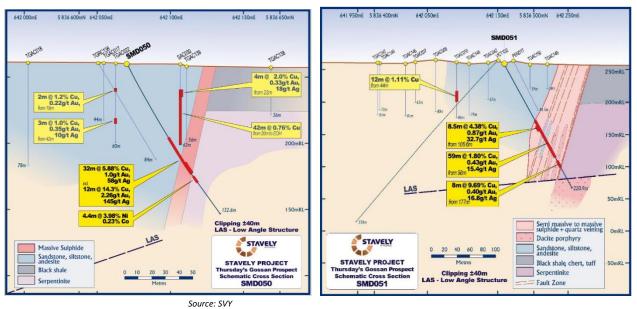


Figure 1: Location of the Stavely and Ararat Projects areas in Victoria



Source: SVY







# **SPEC BUY**

Current Price	
Market Cap	

\$0.036 <u>\$26.4</u>m

XAM
& Mining
712.9
26.4
1.3
25.1
\$0.03
0.47
Stage
xploration

### Directors:

Colin Moorhead	Non-Executive Chairman
Andrew Stewart	CEO & Managing Directo
Ganbayar Lkhagvasu	ren Executive Director

Share Price and Volume Graph



# SNAPSHOT

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Thursday, 23 January 2020

# Xanadu Mines (XAM)

# Sitting on a big porphyry system

Analysts | Matthew Keane | Jeff Sansom

## **Quick Read**

Xanadu Mines' (XAM) cornerstone Kharmagtai Project in Mongolia is one of the largest district scale copper/gold porphyry systems held by a junior explorer. The project has a cluster of at least five mineralised porphyries, with the highest grade at Stockwork Hill with a best intercept of 646m @ 0.51% Cu & 0.87g/t Au from 16m below surface. Most recently, the company has focused on defining a shallow oxide gold resource above the porphyry systems, with an exploration target of 1.3-2.2Mt @ 0.6-1.0g/t. This gold cap could be used to generate early cashflow to fund development of the deeper porphyries.

## **Key Points**

**Kharmagtai – large regional porphyry system:** Kharmagtai comprises a 10km by 7km cluster of mineralised porphyries. While XAM has had a high success rate of target generation to discovery, we believe it is yet to fully unlock the controls on higher grade mineralisation. In April 2019, a Scoping Study indicated an initial 20Mtpa open pit Cu/Au mine with potential to produce ~50ktpa Cu and 135kozpa Au with upfront capex of US\$683m. While the study was not compelling, it demonstrated the potential to exploit mineralisation from surface.

**Oxide gold - A potential source of early cashflow:** In July 2019, XAM released a number of shallow oxide gold targets, generally above known porphyry mineralisation. Subsequent drilling at Copper Hill and Stockwork Hill has been confirmatory with better results including 47m at 2.4g/t Au from 28m and 40m at 2.9g/t Au from surface. Previous testwork has shown achievable oxide gold recoveries of 92.6%. We see potential for a 1-2Moz at 0.8-1.0g/t resource feeding a low capital (US\$40-60m capex) ~2Mtpa facility.

**Need to lock down a strategy:** The strategic direction of the Company has been confusing, seemingly changing from a large scale porphyry developer, to a shallow open pit developer and then a shallow oxide gold exploration play. The likely development scenario may incorporate all elements. We see potential for incoming Chairman, Colin Morehead, to help refine and market the strategy. Mr Morehead successfully led Merdeka Copper Gold's (MDKA:IDR) Tujuh Bukit oxide gold project (above a porphyry) into production in 2017. Despite a \$3.4m equity raising in H2 2019, cash at the end of December is expected to be ~\$1.5m, necessitating more capital for exploration and studies. We see potential for a strategic partnership or joint venture with a mid to large cap miner to help fund development, but XAM will need to demonstrate the scale and value of the project.

## **Our View**

The Board was recently bolstered with Colin Morehead as Non-Executive Chair, a highly credentialed geologist with a long and successful history in exploration and management roles including Newcrest and Merdeka Copper/Gold working on large scale copper and gold deposits such as Cadia, Tujuh Bukit, Gosowong and Telfer. We expect that with this appointment, XAM will evaluate its portfolio and present a re-invigorated strategy.

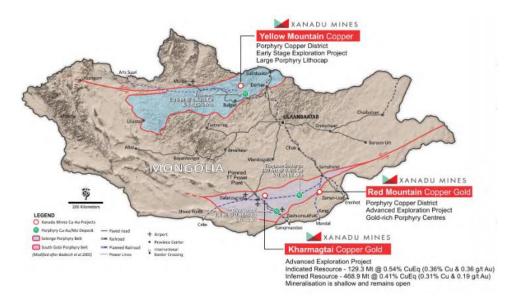


A cluster of Cu porphyries with potential shallow oxide gold targets above known copper mineralisation which could improve project economics.

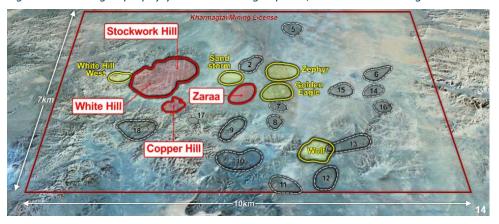
## **Project Overview**

Kharmagtai is located in southern Mongolia, 420km southeast of the country's capital Ulaanbaatar. This cluster of intrusive porphyries is interpreted to be formed from a very large fractionating magma chamber at depth. Mineralisation occurs in three styles, including stock work Cu-Au mineralisation, tourmaline breccia Cu-Au mineralisation and epithermal Au. The project currently has a Measured and Indicated Resource of 202Mt @ 0.6% CuEq and an exploration target of 500Mt to 1.7Bt @ 0.3-0.5% CuEq. The estimated drilling cost to realise this target is ~\$23m. XAM has two additional projects in Mongolia, including Red Mountain and Yellow Mountain, of which, we believe the former has similar prospectively to Kharmagtai. These secondary assets may potentially be monetised to fund Kharmagtai development.

### Figure 1: Project location



Source: XAM



### Figure 2: Kharmagtai porphyry cluster showing deposits, discoveries and targets

Source: XAM



# **SPEC BUY**

Current Price	
Market Cap	

\$0.033 \$56.9m

Ticker: Sector:	HCH Metals & Mining
Shares on issue (m):	1722.8
Market Cap (\$m):	56.9
Net Cash/(Debt)(\$m):	(1.3)
Enterprise Value (\$m):	58.2
52 Wk High / Low: 12m Av Daily Vol (m):	\$0.05 \$0.01 4.05
Project/s	Stage
Cortadera	Exploration
Productera	Development
El Fuego	Exploration

### Directors:

Murray BlackNon-Executive ChairmanChristian EasterdayExecutive Director & MDAllan TrenchNon-Executive DirectorMichael AndersonNon-Executive Director



# SNAPSHOT

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Thursday, 23 January 2020

# Hot Chili Limited (HCH)

# Cortadera provides the right amount of spice

Analysts | Matthew Keane | Jeff Sansom

## **Quick Read**

Following the acquisition of Cortadera, exploration has been in full swing with drilling results providing intercepts of nearly 1km (from near surface) at 0.5% copper and 0.2g/t gold, intermingled with pockets of higher-grade copper-gold intersections. Argonaut estimates that Cortadera and Productera could hold a combined mineral inventory of up to ~1Bt at 0.5% copper. Should this estimate prove true, Hot Chili's portfolio of copper assets are likely to gain the attention of the major copper producers.

## **Key Points**

**The acquisition of Cortadera:** The Cortadera Project, ~14km from Hot Chili's Productera asset, provides the Company with a potential Tier-1 copper-gold porphyry in the low-altitude region of Chile presenting an opportunity to potentially deliver bulk tonnage, high-grade copper-gold ore which extends from near surface down to nearly 1km depth.

**Cuerpo 3 drilling identifies globally significant intersections:** Drilling at Cuerpo 3, the largest of the four identified porphyry structures (Cuerpo 1 through 4) has continued to return significant copper-gold intersections, 5 ranked amongst the top 25 global Cu-Au drill intercepts since January 2018. The best intersection to date includes 972m at 0.5% Cu and 0.2g/t Au. Drilling has also been successful in expanding a higher-grade mineralised core zone. Overall, the grade ranges encountered compare favourably to other globally recognised Tier-1 copper mines such as Newcrest's Cadia East with a reserve grade of 0.3% Cu and 0.47g/t Au and Lundin Mining's Candelaria with a reserve grade of 0.85% Cu.

**Drilling activity to provide potential catalysts**: ~2km to the north of Cortadera is a large IP anomaly of similar size and chargeability to Cortadera, which if drilling proves successful could double the Cortadera strike length. HCH are moving to resource definition drilling at Cortedera, targeting a Maiden Resource by mid-2020. HCH is also assessing the merits of a "super-hub" that could see significant processing and transport infrastructure to allow processing of ore from Cortadera and Productera.

**Potential for strategic partnerships:** HCH now holds a potentially globally significant portfolio of copper assets that could develop into Tier 1 assets. We expect that the who's who of copper producers have already started "kicking the tyres" and that a Solgold-esque strategic partnership could eventuate.

## **Our View**

Given the upcoming repayment requirements and the expected cash balance, we believe that it is likely that that the Company will need to raise funds in the near term.

With the potential scale of Cortadera project coupled with the limited number of copper development projects globally, we believe that there will be significant interest from potential strategic partners. Hot Chili is our top pick of the ASX copper developers.



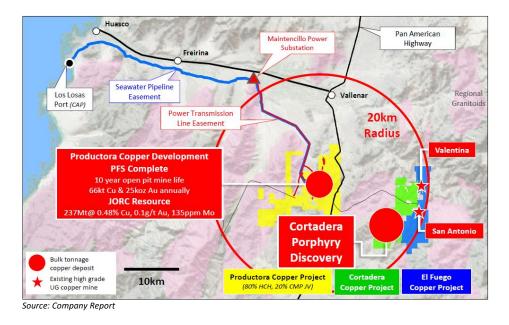
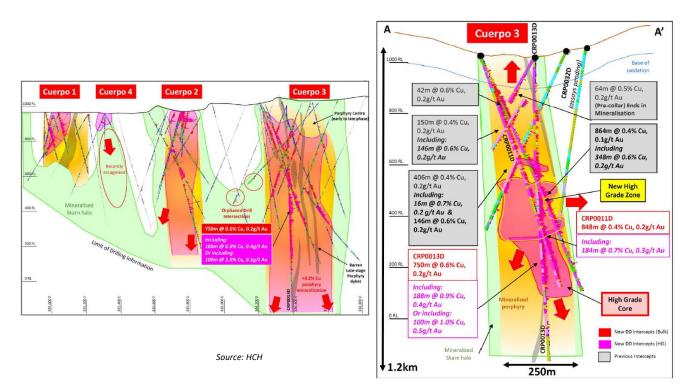




Figure 2: Identified Porphyry structures at the Cortadera Project (~2km strike length)





# EQUITY RESEARCH

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# BUY

Current Price	\$10.53
Target Price	\$11.26

Current Price:			\$10.53
Valuation:			\$11.26
Ticker:			OZL
Sector:			Materials
* • !!			
* All figures in AUE	uniess state	a otnerwise	
Shares on Issue (m	J.		323.9
Market Cap (\$m):	<i>.</i>		3,410.4
Net Cash (\$m):			161.3
Enterprise Value (	Sm).		3.249.1
Enterprise value (	,,.		3,243.1
52 wk High/Low:		\$11.54	\$8.68
12m Av Daily Vol (	m):		1.99
Key Metrics (Dece			
	2018A	2019F	2020F
P/E (x)	14.9	25.1	12.3
EV/EBITDA (x)	6.0	8.5	5.6
Financials:			
Findificials.	2018A	2019F	2020F
Povonuo (Śm)	1,117.0	1,055.8	1,432.1
Revenue (\$m) EBIT (\$m)	312.0	208.8	386.5
NPAT (\$m)	228.4	135.8	277.4
NEAT (SIII)	220.4	155.0	277.4
Net Assets (\$m)	2,915.2	3,122.1	3,324.6
Net Absets (Jill)	2,515.2	5,122.1	3,324.0
Op CF (\$m)	449.6	442.4	615.3
Per Share Data:			
	2018A	2019F	2020F
EPS (cps)	70.5	41.9	85.6
DPS (cps)	20.9	22.9	23.9
Div Yield (%)	2.0	2.2	2.3
CFPS (cps)	137.2	135.0	187.8

### Share Price Graph and trading volumes (msh)



Please refer to important disclosures at end of the report (from page 36)

### Thursday, 23 January 2020

# **OZ Minerals (OZL)**

# Tailwinds into the 20's

Analysts | Matthew Keane | James Wilson

## **Quick Read**

OZ Minerals (OZL) has produced its first saleable copper concentrate at Carrapateena and has forecasted a faster ramp-up to achieve the design 4.25Mtpa run-rate within just 12-months. The company has also committed to the development of the Pedra Branca project in Brazil, as part of a Carajás Hub strategy whereby ore will be trucked to the existing Antas processing plant. Argonaut regards OZL as the best positioned mid-cap stock heading into an expected copper price recovery in the mid-2020s. The Company offers production growth from Carrapateena, high margins generated by lowest quartile costs, long mine life from producing assets and a quality pipeline of development assets (i.e. West Musgrave, CentroGold).

