



# IG GLOBAL GROUP AND RLS METALS ANNOUNCE SELECTION AND TRANSFER OF COPPER GOLD PROPERTIES IN KAZAKHSTAN TO IG ASIA

February 10th, 2023, Almaty, Republic of Kazakhstan – IG Global Group LLC ("IGG") and RLS Metals Ltd ("RLS"), together "The Companies", are pleased to announce the culmination of a 15 month partnership and collaboration agreement for mineral exploration in the Republic of Kazakhstan, resulting in IGG's acquisition of two copper-gold porphyry projects, the "Properties". Motivated by the exceptional opportunities for discovery and development of world class copper and gold deposits in the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Companies rigorously reviewed over 3,500 square kilometers of mineral exploration tenements held by RLS in preparation for this second phase of exploration. Under the terms of the transfer, IGG will acquire the properties through its majority-owned and operated affiliate: IG Asia LLC. The terms of the agreement include staged equity participation in IG Asia for RLS shareholders based on certain milestones, and a 1% Net Smelter Royalty interest on the properties.

## The Leker Project

The Leker Project is located within a large metallogenic province that hosts a number of large economic copper porphyry systems: Kounrad, Nurkazgan, Bozshakol and Aktogay. Historic information indicates three underexplored copper occurrences associated with subvolcanic host rock (rhyolite, mafic and felsic tuffs) of Early – Middle Devonian Age, that show a significant, near-surface oxidized zone with copper grades greater than one percent. IG Asia has designed a drilling program and is now mobilizing to test targets based on soil geochemical anomalies and to verify historic ore intersects.

## The Yerofeyevka Project

The Yerofeyevka Project is located in the 'Akmola Golden Triangle' surrounded by several +5M oz gold deposits. Gold is of an orogenic type underpinned by the Stepnyak batholith hosted in quartz-gold-sulphide veins within zones of intense limonite, clay and phyllic alteration. Two areas are documented in the historical archives (Yerofeevka I and II) which are poorly exposed but have the potential for hydrothermally generated lithocaps. Several areas over 10's of square metres show kaolinite with remnants of quartz veins and vuggy silica. Style of mineralization is very similar to RG Gold's operation at Raigaradok-Novadnieprovka, and IG Asia will use a model based on this deposit to assist orientation. Based on this orientation work, Yerofeyevka will be mapped and sampled systematically during summer 2023.

Thomas E. Bowens, President & CEO of IGG and Travis Naugle, Managing Director of RLS state, "Through our strategic partnership we reached our first goal of identifying high value gold and porphyry copper gold assets for exploration and development. We are pleased that these assets are now acquired under IG Asia where the IG team will advance exploration work targeting discovery of high-grade, near-surface copper-gold Porphyry systems. We aim to be at the forefront of new discoveries in the Republic of Kazakhstan thanks to the vision and foresight of the country's leadership to foster international investment in mineral exploration, and to be a major supplier of strategic metals needed for the renewable energy revolution."

# On the Republic of Kazakhstan

The Republic of Kazakhstan is extremely rich in mineral resources thanks to the very favourable geographical position of the country. It has a very diverse geological composition, including: **gold**, **copper**, chrome & iron ore

deposits, polymetallic deposits, tungsten, molybdenum and uranium ores, as well as a large supply of oil and natural gas resources.

Kazakhstan has an established, efficient mining investment framework, with straight forward mineral licensing after the Australian model, open access to geological data and its digitization, and simplified procedures for subsoil usage rights and mineral resource classification. Notable, modern projects being developed in Kazakhstan are Aktogay (large scale open pit mine located in the East Kazakhstan Region (KazMinerals), Bozshakol (large scale open-pit copper mine in the Pavlodar Region (KazMinerals), and Koksay (copper mine development project in south-eastern Kazakhstan).

# **About IG Global Group LLC**

IGG is a private international holding company focused on the exploration and development of world class mineral deposits. Led by Thomas E. Bowens, IGG brings together experienced professionals who are innovators in their fields with selected technical consultants who are well-versed in the latest industry exploration and mine development techniques and technologies. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.igglobalgroup.com">www.igglobalgroup.com</a>.

#### **About RLS Metals Ltd**

RLS is a private company focused on the identification and development of mineral deposits in the Republic of Kazakhstan with a mission to deliver precious and strategic metals to the global market in support of the new energy economy. Founded by managing director Travis Naugle, the RLS team has led numerous industrial successes in Kazakhstan. For more information, visit: www.rlsmetals.com

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