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Production wheels in motion for Consolidated Tin



Production from the Mt Garnet concentrator restarted in March

Consolidated Tin Mines Ltd is in a favourable position to start tin production from Mt Garnet, northern Queensland, later this year.

With the acquisition of the Mt Garnet processing plant, which includes associated mining tenements, Consolidated Tin has a facility to feed its ore through.

The acquisition from Snow Peak Mining Ltd (SPM) — a subsidiary of Consolidated Tin's major shareholder Snow Peak International Investments — in the December quarter was a key milestone in the company's quest to transition into production and start generating revenue.

The company was on track to complete a DFS by the end of March and with tin prices hovering around \$US23,000/t Consolidated Tin may well attract some investor attention.

"Tin is really a great metal to be in at the moment. Most analysts agree that it has been the best-performing base metal for some time and it is the most constrained," Consolidated Tin managing director John

Banning said.

Gillian will be the lead deposit in the company's tin business, and is being primed to process 1 mtpa for 5,000 tpa tin and 400,000 tpa iron.

Infill drilling at Gillian was carried out last year with the results to form part of a resource upgrade in the DFS.

"We're not aiming for a resource increase as such, but if the resource grows that will be sensational. We're looking more at improving confidence," Banning said.

At the time of print a 15t sample from Gillian was undergoing reverse silica flotation test work at the ALS Ammtec laboratory in Perth ahead of pilot scale reduction roasting trials at the ANSAC facility in Western Australia's south-west.

The outcome of this trial will be important for Consolidated Tin as it continues to explore the possibility of establishing reduction roasting equipment with a Chinese company it is in negotiations with.

The agreement under discussion will potentially see Mt Garnet iron ore product, with contained tin, exported to a facility owned and operated by the Chinese group.

While the company is yet to seal a deal, it finds itself ahead of many other junior companies at this point in time. With a DFS nearing completion, a Chinese cornerstone investor and an economic resource, Banning knows the company is well placed.

"I understand it is difficult for junior explorers to garner the support and get a guernsey at the moment. There doesn't appear to be too many companies on the crux of mining with the perception of risk that is around," Banning said.

"The ANZ chairman recently said that emerging resource companies need three things: a strong resource base, close proximity to infrastructure and strong community and state support. We can tick all those boxes."

The company can look forward to profiting from copper concentrate production from the Mt Garnet processing plant as it has a 9.85% free carried interest in SPM.

Production from the concentrator started in March with ore from SPM's Surveyor mine providing the facility with feed.

As mining activities from Surveyor continued to ramp up last month, Consolidated Tin announced that mining at Baal Gammon had also started.

"The concentrator is going very well and performing to our expectations. It ran for a number of years before and we have the expertise on board to run the concentrator,"

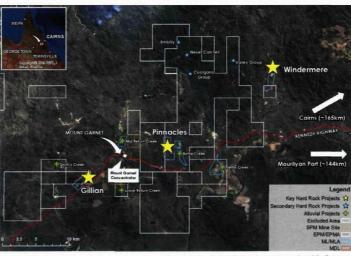
Banning said.

The concentrator was operating at 50 tph as a combined workforce of SPM and Consolidated Tin employees in excess of 100 made a positive start to a new era in the region.

It is expected that the workforce will steadily increase as Consolidated Tin lines up tin production.

Banning said the restart of production from the Mt Garnet concentrator had "brought a sense of regeneration to the Mt Garnet region as a whole".

- Mark Andrews



A new era of tin mining has started at Mt Garnet