### **Key Points**

**Carrapateena commenced commissioning:** OZL produced first saleable concentrate from Carrapateena this month. The project was delivered about a month late and marginally over the last pre-production capex estimate (A\$970m actual vs A\$920-950m forecast). Over 280kt of development ore has been stockpiled on the ROM, and due to a larger sub-level cave footprint, the ramp-up to the 4.25Mtpa run-rate is now expected to be achieved faster, within 12-months. At steady state, Carrapateena will produce ~65ktpa Cu and ~67ktoz gold at an AISC of US\$1.05/lb. In March 2019, OZL released a Scoping Study to transition to a larger block cave mine by 2026, increasing production to 105-125ktpa copper. Studies on this expansion are due to be completed by H2 2021. Production guidance for 2020 is expected to be released with the December Q results in late-January.

**Committing to the Carajás:** In November 2019, OZL announced a series of strategic agreements with Brazilian major Vale. These included:

- The sale of Carajás copper/gold concentrate to Vale, leveraging off Vale's installed infrastructure
- Option to sell Pedra Branca ore to Vale's Sossego Copper Project (potential logistic savings)
  - An option to acquire prospective copper tenements from Vale, including Santa Lucia has an exploration target of 5-14Mt @ 1.4-2.0% copper
- The existing option to acquire the Pantera Copper Project was also exercised

This strategic partnership, along with OZL's commitment to develop the Pedra Branca deposit consolidates the hub structure which the Company is looking to put in place around the Antas processing facility.

### Recommendation

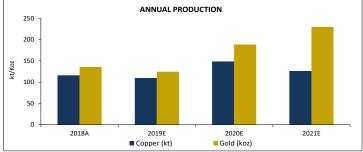
Given the expected positive macro tailwinds and with our revised copper price assumptions, Argonaut maintains a BUY recommendation and we ascribe a target price of \$11.26, up from \$10.65.

### **OZ** Minerals

Recommendation Current Price		BUY \$10.53			
Target Price		\$11.26			
Profit & Loss (\$m) 31 December		2018A	2019E	2020E	2021
Sales revenue		1117.0	1055.8	1432.1	1644.
+ Loss/gain on forex		7.2	0.0	0.0	0.
+ Changes in inventory		-83.7	-115.6	-129.1	-112.
- Operating costs		418.3	478.2	665.6	734.
- Exploration and Studies		67.2	77.5	34.0	38
- Corporate & administration		29.0 -14.0	32.4 -29.4	20.0 0.0	20
- Other Expences EBITDA		-14.0 540.0	-29.4 381.6	583.4	740
- D&A		228.0	172.8	197.0	222
EBIT		312.0	208.8	386.5	518
+ Finance Income/Expense		6.9	2.3	3.3	13
- Impairments and other		0.0	0.0	0.0	0
PBT		318.9	211.0	389.7	531
- Tax expense		90.5	73.0	112.4	159
- Non-controlling interests		0.0	0.0	0.0	0
+ Other		0.0	-2.3	0.0	0
NPAT		228.4	135.8	277.4	371
Normalised NPAT		228.4	135.8	277.4	371
Cash Flow (\$m)		2018A	2019E	2020E	2021
Operating Cashflow		449.6	442.4	615.3	722
<ul> <li>Capex (inc capitalised waste)</li> </ul>		426.4	672.9	237.6	203
<ul> <li>Capitalised Exploration/Studies</li> </ul>		0.0	25.2	0.0	0
<ul> <li>Asset purchases (+ asset sales)</li> </ul>		183.3	0.0	0.0	0
+ Dividends received and other		0.0	0.0	0.0	0
Free Cashflow		-160.1	-255.7	377.8	519
- Dividends paid		67.6	74.3	77.5	109
+ Equity raised		0.0 0.0	0.0 0.0	0.0 0.0	0
+ Debt drawdown (- repaid) +Other		0.0	1.0	0.0	0
Net Change in Cash		- <b>227.7</b>	-328.9	300.3	409
Effects of exchange rate		-227.7	-328.9	300.3 0.0	409
Cash at end		505.1	176.2	476.4	886
Balance Sheet (\$m) Total assets		2018A 3.443	2019E 3,620	2020E 3,853	<b>202</b> 1 4,10
Total debt		5,445	5,020	5,655	4,10
Total liabilities		- 528	- 498	- 528	52
Shareholders funds		2,915	3,122	3,325	3,58
Operations Summary		2018A	2019E	2020E	2021
Prominent Hill (metal in conc.)	Copper (kt)	110.1	101.8	92.4	57
	Gold (koz)	130.9	117.3	125.6	153
Carrapateena (metal in conc.)	Copper (kt)	0.0	1.4	46.1	57
	Gold (koz)	0.0	1.9	55.6	68
Brazilian Assets	Copper (kt)	5.9	6.4	10.2	12
	Gold (koz)	4.8	5.3	7.3	8
Total Production	Copper (kt)	116.0	109.6	148.6	126
Description to Uill Cost	Gold (koz)	135.6	124.5	188.5 1.08	229
Prominent Hill Cash Costs Forecast Copper Price	(US\$/lb) (US\$/lb)	0.95 2.96	0.93 2.79	1.08	0.8
Forecast Gold Price	(US\$/oz)	1,265	1,393	1,400	1,30
Exchange Rate Assumptions	(AUD/USD)	0.75	0.69	0.69	0.7
Attributable Reserves & Resour	ces	Orto MAt	C++ (9/)	A ( = / + )	Comb C: //
Reserves Prominent Hill		Ore Mt 61.4	<b>Cu (%)</b> 0.9%	Au (g/t) 0.6	Cont. Cu (k 555
Commenterer		01.0	1 CO/	07	1 500

Prominent Hill	61.4	0.9%	0.6	555
Carrapateena	91.0	1.6%	0.7	1,500
Antas and Pedra Branca	5.0	2.1%	0.5	104
Total Reserves	157	1.4%	0.7	2,159
Resources*	Ore Mt	Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Cont. Cu
Prominent Hill	142.5	1.3%	1.0	1,099
Carrapateena	970.0	0.5%	0.2	5,200
Fremantle Doctor	104.0	0.7%	0.5	800
Antas and Pedra Branca	21.6	1.6%	0.4	330
Total Resources	1,238	0.6%	0.3	7,429

\* Exclduing CenntroGold and an option on Pantera Copper



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### Equities Research Analyst: Matthew Keane

	Sector Issued Capital (m) Market Cap (m) Date		Issued Capital (m) Market Cap (m)	
Financial Summary	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Reported earnings				
Net profit (US\$m)	228.4	135.8	277.4	371.9
EPS (A\$cps)	70.5	41.9	85.6	114.8
PER (x)	14.9	25.1	12.3	9.2
Normalised earnings				
Net profit (US\$m)	228.4	135.8	277.4	371.9
EPS (A\$cps)	70.5	41.9	85.6	114.8
EPS growth (%)	(1.2)	(40.6)	104.3	34.1
PER (x)	14.9	25.1	12.3	9.2
Cashflow				
Operating cashflow (\$m)	449.6	442.4	615.3	722.5
GCFPS (A\$cps)	137.2	135.0	187.8	220.5
PCF (x)	7.7	7.8	5.6	4.8
Dividend				
Dividend (A\$cps)	20.9	22.9	23.9	33.9
Yield (%)	2.0	2.2	2.3	3.2
Franking %	100	100	100	100

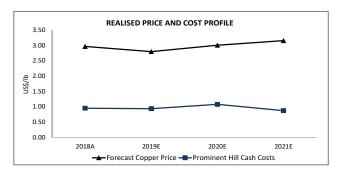
Financial Ratios	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Balance Sheet Ratios				
Total Debt / Equity (%)	0	0	0	0
Interest cover (x)	NA	NA	NA	NA
Acid test ratio (x)	3.5	2.1	3.5	6.1
Profitability Ratios				
Net profit margin (%)	20.4	12.9	19.4	22.6
Return on assets (%)	10.6	6.1	11.4	16.1
Return on equity (%)	7.8	4.3	8.3	10.4

Valuation Summary	A\$m	A\$/sh
Prominent Hill	1,237	3.82
Antas Hub	91	0.28
Carrapateena	1,935	5.98
CentroGold	176	0.54
Corporate Valuation	-142	-0.44
Exploration Assets	100	0.31
Unmined Resources	60	0.19
Hedging	-83	-0.26
Listed Investments	0	0.00
Working Capital	110	0.34
Cash est.	157	0.49
Debt est.	4	0.01
Total	3646	11.26

9% discount rate applied to Australian assets 11% to Brazillian Assets

Directors	
Rebecca McGrath	Non-Executive Chairman
Andrew Cole	Managing Director and CEO
Charlie Startain	Non-Executive Director
Peter Wasow	Non-Executive Director
Tonianne Dwyer	Non-Executive Director
Richard Seville	Director

Substantial Shareholders	%
Dimensional Entities	6.6
Cooper Investors	5.6
Blackrock Group	5.2
Aubil Investment Management	5.0





# **EQUITY RESEARCH**

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# BUY

Current Price	IDR 1,150
Target Price	IDR 1,257

Ticker: Sector:			IDKA.IDX Materials
Shares on Issue (m) Market Cap (US\$m) Cash (US\$m): Debt (US\$m) Enterprise Value (U:	:		21,898.0 1,677 63.5 -255.0 1,358.3
52 wk High/Low: 12m Av Daily Vol (m	ı):	1,270	1,335 33,644
Key Metrics			
	2018A	2019F	2020F
P/E (x)	29.0	12.1	13.3
EV/EBITDA (x)	12.2	8.4	8.3
Financials:			
	2018A	2019F	2020F
Revenue (US\$m)	293.9	413.1	415.1
EBITDA (US\$m)	157.8	210.0	203.5
NPAT (US\$m)	57.9	139.0	126.3
OCF	51	179	160
FCF	(64)	110	82
Net Assets (US\$m	422.2	640.7	767.1
Current Debt	97	100	69
Non Current Debt	159.5	115.9	61.3
Per Share Data:			
	2018A	2019F	2020F
EPS (cps)	1.3	0.6	0.6
DPS (cps)	0.0	0.0	0.0
CFPS (cps)	0.2	0.8	0.7
Board of Directors			

#### Tri Boewono President Director **Richard Ness** Vice President Director and CEO Gavin Caudle Director Hardi Wijaya Liong Director Michael W.P. Soeryadjaya Director Colin Moorhead Director David Thomas Fowler Director Chrisanthus Suprivo Independent Director

Share Price Graph and Ave.ading Vol (m sh/day) IDR



Thursday, 23 January 2020

# PT Merdeka Copper Gold, Tbk (MDKA) Consolidating Indonesian copper/gold

Analysts | James Wilson | Matthew Keane

## **Quick Read**

Merdeka Copper Gold (IDR:MDKA) is a multi-asset, Indonesian focused miner and developer. The jewel in the portfolio is the world class Tujuh Bukit (TB) copper/gold porphyry in far east Java. Drilling in underway on the Upper High Grade Zone (UHGZ) of the deposit to define Resources/Reserves and attain geotechnical and metallurgical data ahead of a PFS, due for completion later this year. The Company is currently exploiting the epithermal gold resources above the porphyry at the Tujuh Buket Oxide Gold Project, producing 200-220kozpa at <US\$700/oz AISC. Other assets in the portfolio include the Wetar Copper Project, producing 20-25ktpa Cu in cathode at ~US\$1.70/lb AISC, and the Pani Gold project in Sulawesi. MDKA recently reached an agreement with J Resources to consolidate the two deposits at Pani into a single Joint Venture.

## **Key Points**

**World Class Porphyry:** MDKA's UHGZ is positioned amongst the largest undeveloped Cu/Au porphyry projects globally. The TB Porphyry has an Inferred Resource of 1.9Bt at 0.45g/t Au and 0.45% Cu for 28Moz Au and 8.7Mt Cu. The UHGZ has an exploration target of 200-300Mt at 0.6-0.8g/t Au and 0.6-0.8% Cu. An early Scoping Study proposed an underground block cave operation ramping up from 6Mtpa to 12Mtpa. We estimate steady state production of ~80ktpa copper and 225kozpa gold, with production commencing late 2024 to 2025. The UHGZ sits amongst the largest Cu/Au projects under development with a size roughly double that of OZ Minerals (ASX:OZL) Carrapateena Project (TB has similar copper metal content but double the gold content) and a grade roughly double the size of Solgold's (LSE:SOLG, Mkt Cap A\$730mm) Cascabel Project. In addition, we note the ongoing Solgold corporate activity with both Newcrest and BHP. Large bulk-tonnage copper gold deposits such as this fit the M&A profile of most major Cu/Au and diversified large cap miners.

**Pani JV transaction:** MDKA recently reached an agreement with J Resources to consolidate the two deposits at Pani into a single JV. MDKA acquired a 66.6% stake in the Pani Gold deposit in Sulawesi for US\$55m in November 2018. Pani has a resource of 90Mt at 0.82g/t Au for 2.4Moz Au and abuts the J Resources deposit 2.3Moz (73Mt at 0.98g/t Au). The key to unlocking value at Pani has been the consolidation of the tenement packages which allows for a single open pit operation vs a split boundary scenario prior to now. Under the terms of the deal, J Resources will own 40% of the combined entity and the remaining 60% will be held by MDKA and Lion Selection (67%/33% JV). The parties will now look to fast track development, with combined Resources of ~5Moz and initial concepts envisaging 250-300kozpa gold production.

## Recommendation

Argonaut maintains a BUY recommendation with a price target of IR\$1,257/sh.

### Merdeka Copper & Gold

Recommendation Current Price Target Price	BUY IRD 1,075 IRD 1,257	US\$0.08 US\$0.09		
Profit & Loss (US\$m) 31 December	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Sales revenue	293.9	413.1	415.1	415.1
-Cost of sales	120.5	195.1	203.6	195.6
- Depreciation and Amortisation	34.6	17.0	22.7	26.8
Gross Profit	138.8	201.0	188.8	192.7
- General and Admin Expense	15.5	8.0	8.0	8.0
- Finance Expenses	16.5	16.1	11.9	7.1
- Other Expences	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Profit Before Tax (PBT)	86.8	176.9	168.8	177.6
- Tax Expense	28.9	37.9	42.2	44.4
Net Profit After Tax (NPAT)	57.9	139.0	126.6	133.2
+ Hedging and Currency Adjustments	25.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
+ Other	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total Comprehensive Profit	86.2	139.0	126.6	133.2
- Non-Controlling Interestss	5.4	10.1	15.1	17.3
Attributable Profit/Loss	52.5	128.9	111.6	115.9
EBITDA	157.8	210.0	203.5	211.5

Cash Flow (US\$m)	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Operating Cashflow	50.9	192.9	172.0	167.1
<ul> <li>Capex (inc capitalised waste)</li> </ul>	6.2	31.7	38.3	15.0
- Capitalised Exploration/Studies	21.4	36.7	40.0	21.7
<ul> <li>Asset purchases (+ asset sales)</li> </ul>	84.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
+ Other	-2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Free Cashflow	-63.9	124.5	93.7	130.4
- Dividends paid	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
+ Equity raised	91.3	62.5	0.0	0.0
+ Debt drawdown (- repaid)	-3.5	-46.8	-89.7	-62.3
- Finance Expense	18.5	0.0	11.1	7.5
+Other	-27.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Change in Cash	-22.2	140.2	-7.0	60.7
Effects of exchange rate	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash at end	14.1	154.3	147.3	208.0

Balance Sheet (US\$m)	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Total Assets	798	1,097	1,144	1,212
Current Debt	97	104	62	47
Long Term Debt	159	110	61	14
Total Liabilities	376	456	377	312
Shareholder Equity	422	641	767	901

Operations Summary		2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Tujuh Bukit Oxide	Gold (koz)	167.5	210.9	186.0	171.1
	Silver (koz)	140.7	378.0	393.2	393.2
	AISC (US\$/oz)	589.8	650.4	773.8	801.6
Tujuh Bukit Porphyry	Copper (kt)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	Gold (koz)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	AISC (US\$/Ib Cu)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Wetar	Copper (kt)	17.1	19.6	23.8	24.7
	AISC (US\$/Ib Cu)	1.73	2.00	1.89	1.34
Group Production	Copper (kt)	17.1	19.6	23.8	24.7
	Gold (koz)	167.5	210.9	186.0	171.1
	Silver (koz)	140.7	378.0	393.2	393.2
Forecast Copper Price	(US\$/lb)	2.96	2.84	3.00	3.00
Forecast Gold Price	(US\$/oz)	1,265	1,375	1,350	1,425

Reserves	Ore Mt	Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Cont. Cu (kt)	Cont. Au (Moz)
Tujuh Bukit Oxide	43	(, - ,	0.8		1.1
Wetar	3	2.8%		93	
Total Reserves	46				
Resources	Ore Mt	Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Cont. Cu (kt)	Cont. Au (Moz)
Tujuh Bukit Oxide	102		0.7		2.2
Tujuh Bukit Porphyry	1,940	0.5%	0.5	19	28.3
Wetar	10	2.0%		196	
Partolang	9	1.2%			
Pani	90.0		0.8		2
Total Resources	2,150	0.4%	0.5	215	33



### Equities Research Analysts: M. Keane, J Wilson

	Sector Issued Capital (m) Market Cap (IDR m) Market Cap (USD m) Date		Metals & Mir 21٫٤ 23٫5 1٫¢ 10-January-2	
Financial Summary	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Reported earnings				
Enterprice Value (US\$m)	1,924	1,740	1,658	1,535
EPS (US\$cps)	1.3	0.6	0.6	0.6
PER (x)	29.1	12.1	13.3	12.6
EPS growth (%)	NA	(101.7)	(9.8)	4.9
EV/EBITDA	12.2	8.3	8.1	7.3
EV/FCF	(30.1)	14.0	17.7	11.8
Cashflow				
Operating cashflow (\$m)	50.9	192.9	172.0	167.1
GCFPS (US\$cps)	0.2	0.9	0.8	0.8
PCF (x)	33.0	8.7	9.8	10.1
Dividend				
Dividend (US\$cps)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Financial Ratios	2018A	2019E	2020E	2021E
Balance Sheet Ratios				
Total Debt / Equity (%)	61	33	16	7
Interest cover (x)	7.5	12.0	15.1	26.0
Acid test ratio (x)	0.2	0.5	0.6	1.0
Profitability Ratios				
Net profit margin (%)	19.7	33.7	30.5	32.1
Return on assets (%)	7.3	12.7	11.1	11.0
Return on equity (%)	13.7	21.7	16.5	14.8

Valuation Summary	IRD b	IRD/sh	USD m	USD/sh
Unlevered, Attributable, Asset Valu	ies			
Tujuh Bukit Oxide	4,117	186	294	0.01
Tujuh Bukit Porphyry	16,842	762	1203	0.05
Wetar	3,180	144	227	0.01
Unmined Resources / Exploration L	Jpside			
Tujuh Bukit Porphyry	3,197	145	228	0.01
Pani	2,439	110	174	0.01
Wetar Exploration	700	32	50	0.00
Cash (Post equity raising)	889	40	64	0.00
Debt	(3,570)	(161)	-255	-0.01
Total	27,794	1,257	1,985	0.09

Directors	
Tri Boewono	President Director
Richard Ness	Vice President Director and CEO
Gavin Caudle	Director
Hardi Wijaya Liong	Director
Michael W.P. Soeryadjaya	Director
Colin Moorhead	Director
David Thomas Fowler	Director
Chrisanthus Supriyo	Independent Director

Substantial Shareholders	%
Pt Saratoga Investama Sedaya Tbk	19.7
Pt Provident Capital Indonesia	17.2
Thohir Garibaldi	9.0
Pt Suwarna Arta Mandiri	6.7
Regency Of Banyuwangi	5.2



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# BUY

Current Price	\$5.99
Target Price	\$7.50

Current Price:			\$5.99
Valuation:			\$7.50
Ticker:			SFR
Sector:			Materials
Shares on Issue - pro-	-forma (m):		178.1
Market Cap (\$m):			1,066.8
Net Cash (\$m)*:			280.8
Enterprise Value (\$m	):		786.0
52 wk High/Low:		\$8.34	\$5.51
12m Av Daily Vol (m s	shares).	<b>30.34</b>	1.08
12, to baily to (	5.1101 2571		1.00
Key Metrics			
0/5 ( )	19A	20E	21E
P/E (x) EV/EBITDA (x)	10.3 2.6	13.7 2.2	74.6 2.1
LV/LBIIDA (X)	2.0	2.2	2.1
Financials:			
	19A	20E	21E
Op CF (\$m)	210.4	316.4	316.5
Bouonuo (ćm)	592.2	658.1	713.3
Revenue (\$m) EBIT (\$m)	160.8	148.7	96.1
NPAT (\$m)	104.0	78.2	14.4
,			
Net Assets (US\$m)	604.2	358.2	-272.2
Per Share Data:	19A	20E	21E
EPS (cps)	19A 104.0	20E 78.2	14.4
DPS (cps)	23.0	19.0	14.4
Div Yield	3.8%	3.2%	2.5%
CFPS (cps)	117.6	176.8	176.8

In A\$ unless otherwise stated

Share price (A\$/sh) and trading vol. (m shares/day)



Thursday, 23 January 2020

# Sandfire Resources (SFR)

# **Geographic Diversification**

Analysts | Matthew Keane | James Wilson

# **Quick Read**

As Sandfire Resources' (SFR) core project, DeGrussa heads into its final years of production, SFR is building a pipeline of the next generation of production assets. This includes the T3 Copper Project in Botswana and the Black Butte Copper Project in Montana, US (85% SFR). In addition, the Company is creeping up the register of Adriatic Resources (ADT), with the polymetallic Vareš Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

## **Key Points**

The next wave of assets: SFR is amassing a quality global pipeline of base metal assets. Argonaut expects staged development of T3 and Black Butte, with T3 commencing production first. The potential combination of both assets would generate similar copper output to DeGrussa (~60ktpa vs 65-75kt at DeGrussa), albeit without gold credits. We estimate DeGrussa will generate ~ A\$1b free cashflow at spot copper and gold prices, prior to depletion of current Reserves. This is sufficient to fund development capex for T3 (US\$182m, A\$270m) and Black Butte (US\$218m, A\$323m). SFR also owns 15.8% of the ADT polymetallic Rupice deposit and is farming into White Rock Minerals (WRM) belt-scale VMS prospective Red Mountain project in Alaska.

**Botswana gearing up:** The T3 deposit in Botswana has a Reserve of 34.4Mt @ 1.0% Cu. The initial mine life is ~11 years with annual production of 28-30kt Cu, plus silver credits. Final permitting is underway, expected in the current half year. An optimisation study is underway (due for completion in April/May), which we believe, could potentially lower the head grade of 1% Cu, but add substantial tonnes and mine life. A final investment decision (FID) is expected mid-2020. SFR will also hit the ground running on exploration on 11,700km<sup>2</sup> landholding in the Kalahari Copper Belt. The initial focus is likely to be on the delineation of additional and potentially high-grade Reserves to offset lower grade tonnes from the T3 deposit. However, Argonaut also expects a focus belt-wide targets, with a particular focus on the highly prospective T20 Project to the southwest of T3.

**Geographic risk:** Successful development of both T3 and Black Butte will see SFR transition from a single mine, Australian domiciled producer to a globally diversified producer. Operating in new jurisdictions and spreading the Company's resources over three time zones, poses significant risks. The right organisational structure will be crucial to the success of this diversification. Jason Grace (ex-Newcrest and Minerals Resources) was recently appointed as Perth based Chief Operating Officer (COO). He will oversee standalone technical teams located in each jurisdiction.

## Recommendation

On the basis of our revised price assumptions, we upgrade Sandfire to a BUY with a target price of \$7.50, down from \$7.60 on as we roll our model forward.

### Sandfire Resourses

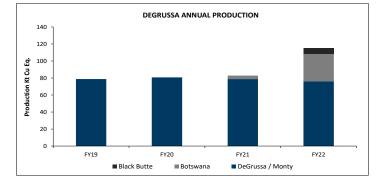
Recommendation	BUY
Current Price	\$5.99
Target Price	\$7.50

Profit & Loss (\$m) 30 June 30	13A 2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Sales revenue	592.2	658.1	713.3	1008.7
+ Other income	7.6	7.4	8.4	6.8
- Operating costs	253.3	268.7	313.5	441.0
<ul> <li>Exploration and evaluation (expensed)</li> </ul>	48.7	25.5	27.5	27.5
<ul> <li>Corporate &amp; marketing</li> </ul>	7.3	10.0	10.0	10.0
<ul> <li>Other inc. foreign exchange loss</li> </ul>	-11.1	0.0	0.0	1.0
EBITDA	301.6	361.3	370.7	536.0
- D&A	140.8	212.6	274.6	109.2
EBIT	160.8	148.7	96.1	426.8
- Finance Expense	2.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Operating profit	158.8	148.7	96.1	426.8
- Impairments	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- Other Misc Items	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
- Tax expense	54.6	70.5	81.8	93.6
- Non-controlling interests	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
NPAT	104.0	78.2	14.4	333.2
- Non-Controlling interest	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3
Normalised NPAT	104.0	78.2	14.4	333.2

Cash Flow (\$m)	13A 2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Operating Cashflow	210.4	316.4	316.5	470.9
- Capex	86.5	158.7	50.0	50.0
<ul> <li>Exploration &amp; evaluation (total)</li> </ul>	0.8	25.5	27.5	27.5
<ul> <li>Asset purchases (+ asset sales)</li> </ul>	82.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
+ Other	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0
Free Cashflow	40.7	132.2	239.0	393.4
- Dividends	41.5	34.4	26.7	62.6
+ Equity raised	5.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
+ Debt drawdown (- repaid)	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
<ul> <li>Interest expence (+ Interest earned)</li> </ul>	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0
Net Change in Cash	4.6	97.8	212.3	330.9
Effects of exchange rate	-0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cash at end	247.4	345.1	557.4	888.2
Balance Sheet (\$m)	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Total assets	735.9	474.4	-152.0	-462.4
Total debt	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0
Total liabilities	131.7	116.2	120.1	140.8
Shareholders funds	604.2	358.2	-272.2	-603.3

Production Summary	2013A	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
DeGrussa and Monty (100% Basis)	Copper (kt)	69.4	72.4	71.3	67.8
	Gold (koz)	44.5	39.5	35.6	38.8
Botswana	Copper (kt)	0.0	0.0	3.8	29.7
	Silver (koz)	0.0	0.0	112	966
Black Butte	Copper (kt)	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.6
	Silver (koz)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Unit Cash Cost, inc Royalty (US\$/lb)		0.83	0.98	1.07	1.19
Copper Price (US\$/lb)		2.79	2.80	3.13	3.20
Gold Price (US\$/oz)		1263	1435	1300	1300
Exchange Rate Assumptions (AUD/AU	ID)	0.71	0.69	0.72	0.72

Reserves (attributable)	Ore Mt	Cu %	Au g/t	Cu (kt)	CuEq. (kt)
DeGrussa	8.2	3.70%	1.20	299	367
Botswana	34.4	1.00%		343	382
Total Reserves	42.6	3.90%	1.40	642	748
Resources	Ore Mt	Cu %	Au g/t	Cu (kt)	CuEq. (kt)
DeGrussa	7.6	4.50%	1.50	306	381
Botswana	60.2	1.00%		590	662
Black Butte (85%)	15.3	3.32%		508	515
Thaduna Green Dragon	8.2	1.80%		150	970
Total Resources	83.1	1.75%	0.14	1554	2528





# Equities Research Analyst: Matthew Keane

Sector Bro forma los	ued Capital (m)	Metals	& Mining 178.1
Market Cap (			\$1,066.8
Date		23-Jan	uary-2020
2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E

Financial Summary	2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Reported earnings				
Net profit (US\$m)	104.0	78.2	14.4	333.2
EPS (A\$cps)	58.4	43.9	8.1	187.1
PER (x)	10.3	13.6	74.2	3.2
Normalised earnings				
Net profit (US\$m)	104.0	78.2	14.4	333.2
EPS (A\$cps)	58.4	43.9	8.1	187.1
EPS growth (%)	(13.9)	(24.8)	(81.6)	2218.8
PER (x)	10.3	13.6	74.2	3.2
Cashflow				
Operating cashflow (\$m)	210.4	316.4	316.5	470.9
GCFPS (A\$cps)	117.6	176.8	176.8	263.1
PCF (x)	5.1	3.4	3.4	2.3
Dividend				
Dividend (A\$cps)	23.0	19.0	15.0	35.0
Yield (%)	3.8	3.2	2.5	5.8
Franking	100%	100%	100%	100%

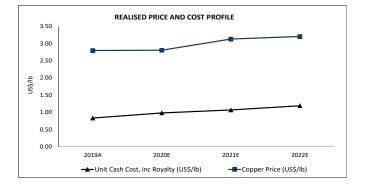
Financial Ratios	2013A 2019A	2020E	2021E	2022E
Balance Sheet Ratios				
Total Debt / Equity (%)	0	0	0	0
Interest cover (x)	79.6	0	0	0
Acid test ratio (x)	4.3	7.9	6.3	5.7
Profitability Ratios				
Net profit margin (%)	17.6	11.9	2.0	33.0
Return on assets (%)	14.1	16.5	-9.5	-72.1
Return on equity (%)	5.8	4.6	-18.9	-1.8

Valuation Summary	A\$m	A\$/sh	Risk Discount
DeGrussa (100%)	712	4.00	
T3 (Botswana)	195	1.09	-15%
Black Butte (85%)	96	0.54	-40%
Corporate Valuation	-77	-0.43	
Other Resources	5	0.03	
Investments	50	0.28	
Exploration Assets	75	0.42	
Hedging	0	0.00	
Unpaid Capital	0	0.00	
Pro-Forma Cash est.	281	1.58	
Debt	0	0.00	
Total	1336	7.50	

Australian Assets 9% discount rate Botswana Assets 11% discount rate US Assets 10% discount rate

Directors	
Derek La Ferla	Non-Executive Chairma
Karl Simich	Managing Directo
Roric Smith	Non-Executive Directo
Paul Hallam	Non-Executive Directo
Robert Scott	Non-Executive Directo
Maree Arnason	Non-Executive Directo

Substantial Shareholders	%
Mitsubishi UFJ Financial	7.6%
Vinva Investment Management	6.0%
State Street Corporation	5.1%
LSV Asset Management	5.1%
Blackrock Group	5.0%
Dimensional Equities	5.0%





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# **BUY**

Current Price	HK\$10.78
Target Price	HK\$12.70

Tisless			250.114
Ticker Sector			358 HK Materials
Sector			waterials
Shares on Issue (m)			3,463
Shares on Issue (III)			5,105
(HK\$m)			
Market Cap			53,186
Net Cash (debt)			-21,013
Enterprise Value			74,198
Enterprise varue			,4,150
(US\$m)			
Market Cap			6,845
Net Cash			-2,705
Enterprise Value			9,550
52 wk High/Low (HK\$)		11.40	8.57
12mth Avg Daily Vol (m	)		4
Key Metrics			
	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
PE (x)	11.6	13.0	11.2
PB (x)	0.6	0.6	0.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.5	11.4	10.1
Dividend Yield (%)	2.5	2.2	2.6
Gross margin (%)	3.2	3.4	3.4
ROE (%)	4.9	4.9	5.4
Interest Cover (x)	4.5	3.0	3.4
Net debt to equity (%)	25.5	47.7	45.9
ST Debt/Total Debt (%)	11.2	7.0	7.0
ST Debt/Total Debt (%)	11.2	7.0	7.0
Financials			
RMBm	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
Revenue	214,395		248,338
EBIT	4,159		
Net Profit	2,415	2,517	
	2,415	-	2,932
Consensus		2,847	2,996
(Below)/Above Consens	us	-12%	-2%
Growth			
% yoy	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
Revenue	5	8	7
EBITDA	12	13	, 12
Net Profit	46	4	16
NetHont	40	-	10
Per Share Data			
RMB	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
EPS	0.70	0.73	0.85
BPS	14.37	14.90	15.54
CFPS	1.99	0.94	1.06
DPS	0.20	0.21	0.24
Key DCF-based Valuatio	n Assump	tions	
Beta	-		0.93
Risk free rate			3.1%
Equity risk premium			8.6%
Cost of equity			11.7%
Cost of debt			1.1%
Equity to Market cap ra	tio		45.5%
Debt to Market cap rati			54.5%
WACC			6.2%
Terminal Growth			0.0%
DCF (HK\$)			15.70
Share Price Graph			
HK\$12.00 J			r 18
			- 16
HK\$11.00			14
			- 12
нк\$10.00			. 🦰 🗌
			- 10
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HK\$9.00 -	IIN. 🔊	V W	
			- 6
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HK\$8.00 - W			V I I 4
HK\$8.00 -	WINNAN	MMMMM	

HK\$7.00 0 Jan-19 Apr-19 Jul-19 Oct-19 Please refer to important disclosures at end of the report (from page 36)

Thursday, 23 January 2020

# Jiangxi Copper (358 HK)

# **Acquisitions to Sustain Growth**

Analyst: Helen Lau

## **Quick Read**

Jiangxi Copper became strategically acquisitive in 2019 after years of being dormant. In March, for Rmb3.9b it acquired a 29.99% stake in Hebang, a Chinese gold miner and smelter with a gold processing capacity of 50tpa and gold reserves of 112t. In December 2019, for US\$1.1b it acquired an 18.015% stake in First Quantum (FQM), the worlds' seventh largest copper miner with copper projects across the globe. The two acquisitions are financially backed by its parent company. In view of an improving Chinese macroeconomic outlook and expected stronger demand for copper, we have revised our 2020 and 2021 copper price forecast from US\$2.67 and US\$2.72 up to US\$3.00 and US\$3.15/lb respectively. This has resulted in an upward earnings revision of 28% and 42% respectively. We raise our target price to HK\$12.70 (prior HK\$11.80).

## **Key Points**

Benefits from the FQM acquisition: FQM is the world seventh largest copper miner with a total copper resources of 49Mt, ~ 7% of global resources. Being the largest shareholder of FQM with an 18% stake, the Company benefits from an interest in FQM's copper ore resources and the expected future strong free cash flows. FQM owns copper mine development projects in eight countries including Zambia, Panama and Peru. FQM's copper production in 2018 was 606kt. FQM's guidance indicates annual copper production for 2019 to 2021 to be 720kt, 840kt and 870kt respectively, two to three times more than Jiangxi Copper's own copper production of 200Ktpa. Backed by strong production growth, the market estimates robust net income growth of 64% in 2020 and 88% in 2021. FQM is expected to generate positive free cash flows in 2020 with US\$712m and US\$1.1b by 2022.

Financial support from the parent company: Jiangxi Copper Group, the parent company, has extended unsecured loans of Rmb6.4b in the past 12 months at an interest rate of 2.35%-3.69%, much lower than the market prevailing rate of 4.15%. Low interest rates provide a cheap source of financing for the Company's expansion.

Upward earnings revision on bullish copper price forecast: In addition to the company's improved fundamentals driven by top quality acquisitions and growing copper production, our bullish view on copper price leads us to revise our 2020 and 2021 earnings estimate by 28% and 42% respectively.

## Recommendation

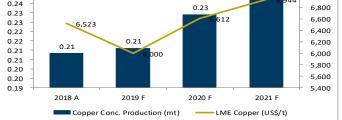
We maintain BUY recommendation based on a price target of HK\$12.70 up from HK\$11.80. The valuation is based on the prior valuation matrix of 11x PE, 0.7x PB, 11x EV/EBITDA on 2020 earnings forecast.



Recommendation	BUY				
Current Price	HK\$10.70				
Target Price	HK\$12.70				
As of 31 December					
Profit & Loss	RMB m	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
Revenue		214,395	232,079	248,338	258,871
Cost of Revenue		207,552	224,256	239,835	250,088
Gross Profit		6,843	7,823	8,503	8,784
Other Operating Income		213	156	133	108
Operating Expenses		2,897	3,376	3,571	3,097
Operating Income (Loss)		4,159	4,602	5,066	5,794
Non-Operating (Income)/Loss		896	1,095	981	955
Interest Expense		1,409	2,184	2,147	2,147
Interest Income Pretax Income/(Loss)		673 <b>3,262</b>	1,144 <b>3,507</b>	1,167 <b>4,085</b>	1,192 <b>4,840</b>
Income Tax		840	982	1,144	1,355
Net Income Incl. MI		2,423	2,525	2,941	3,484
Minority Interest		8	8	9	11
Net Income		2,415	2,517	2,932	3,474
EBIT		4,159	4,602	5,066	5,794
Depreciation & Amortization		1,669	1,977	2,331	2,449
EBITDA		5,828	6,579	7,397	8,243
Tax rate		26%	28%	28%	289
	D1 49	2010	2040	2020	2024
Cash Flow	RMB m	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
Net Income Depreciation & Amortization		2,415 1,669	2,517 1,977	2,932 2,331	3,474 2,449
Non-Cash Items		1,241	1,977	2,551	2,445
Chg in Working Capital		1,579	(1,242)	(1,614)	(1,055
Cash from Operating Activities		6,904	3,261	3,658	4,878
Change in Fixed & Intangible Assets		(2,400)	(15,000)	(3,000)	(3,000
Disposal of Fixed & Intangibles		154	-	-	-
Acquisition of Fixed & Intangibles		(2,554)	(15,000)	(3,000)	(3,000
Acq of Fixed Assets		(2,122)	(15,000)	(3,000)	(3,000
Net Cash from Acq & Divestures		(477)	-	-	-
Cash from Investing Activities		(9,212)	(15,000)	(3,000)	(3,000
Dividend Paid		(693)	(693)	(722)	(841
Cash From (Repayment) Debt		3,475	20,000	-	-
Increase in Borrowings		59,891	20,000	-	-
Decrease in Borrowings Other Financing Activities		(56,416)	-	-	-
Cash from Financing Activities		(363) <b>2,420</b>	19,307	(722)	(841
Net Changes in Cash		284	7,568	(64)	1,037
Cash BEG		10,363	10,647	18,216	18,152
Cash END		10,647	18,216	18,152	19,189
Capex		(2,122)	(15,000)	(3,000)	(3,000
Free Cash Flow		4,782	(11,739)	658	1,878
Balance Sheet	RMB m	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
Cash & Cash Equivalents		10,647	18,216	18,152	19,189
ST Investments		9,791	9,791	9,791	9,791
Accounts & Notes Receivables		8,958	9,696	10,376	10,816
nventories		17,259	24,668	26,382	27,510
Other ST Assets Fotal current Assets		22,906	22,906	22,906	22,906
PPE		<b>69,562</b> 24,747	<b>85,278</b> 37,770	<b>87,607</b> 38,439	<b>90,212</b> 38,991
		3,197			
		5,197	3,197	3,197	3,197 5,360
T Investments & Receivables		5 360	5 360		
T Investments & Receivables Dther LT Assets		5,360 <b>33,304</b>	5,360 <b>46.327</b>	5,360 <b>46,996</b>	
.T Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets Fotal Noncurrent Assets		33,304	46,327	46,996	47,547
.T Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets Fotal Noncurrent Assets Fotal Assets					47,547 137,759
T Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets <b>Total Noncurrent Assets Total Assets</b> Payables & Accruals		33,304 102,866	46,327 131,605	46,996 134,603	<b>47,547</b> <b>137,759</b> 22,363
T Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets <b>fotal Noncurrent Assets</b> <b>fotal Assets</b> Jayables & Accruals 5T Debt		<b>33,304</b> <b>102,866</b> 14,165	<b>46,327</b> <b>131,605</b> 21,071	<b>46,996</b> <b>134,603</b> 21,850	<b>47,547</b> <b>137,759</b> 22,363 49,901
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T Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets <b>Total Assets</b> Payables & Accruals ST Debt Other ST Liabilities <b>Total Current Liabilities</b> .T Debt		<b>33,304</b> <b>102,866</b> 14,165 29,901 2,071 <b>46,138</b>	46,327 131,605 21,071 49,901 2,071 73,044	46,996 134,603 21,850 49,901 2,071 73,823	47,547 137,759 22,363 49,901 2,071 74,336
LT Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets Total Assets Total Assets Payables & Accruals ST Debt Other ST Liabilities Total Current Liabilities LT Debt Other LT Liabilities Total Noncurrent Liabilities		<b>33,304</b> <b>102,866</b> 14,165 29,901 2,071 <b>46,138</b> 3,782 919 <b>4,701</b>	46,327 131,605 21,071 49,901 2,071 73,044 3,782 919 4,701	46,996 134,603 21,850 49,901 2,071 73,823 3,782 919 4,701	47,547 137,759 22,363 49,901 2,071 74,336 3,782 919 4,701
LT Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets Total Assets Payables & Accruals ST Debt Other ST Liabilities LT Debt Other LT Liabilities Total Courrent Liabilities Total Noncurrent Liabilities Total Noncurrent Liabilities		33,304 102,866 14,165 29,901 2,071 46,138 3,782 919 4,701 50,839	<b>46,327</b> <b>131,605</b> 21,071 49,901 2,071 <b>73,044</b> 3,782 919 <b>4,701</b> 77,745	46,996 134,603 21,850 49,901 2,071 73,823 3,782 919 4,701 78,524	47,547 137,759 22,363 49,901 2,071 74,336 3,782 919 4,701 79,037
LT Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets Total Noncurrent Assets Total Assets Payables & Accruals ST Debt Other ST Liabilities Total Current Liabilities Differ LT Liabilities Total Noncurrent Liabilities Total Liabilities Common Stock		33,304 102,866 14,165 29,901 2,071 46,138 3,782 919 4,701 50,839 3,463	46,327 131,605 21,071 49,901 2,071 73,044 3,782 919 4,701 77,745 3,463	46,996 134,603 21,850 49,901 2,071 73,823 3,782 919 4,701 78,524 3,463	47,547 137,759 22,363 49,901 2,071 74,336 3,782 919 4,701 79,037 3,463
LT Investments & Receivables Other LT Assets <b>Total Assets</b> <b>Total Assets</b> Payables & Accruals ST Debt Other ST Liabilities <b>Total Current Liabilities</b> <b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b> <b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b> <b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b> <b>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</b> Common Stock Additional Paid in Capital		33,304 102,866 14,165 29,901 2,071 46,138 3,782 919 4,701 50,839 3,463 12,648	46,327 131,605 21,071 49,901 2,071 73,044 3,782 919 4,701 77,745 3,463 12,648	46,996 134,603 21,850 49,901 2,071 73,823 3,782 919 4,701 78,524 3,463 12,648	47,547 137,759 22,363 49,901 2,071 74,336 3,782 919 4,701 79,037 3,463 12,648
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				<b>s Research</b> Helen Lau
Sector Issued Shares (m)				Materials 3,463
Market Cap (US\$m) Updated				\$6,857 20-Jan-20
Growth Data (%)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Revenue EBITDA	5.0 12.4	8.2 12.9	7.0 12.4	4.2 11.4
Operating Income	23.0	10.7	10.1	14.4
Net Income	46.3	4.2	16.5	18.5
EPS Diluted DPS	45.8 -	3.9 4.2	16.5 16.5	18.5 18.5
Financial Ratios (%)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Return on Equity	4.9	4.9	5.4	6.2
Return on Assets Return on Capital	2.3 4.0	1.9 3.8	2.2 4.1	2.5 4.5
Gross Margin	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.4
EBITDA Margin	2.7	2.8	3.0	3.2
Operating Margin Pretax Margin	1.9 1.5	2.0 1.5	2.0 1.6	2.2 1.9
Net Income Margin	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.3
ST Debt/Total Debt	11.2	7.0	7.0	7.0
Total Debt/EBITDA (x) Net Debt/EBITDA (x)	5.8 2.3	8.2 3.9	7.3 3.5	6.5 3.0
EBITDA to Interest Expense (x)	4.1	3.0	3.4	3.8
Total Debt/Equity	64.7	99.7	95.7	91.4
Total Debt/Capital Total Debt/Total Assets	39.3 32.7	49.9 40.8	48.9 39.9	47.8 39.0
Net Debt/Equity	25.5	47.7	45.9	42.1
Net Debt/Capital Current Ratio (x)	20.3 1.5	32.3 1.2	31.5 1.2	29.6 1.2
Quick Ratio (x)	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5
Receivable Days	18.5	14.7	14.8	14.9
Inventory Days Payable Days	32.8 9.9	34.1 12.2	38.8 17.5	39.3 17.8
Cash Conversion Cycle	41.3	36.6	36.1	36.5
Per Share Data (RMB)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Basic EPS	0.70	0.73	0.85	1.00
Diluted EPS	0.70	0.73	0.85	1.00
DPS CFS	0.20 1.99	0.21 0.94	0.24 1.06	0.29 1.41
BPS	14.37	14.90	15.54	16.30
Valuation (x)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
PE PB	11.6	13.0	11.2	9.4
PB Price to CF	0.6 4.1	0.6 10.0	0.6 8.9	0.6 6.7
EV/EBITDA	7.5	11.4	10.1	9.0
Dividend Yield (%) Dvd Payout Ratio	2.5 29%	2.2 29%	2.6 29%	3.0 29%
Major Shareholders (%)				
Jiangxi Copper Corp				41.6%
China Securities Finance				3.0%
Blackrock				2.4%
Valuation (HK\$)				нк\$)
PE PB				10.58 12.28
EV/EBITDA				12.28
DCF Average (rounded)				15.71 12.70
		0040 F	0000 F	
Key Operational Data Copper Conc. Production (mt)	2018 A 0.21	2019 F 0.21	2020 F 0.23	2021 F 0.24
% уоу	-1%	1%	9%	4%
Cathode Production (mt) % yoy	1.35 0%	<b>1.50</b> 11%	1.50 0%	<b>1.50</b> 0%
Processed Copper Products (mt)	0.88	1.05	1.05	1.05
% yoy	-5%	19%	0%	0%
LME Copper (US\$/t) % yoy	6,523 6%	<b>6,000</b> -8%	<b>6,612</b> 10%	<b>6,944</b> 5%
SHFE Copper (Rmb/t)	50,674	47,670	51,484	54,073
% yoy COMEX Gold (US\$/oz)	3% 1,269	-6% 1,393	8% 1,550	5% 1,550
% уоу	1%	10%	11%	0%
TC/RC fee (US\$ Cent/lb) <u>%</u> yoy	20.9 -11%	20.5 -2%	17.6 -14%	17.6 0%
0.25 ¬			-	7,200
0.23		0	.24	7,000
0.24 -	0.23		6,944	6,800
0.23 - 6,523	6,6:	12	-	6,600
0.22 -			-	6,400
0.22 - 0.21 0.21			-	6,200





# EQUITY RESEARCH

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# BUY

Current Price	HK\$1.92
Target Price	HK\$2.40

Ticker Sector			1208 HK Materials
Shares on Issue (m)			8,055
US\$m			
Market Cap			2,156
Net Cash (debt)			-7,530
MI & Preferred Equity			1,639
Enterprise Value			11,588
52 wk High/Low (HK\$) 12mth Avg Daily Vol (m)		4.04	1.48 18
Key Metrics			
	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
PE (x)	53.1	-38.1	20.7
PB (x)	2.8	1.7	1.6
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.3	8.4	6.3
Dividend Yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
EBITDA Margin (%)	47.4	40.4	45.3
ROE (%)	5.4	-4.6	7.6
Interest Cover (x)	3.7	3.0	4.0
Net debt to equity (%)	260.0	254.5	
ST Debt/Total Debt (%)	8.4	8.9	9.3
Financials			
US\$m	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
Revenue	3,670	3,241	3,679
EBIT	821	377	712
Net Profit	68	-57	104
Consensus		-126	16
(Below)/Above Consensu	s	-55%	545%
Growth			
% уоу	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F
Revenue	-2	-12	14
EBITDA	-23	-25	
Net Profit	-54	-183	-284
Per Share Data			
USD	2018 A	2019 F	
EPS	0.01	-0.01	0.01
BPS	0.16	0.15	0.17
CFPS	0.22	0.14	0.18
DPS	0.00	0.00	0.00
Key DCF-based Valuation	Assumpti	ons	
Beta			1.7
Risk free rate			3.1%
Equity risk premium			15.6%
Cost of equity			18.7%
Cost of debt			4.1%
Equity to Total Cap ratio			25.9%
Debt to Total Cap ratio WACC			74.1% 7.9%
Terminal Growth			0.0% 3.08
DCF (HK\$)			3.08
Share Price Graph			
HK\$4.50 <sub>]</sub>			<sup>200</sup>
11/(#4.00		1	- 180
HK\$4.00 -			- 160



Thursday, 23 January 2020

# MMG Ltd. (1208 HK) Operational Improvements

Analyst: Helen Lau

# **Quick Read**

MMG is expected to report stronger qoq operational performance in Q4 2019 due to fewer expected logistical disruptions at Las Bambas. For 2019, as guided by the Company, we expect flat copper production growth at Las Bambas and slight cost inflation across its various projects. Earnings upside surprises for the full year 2019 could be related to a production beat at Las Bambas and/or lower than expected unit costs. Looking into 2020, we see future earnings and stronger share price performance to be driven by a stronger copper price outlook, effective cost control and stronger than expected production guidance for its various projects. We revised our 2020 and 2021 copper price forecast from US\$2.67 and US\$2.72 to US\$3.00 and US\$3.15/lb respectively on expected stronger copper demand. Due to a strong positive correlation between copper price and earnings, our 2020 and 2021 earnings forecast increased by 102% and 53% respectively.

## **Key Points**

**Solid Q319 operational data lays foundation for Q4 improvements.** MMG's Las Bambas, Kinsevere and Dugald River achieved record volumes of ore milled in Q3 due to improved operational efficiencies. As a result, copper production at Las Bambas in Q3 increased 15% qoq and 12% yoy and zinc production at Dugald River achieved record zinc production of 47.3kt, up 32% qoq. Copper production at Kinsevere was up 12% qoq. MMG expects 2019 copper production at Las Bambas to be at the lower end of the guidance range of 385-405kt implying stronger production at Las Bambas in Q4 compared to Q3.

**Earnings turnaround from 2H19**. MMG reported a net loss of US\$81m, attributed to low commodity prices and lower copper production at Kinsevere (declining ore grades) and Las Bambas (logistical disruptions). That said, 2H19 earnings are expected to improve on stronger production as operational efficiencies improve with fewer logistical disruptions. Stronger production will also offset cost pressures to further support a recovery in earnings. Looking into 2020, a stronger copper price outlook based on forecast stronger Chinese demand could further improve earnings. We forecast 2020 earnings to increase by 102% due to the strong positive correlation to copper price supported by operational improvements and solid financial leverage.

## Recommendation

Argonaut maintains a BUY recommendation with a target price of HK\$2.40 up from HK\$2.35. Our valuation is based on prior valuation matrix of 12x PE, 1.5x PB and 7x EV/EBTIDA on FY20 earnings and DCF valuation of HK\$3.08. Reiterate BUY in view of a 15% upside.



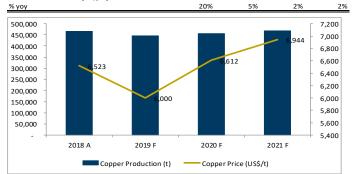
### MMG (1208 HK Equity)

Current Price	HK\$2.08				
Target Price	HK\$2.40				
/ear-end Profit & Loss	As of 31 Decen US\$m	nber 2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
Revenue	USŞIII	3,670	3,241	3,679	3,936
Cost of Revenue		2,461	1,792	1.856	1,927
Gross Profit		1,209	1,450	1,823	2,009
Operating Expenses		389	1,072	1,111	1,143
Operating Income (Loss)		821	377	712	866
Non-Operating (Income)/Loss		515	414	390	352
nterest Expense		473	433	411	370
nterest Income		7	7	9	e
Pretax Income/(Loss)		306	-37	321	514
ncome Tax		170	48	166	230
Net Income Incl. MI		137	-85	155	285
/linority Interest		69	-28	51	94
Net Income		68	- <b>57</b> 377	104	191
Bil Depreciation & Amortization		821 918	933	712 953	866 973
BITDA		1,739	1,310	1,665	1,840
ax rate		55%	-131%	52%	45
ash Flow	US\$m	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
let Income		68	(57)	104	191
Depreciation & Amortization		918	933	953	973
Ion-Cash Items		718 27	399	454	458
thg in Working Capital		1,732	(156) <b>1,119</b>	(47) <b>1,464</b>	(29 1,593
Change in Fixed & Intangible Assets		(333)	(450)	(450)	(450
equisition of Fixed & Intangibles		(333)	(450)	(450)	(450
let Cash from Acq & Divestures		234	-	-	-
ash from Investing Activities		(105)	(450)	(450)	(450
ash From (Repayment) Debt		(1,197)	(392)	(403)	(1,103
ash (Repurchase) of Equity		9	37	37	37
Other Financing Activities		(746)	(426)	(403)	(364
ash from Financing Activities		(1,961)	(782)	(769)	(1,430
let Changes in Cash		(334)	(113)	245	(28)
Cash BEG		936	602	489	734
Cash END		602	489	734	447
Capex		(332)	(450)	(450)	(450
ree Cash Flow		1,399	669	1,014	1,143
alance Sheet	US\$m	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
Cash & Cash Equivalents	039m	602	489	734	447
ccounts & Notes Receivables		286	324	368	394
nventories		204	269	278	289
ther ST Assets		182	182	182	18
otal current Assets		1,273	1,263	1,562	1,31:
PE		10,898	10,415	9,912	9,388
T Investments & Receivables		3	3	3	3
)ther LT Assets		1,082	1,082	1,082	1,082
otal Noncurrent Assets		11,983	11,500	10,997	10,473
otal Assets		13,255	12,763	12,558	11,784
ayables & Accruals		527	474	481	488
T Debt		685	685	685	685
Other ST Liabilities		214	214	214	214
otal Current Liabilities		1,426	1,373	1,380	1,38
T Debt		7,446	7,054	6,651	5,548
ther LT Liabilities		1,487	1,487	1,487	1,487
otal Noncurrent Liabilities		8,933	8,541	8,138	7,03
otal Liabilities		10,359	9,915	9,518	8,422
ommon Stock		2,911	2,948	2,984	3,02
etained Earnings		244	188	292	482
Other Equity		(1,898)	(1,898)	(1,898)	(1,898
quity Before MI		1,257	1,237	1,378	<b>1,60</b> 5 1,756
finority Interest otal Equity		1,639 <b>2,896</b>	1,611 <b>2,848</b>	1,663 <b>3,040</b>	1,750 3,362
		2,330	2,040	5,040	3,30
		2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021
of Las Bambas Copper in Revenue		7026%	6843%	7203%	7284
of Dugald River Zinc in Revenue		674%	1029%	833%	807
of Kinsevere Copper in Revenue		1407%	1183%	1148%	1127
of Las Bambas Copper In EBITDA		7659%	8045%	8439%	8468
of Dugald River Zinc in EBITDA		500%	815%	589%	553
		980%	1070%	742%	706
				Г	255,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA					
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA					250,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA				-	
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA           ,500           ,000	2.546				245,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA           ,500           ,000	2,546	2,3	00	- 2,400	245,000 240,000
500 3,500	2,546	2,3	00	- 2,400	245,000 240,000 235,000
s of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA 5,500 2,500 - 2,000 - -	2 546	2,3	00	- 2,400	245,000 240,000 235,000 230,000
s of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA 5,500 5,500 - 2,922 - 2,922	2 546	2,3	00	<b>- 2,400</b>	245,000 240,000 235,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA ,500 ,500 ,500 ,500 - ,500 -	2 546	2,3	00	2,400	245,000 240,000 235,000 230,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           -           ,500	2,546	2.3	.00	- 2,400 - - - -	245,000 240,000 235,000 230,000 225,000
,500 - 2,500 - 2,500 -	2545	2.3	00	2,400	245,000 240,000 235,000 230,000 225,000 220,000 215,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           -           ,500	2.546	23	00	2,400	245,000 240,000 235,000 230,000 225,000 220,000 215,000 210,000
of Kinsevere Copper in EBITDA           ,500           ,000           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500           ,500	2 546	2 3 2020 F	_	2,400 =	245,000 240,000 235,000 230,000 225,000 220,000 215,000

Sector Issued Shares (m) Market Cap (US\$m) Updated			-	es Research Helen Lau Materials 8,055 \$2,157 20-Jan-20
Growth Data (%)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Revenue	(2.2)	(11.7)	13.5	7.0
EBITDA	(22.9)	(24.7)	27.1	10.5
Operating Income	(37.9)	(54.0)	88.6	21.7
Net Income	(53.6)	(182.9)	(283.7)	83.2
EPS Diluted	(53.6)	(183.3)	(283.7)	83.2
DPS	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Financial Ratios (%)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Return on Equity	5.4	(4.6)	7.6	11.9
Return on Assets	0.5	(0.4)	0.8	1.6
Return on Capital	3.2	8.6	3.4	5.1
Gross Margin	32.9	44.7	49.6	51.0
EBITDA Margin	47.4	40.4	45.3	46.7
Operating Margin	22.4	11.6	19.3	22.0
Pretax Margin	8.3	(1.1)	8.7	13.1
Net Income Margin	1.9	(1.7)	2.8	4.8
ST Debt/Total Debt	8.4	8.9	9.3	11.0
Total Debt/EBITDA (x)	4.7	5.9	4.4	3.4
Net Debt/EBITDA (x)	4.3	5.5	4.0	3.1
EBITDA to Interest Expense (x)	3.7	3.0	4.0	5.0
Total Debt/Equity	280.8	271.7	241.3	185.4
Total Debt/Capital	73.7	73.1	70.7	65.0
Total Debt/Total Assets	61.3	60.6	58.4	52.9
Net Debt/Equity	260.0	254.5	217.2	172.1
Net Debt/Capital	72.2	71.8	68.5	63.3
Current Ratio (x)	0.9	0.9	1.1	0.9
Quick Ratio (x)	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.6
Receivable Days	25.9	34.3	34.3	35.3
Inventory Days	37.1	48.1	53.8	53.7
Payable Days	32.5	40.4	35.7	35.6
Cash Conversion Cycle	30.6	42.1	52.4	53.4
Per Share Data (US\$)	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Basic EPS	0.01	(0.01)	0.01	0.02
Diluted EPS	0.01	(0.01)	0.01	0.02
DPS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
CFS	0.22	0.14	0.18	0.20
BPS	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.20
Valuation	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
PE (x)	53.1	-38.1	20.7	11.3
PB (x)	2.8	1.7	1.6	1.3
Price to CF (x)	3.6	1.9	1.5	1.4
EV/EBITDA (x)	7.3	8.4	6.3	5.3
Dividend Yield (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

China Minmetals Corp	72.59%
Senior Management	Position
Geoffrey Gao	CEO/ED
Ross Carroll	CFO
Troy Hey	Executive GM

Key Operational Data	2018 A	2019 F	2020 F	2021 F
Copper Production (t)	466,475	445,851	457,227	468,944
% yoy	-22%	-4%	3%	3%
Las Bambas Copper Production (t)	385,299	379,195	390,571	402,288
% yoy	-15%	-2%	3%	3%
Zinc Production (t)	223,041	250,131	251,045	251,045
% уоу	198%	12%	0%	0%
Dugald River Zinc Production (t)	147,320	164,172	164,172	164,172
% yoy	n.a.	11%	0%	0%
Copper Price (US\$/t)	6,523	6,000	6,612	6,944
% yoy	6%	-8%	10%	5%
Zinc Price (US\$/t)	2,922	2,546	2,300	2,400
% уоу	1%	-13%	-10%	4%
C1 cost at Las Bambas (US\$/lb)	1.190	1.250	1.275	1.301
9/ 11011	20%	E 0/	29/	20/



# **APPENDIX 1 – ASX Listed Copper Companies**

		ASX Listed Copper Explorers
Ticker	Name	Description
AIV	ActivEX	Holds a number of JORC compliant copper and gold projects in the northwest and southeast of
		Queensland. The company continues to undertake exploration activities, with rock chip sampling
		identifying several additional high grade copper and gold targets.
AIC	AIC Mines	A copper/gold focused explorer with its Marymia Project located within trucking distance of the
		Plutonic Gold Mine and the DeGrussa Copper Mine. In 2019, Intrepid Mines merged with AIC.
AL8	Alderan Resources	Focused on exploration of the historical Frisco Copper project in Beaver County, Utah (US).
AQX	Alice Queen Limited	A gold / copper exploration company with early stage exploration projects in New South Wales,
		Queensland and Horn Island (in the Torres Strait). Drilling within the Yarindury project in NSW has
		commenced. Exploration in NSW is targeting large scale copper/gold porphyry and the targets sit along
		strike from Cadia and adjacent to Alkane's Boda discovery. In 2019 AQX entered into a multi stage earn
		in joint venture with St Barbara (SBM:ASX) for the Horn Island project.
AMG	AusMex	Holds licences for gold/copper in the Mount Bryan-Red Banks-World's End region near Burra in South
		Australia. Recent surveys identified the first of three target areas at Burra and large conductive
		structures 15kms in width.
AQD	AusQuest	An exploration company with exploration assets in both Peru and Australia. The flagship Cerro de
		Fierro IOCG project is subject to an agreement with South32 (S32:ASX) to fund ongoing exploration
		through an earn-in structure.
ARE	Argonaut Resources	An IOCG exploration company holding 30% of the Aeris Resources (AIS:ASX) Torrens East project in
		South Australia and 90% of the Lumwana West Project in Zambia, a prospective bulk tonnage project
		with low to medium grade copper cobalt potential.
AUQ	Alara Resources	An exploration company focused on early stage exploration of copper-gold projects in Oman and is in
		the development phase of a zinc-copper project in Saudi Arabia, however in 2015 the licence to this
		project was cancelled and will work with relevant parties to reinstate the licence.
AZY	Antipa Minerals	An exploration company focused on the Paterson Province of Western Australia. The Paterson
		Province hosts the Telfer and Nifty mines. Antipa is currently undertaking exploration activities at the
		Citadel Project, which is subject to a staged farm-in by Rio Tinto (RIO:ASX).
AVQ	Axiom Mining	Holds a portfolio of exploration tenements in the Asia-Pacific region that includes prospective gold,
		silver and copper tenements in the Solomon Islands and North Queensland, Australia.
BOA	Boadicea Resources	A base and battery mineral exploration company with its flagship Symonds Hill exploration licence
		located ~200km southeast of Kalgoorlie, Western Australia. A recent EM survey indicated multiple
DVU	Druch Deseurose	significant EM conductors of potential copper mineralisation.
BYH	Bryah Resources	An exploration company focussed on exploration for high-grade copper-cold and manganese in two
CAE	Connindah Deseuroos	project areas within the Bryah Basin and Gabanintha in the Meekatharra region of Western Australia.
CAE	Cannindah Resources	Holds four projects in Queensland with a current focus on the Mt Cannindah which is a gold bearing porphyry copper system with a current total resource of 5.5Mt at 0.92% Cu, 0.34g/t Au and 14.9g/t
		Ag.
CBY	Canterbury Resources	Holds a portfolio of early stage exploration projects in Australia, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu that
CDI	culterbury resources	are prospective for porphyry copper-gold and epithermal gold-silver deposits.
CCZ	Castillo Copper	A base metal explorer holding three assets, including the historical Canagai Copper Mine, historically
002	custino copper	one of Australia's highest grade copper mines with a JORC inferred resource of 3.2Mt at 3.35% Cu.
		Additional projects include the Mt Oxide project in the Mt Isa district (NW Queensland) and several
		assets in Zambia. Following the resumption of exploration activities at Cangai Copper Mine, Castillo
		looks to progress to a BFS and monetise historic stockpiles.
COY	Coppermoly	Holds several exploration licences on the Island of New Britain within Papua New Guinea. The
		Company holds a Maiden JORC indicated resource of 7.0 Mt at 1.00% Cu and a Maiden JORC inferred
		resource of 34.4Mt at 0.69% Cu at the Mt Nakru project.
CWX	Carawine Resources	A precious and base metal exploration company with exploration licences in Western Australia and in
		Victoria. The Paterson Project in the Paterson Province of Western Australia encompasses a number
		of tenements, several of which are the subject of JV agreements with Rio Tinto (RIO:ASX) and the
		Fortescue Metals Group (FMG:ASX).
CVV	Caravel Minerals	Holds the Caravel Copper Project in the Yilgarn Craton within the Wheat belt of Western Australia.
		Drilling has confirmed thick intersections of copper mineralisation at the Bindi Hinge zone, an
		interpreted deposit within a larger porphyry style mineralised belt. The Caravel project holds a JORC
		complaint indicated resource of 225Mt at 0.36% Cu and a JORC complaint inferred resource of 147Mt
		at 0.34% Cu.
CZN	Corazon Mining	Holds two projects, the Lynn Lake Project in Canada and the Mt Gilmore project in New South Wales
		in Australia. The Lynn Lake project hosts a JORC compliant indicated resource of 12.9M at 0.33% Cu
		and a JORC compliant inferred resource of 3.4Mt at 0.33% Cu.
CYM	Cyprium Metals	Its Cue (Hollandaire) Project contains a JORC compliant Indicated resource of 1.9Mt at 2.0% Cu with
		additional exploration potential and further test work is being undertaken to expand the resource with
		a view to commence feasibility studies.
DRE	Dreadnought Resources	The early stage Terraji-Yampi Project is situated in the north west of Western Australia on
		Commonwealth ground and administered by the Department of Defence, with exploration activities



		ASX Listed Copper Explorers
Ticker	Name	Description
		ongoing for nickel, copper and gold. The region contains outcropping mineralisation and recently defined and untested EM anomalies for further exploration activities.
EM2	Eagle Mountain Mining	Recently acquired the historical underground Oracle Ridge mine in Tuscon Arizona with a NI43-101 compliant resource 186kt contained copper. Eagle Mountain also holds the Silver Mountain project with three prospects for further exploration activities. Exploration is expected to continue at Oracle Ridge to expand the existing resource with mining studies to commence following this.
FNT	Frontier Resources	Focussed on exploration activities for precious and base metals within three granted exploration licences, Bulago, Muller Range and Tolukuma, the 'Rim of Fire' in Papua New Guniea. Exploration activities continue to be focused around the most advanced Tolukuma licence adjacent to the historical Tolukuma Gold Mine.
GCR	Golden Cross Resources	Holds a number of exploration projects within Australia and Panama. The Company also is engaged in a number of joint venture projects. The Company is focused on its Copper Hill copper-gold project in central NSW holding a global resource of 87Mt at 0.32% Cu and the subject of a Pre-Feasibility Study.
HLX	Helix Resources	Holds a number of projects in South Australia, New South Wales and in Chile. The Company's main focus is its flagship Collerina Copper discovery located in Central NSW where drilling is underway to further define the mineralisation that exists.
HGO	Hillgrove Resources	Operated the Kanmantoo Copper Mine, however this has reached the end of its economic life. Exploration continues to extend the Kanmantoo underground mine and regionally in South Australia.
HOR	Horseshoe Metals	Its primary project is the historic Horseshoe Lights mine in Western Australia. This project holds a global resource of 12.85Mt at 1.0% copper and low-grade stockpiles with ~8,800t contained copper. The Kumarina project is its second project within the same region, again a historically operating asset with a total resource of 835kt at 1.3% Copper.
IVR	Investigator Resources	Holds four projects in South Australia with exploration activities targeting precious and base metals. Recently announced a binding Heads of Agreement with OZ Minerals (OZL:ASX) to fund up to A\$10m of a three stage drilling program at the Maslins IOCG Project.
KLH	Kalia Limited	An early stage exploration company focused on the Island of Bougainville within Papua New Guinea. In late December 2019, President Momis indefinitely suspended their exploration licences stating they had "miserably failed to address its social issues and to fulfil its corporate social responsibility"
KMT	Kapore Metals	Holds exploration assets within the Kalahari Copper belt in Botswana and Namibia, along trend from the Sandfire T3 asset. Exploration activities have commenced on a number of early stage targets.
КТА	Krakatoa Resources	A junior exploration company with a number of tenements across Australia. The recently acquired Belgravia Porphyry Project lies within the Molong Volanic Belt between Newcrest's Cadia Mine and Alkane Resources' Northern Molong Porphyry project. The Company is planning ground-based exploration activities.
MAG	Magmatic	In 2013, MAG acquired 4 projects from Goldfields in New South Wales, one of which is ~2kms from Alkane's recent Boda copper-gold porphyry discovery and in one of Australia's largest gold-copper porphyry regions.
MEP	Minotaur Exploration	Is actively exploring IOCG style targets in Australia. Their portfolio includes three separate JV's with OZ Minerals (OZL:ASX) in the Cloncurry region of Queensland, two exploration projects in central Queensland and two projects in South Australia.
NYC	New World Resources	The acquisition of the Tererro Cu-Au-Zn VMS project in New Mexico provides a long term growth opportunity in Arizona in close proximity to current copper porphyry mines and historically mined VMS deposits.
РКО	Peako	A primary focus of exploring for high grade copper deposits at its early stage East Kimberley and Paterson Province tenements.
PEX	Peel Mining	Holds a number of advanced exploration projects in New South Wales. The Mallee Bull has a Maiden JORC compliant indicated resource of 620kt at 2.22% CuEq and a JORC compliant inferred resource of 3.3Mt at 2.8% CuEq. Drilling at the Wagga Tank / Southern Nights project has continued to return high grade polymetallic intercepts.
PNX	PNX Metals	A precious and base metals explorer with exploration licences within the Yorke Peninsula and holds a farm-in agreement with AusMex for the Burra project. It completed a PFS for the Hayes Creek Project in the Northern Territory indicating a 6.5yr mine generating a NPV of A\$133m. This project holds a JORC compliant mineral resource containing 6.65kt copper within a greater resource of 721.5koz AuEq.
RDS	Redstone Resources	Its flagship Tollu Project is located the West Musgrave region of Western Australia. With a maiden Resource of 3.8Mt @ 1.0% copper, for 38kt contained copper. The Tollu Project also has a Conceptual Exploration Target of 31 to 47Mt at a conceptual grade range of 0.8% to 1.3% Cu, containing 259kt to 626kt copper. Drilling activities has been undertaken on less than 2% of the licence holding, with room for further discoveries.
RDM	Red Metal	Holds multiple exploration targets across Australia, holding a "Greenfields Discovery Alliance" with OZ Minerals with the aim to fast track a discovery in Australia.
RIE	Riedel Resources	Focused on the gold and copper Marymia Project in Western Australia, 55kms NE of the DeGrussa Copper Mine. Recently terminated its JV agreement with respect to the Carmenes Project in Spain to focus on the Marymia Project.
RTG	RTG Mining	Holds exploration projects across the globe including the recently acquired Chanach Project in Kyrgyz Republic, the Mabilo Project in the Philippines and the Punguna Project in Bougainville. The Mabilo Project remains under arbitration with respect to the validity of termination of the JV agreement



		ASX Listed Copper Explorers
Ticker	Name	Description
		between its partner Galeo Equipment Corporation. Additionally, the Punguna Project in PNG remains
		under indefinite suspension due to environmental issues.
SCI	Silver City Minerals	Holds a significant number of projects, including its flagship Copper Bow project at Broken Hill in New South Wales.
SRI	Sipa Resources	Holds exploration projects in the Paterson Province of Western Australia, in Northern Uganda and several others within northern Australia. Sipa's exploration activity discovered a significant copper rich, polymetallic system called Obelisk as well as other potential polymetallic systems in the area requiring further testing.
STM	Sunstone Metals	Holds exploration projects in Ecuador, Finland and a significant strategic equity investment in Copperstone Resources AB of Sweden.
		Exploration at the Bramaderos gold-copper project in Ecuador indicates a region that is highly prospective for the discovery of large porphyry gold-copper systems as well as high-grade epithermal gold systems.
SUH	Southern Hemisphere Mining	Holds several early stage exploration projects in Chile. In the second half of 2019, Hudbay Minerals withdrew from its earn-in agreement for the Llahuin Porphyry Copper/Gold Project.
SVY	Stavely Minerals	Holds several projects within Australia, with the flagship Stavely Project situated in western Victoria on the Stavely tablelands. At the Stavely Project the Thursday's Gossan Prospect holds an estimated copper estimated at 28Mt at 0.4% and 110kt contained copper. The Company completed a Conceptual Study for the copper concentrate from the Thursday deposit that demonstrated positive outcomes with respect to net revenue and NPV as well as an attractive IRR to proceed to a Scoping Study.
TAR	Taruga Gold	An exploration company with two projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Mwilu project (mineralisation over 700m down to 280m with potential strike length of 2km) and Kamilobe project (mineralisation within multiple stacked horizons over a strike length of >1km).
TAS	Tasman Resources	Tasman holds three projects within relatively close proximity to and adjacent to BHP Billiton's Olympic Dam deposit in South Australia. Tasman continues to explore for IOCGU and epithermal deposits. Tasman has finalised a JV agreement with Fortescue Mining (FMG:ASX) for the Lake Torrens project to the north of Olympic Dam.
TLM	Talisman Mining	TLM's Lachlan copper-gold project is located in the Lachlan Ford Belt in NSW. It has two other (gold and nickel) projects across Australia. Exploration activities at the Blind Calf have intersected high grade copper mineralisation and exploration at the Noisy Ned prospect have detected anomalies and subsequently intersected copper mineralisation.
ХАМ	Xanadu Mines	Xanadu's scoping study at its Kharmagtai Open Pit Copper-Gold Project has confirmed its strategy to explore for high-value large copper porphyry systems in Mongolia. Following the completion of a Scoping Study, with an upgraded resource of 598Mt containing 1.9Mt Cu, Xanadu outlined exploration targets for each of its deposits and has also identified improved metallurgical recoveries.



		ASX Listed Copper Developers
Ticker	Name	Description
AML	Aeon Metals	An Australian focused explorer and developer holds an advanced copper cobalt Walford Creek Project located to the north of Mt Isa in Queensland. The Vardy/Marley deposit (within the Walford Project) has a JORC complaint measured resource of 6.2Mt at 1.15% Cu, an indicated resource of 11.3Mt at 1.00% Cu and an inferred resource of 0.9Mt at 1.04% Cu. The total resource is 18.4Mt at 1.05% Cu and the global resource, including a cobalt peripheral zone, is estimated 35.8Mt at 1.94% CuEq over 3.6km strike. A Pre-Feasibility Study of Walford Creek is underway, targeted for completion following a Scoping Study, which outlined a potential 3.5Mt open pit and underground operation with a forecast mine life of 11 years.
BOC	Bougainville Copper	Its primary focus remains on the reclamation and operation of the Panguna copper mine that it operated from 1971 to 1989. It is now proceeding with judicial review proceedings after the Supreme Court in Papua New Guinea dismissed its application for leave to appeal.
CDU	Cudeco	The Rockland Copper project in Cloncurry, Queensland, holds an Ore Reserve of 11.6Mt at 0.87% Cu. A subsequent Feasibility Study indicated a first stage development project producing ~18kt Cu from both underground and open pit operations utilising a 2.7Mtpa plant (capital cost of ~A\$640m) with a mine life of 10yrs. In August 2019 the company was placed into Administration.
HAV	Havilah Resources	An explorer and developer targeting production of 30Kt Cu and 72Koz Au pa from existing resources at the Kilkaroo project. Holds a number of exploration tenements within the Curnamona Craton in South Australia that has been successful in delineating a JORC compliant mineral resource with metal inventory including 1.3Mt Cu, 3.15 Moz Au, 31.6Kt Co and 451 Mt of iron ore.
НСН	Hot Chilli	A copper developer with an advanced portfolio of Chilean projects. The most advanced project is the Productora hosting a resource base of 1.5Mt Cu and 1.0Moz Au. Drilling at the Cortadera project continues to return encouraging copper/gold intersections that indicate a potential underground bulk tonnage opportunity.
KGL	KGL Resources	Focused on the Jervois Project in the Norther Territory holding a JORC compliant indicated resource of 16.3Mt at 1.57% Cu for 255Kt of contained copper and a JORC compliant inferred resource of 10.3Mt at 1.31% Cu for 136Kt of contained copper.
ORN	Orion Minerals	An exploration and developer with assets in the Norther Cape Province of South Africa and holds a JV with The Independence Group (IGO:ASX) within the Fraser Range in Western Australia as well as other exploration assets within Australia. Its flagship Prieska Copper-Zinc Project in South Africa hosts a VMS resource of 30Mt at 1.2% Cu and 3.7% Zn. The BFS identified a 10yr mine with a 2.4Mtpa underground and open pit mine to deliver payable metal production of 189kt of copper and 580kt of zinc concentrates.
RCP	Redbank Copper	Focused on the Redbank and Millers Creek Projects in Australia. Currently under voluntary suspension following a strategic review of the Company which identified a risk of forfeiture of key mining tenements within the Redbank Project for non-payment of statutory rent to the Northern Territory government. The Company obtained a loan facility to enable the payment of outstanding rent on tenements.
RXM	Rex Minerals	An exploration and developer that holds the Hillside development project in the Yorke Peninsula, South Australia and recently acquired the Hog Ranch Project in Nevada, United States. The Hillside project is the subject of an Extended Feasibility Study which identifies a 13+ year open pit mine based on an Ore Reserve of 82Mt, processing 6Mt for 35kt Cu and 25koz Au pa requiring A\$480m capital. Hog Ranch released a Maiden JORC compliant Inferred Resource of 44Mt Au.
VXR	Venturex Resources	The Sulphur Springs project holds a JORC compliant resource of 17Mt at 1.3% copper. A completed Definitive Feasibility Study indicated an ore reserve of 8.5Mt at 1.4% copper, processed through a 1.25Mt process plant for 10 years, generating a pre-tax NPV of A\$472m and an IRR of 51% with a modest capital expenditure of A\$146m.



ASX Listed Copper Producers		
Ticker	Name	Description
AIS	Aeris	An established copper mining and exploration company with a production asset, Tritton Copper, in New South Wales (produced 26.9Kt Cu in FY2019). Tritton inventory includes ore reserves of 6.7Mt at 1.5% Cu and mineral resources of 19.8Mt at 1.5% Cu with an underground mine life of 4 years utilising a 1.8Mtpa plant. In addition, AIS holds 70% of the Torrens Exploration project in South Australia with a magnetic and gravity anomaly zone with a footprint larger than Olympic Dam
C6C	Copper Mountain Mining	The Copper Mountain mine is the flagship asset, located within southern British Columbia. Following a plant upgrade and additional resources, the low grade, open pit is expected to produce ~52ktpa Cu for 31 years with a plant throughput of 45ktpd (~16.5Mtpa). Additional growth projects (Queensland and Cameroon) could provide organic production growth.
MLX	Metals X	A diversified base metals producer operating assets across Australia. Its Nifty copper asset was placed under care and maintenance due to continued operational issues. The Company intends to focus on its tin operations.
OZL	OZ Minerals	One of Australia's largest copper producers, recently completing the construction of its Carrapateena underground mines. Additionally, OZL holds a significant portfolio of assets in Australia, South America and Mexico that span from early stage exploration to study phases and operating / producing assets. OZ generates cash from operations and has a history of paying dividends to shareholders.
RVR	Red River Resources	Currently produces zinc, lead and copper concentrates at its Thalanga site in Queensland. It continued to undertake further exploration activities at the site to expand its resources.
SFR	Sandfire Resources	Sandfire Resources currently produces from its flagship DeGrussa Mine in Western Australia however given the relatively limited mine life of this asset, SFR holds development and exploration assets in Botswana and in the United States. The Company generates strong cash flows and has a history of paying dividends to shareholders.
TGS	Tiger Resources	Holds a cathode producing asset, Koipoi Copper Project, an advanced exploration project, the Lupoto Project, which holds a resource of 14.7Mt at 1.4% Cu for 200kt of contained copper and the prospective exploration area called La Patience, all within the Democratic Republic of Congo. Tiger announced a Creditors Scheme of Arrangement where a large proportion of its US\$221.1m debt will be reduced to US\$70m via the issue of shares to its senior lenders. This Scheme of Arrangement will result in current equity holders holding 0.76% of post-scheme diluted capital.



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### **Minotaur Exploration**

Argonaut participated in the Placement to raise \$1.5M in October 2019 and received fees commensurate with this service.

#### Merdeka Copper Gold TBK

Argonaut acted as Financial Adviser to Eastern Field Developments Limited ("EFD") which is a subsidiary of PT Merdeka Copper Gold TBK ("MDKA") in relation to EFD's takeover of Finders Resources Limited and received fees commensurate with this service. Argonaut acted as a Placing Agent to raise approximately US\$61.5 million (at an issue price of IDR3,980 per share) in July 2019 and received fees commensurate with this service. Argonaut continues to act as Financial Adviser to MDKA and will receive fees commensurate with this service.

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