

## South Korea based Exploration Manager appointed

- Mr Robert Smillie, a geoscientist with more than 30 years experience, including significant epithermal gold exploration experience, to join Southern Gold as Exploration Manager
- The position is based in South Korea and is the start of an initiative to get more in-country technical expertise on the ground to increase project generation and expand the project drill pipeline



Southern Gold Ltd ("Southern Gold" or "the Company"), is very pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Robert Smillie to the position of Exploration Manager. Mr Smillie will be based in South Korea and will have responsibility for executing the Company's country-focused strategy and the targeting of newly identified epithermal gold systems that have only seen very limited modern exploration.

Mr Smillie is a very experienced professional in the discipline of geology, graduating with a Master of Science from Otago University, New Zealand, and backed by a 32 year career in exploration, much of it spent offshore in various countries throughout Asia and with more than 12 years exploring epithermal gold targets, our main target type in South Korea.

Mr Smillie's most recent role was Head of Department, Regional Geology for GNS Science, New Zealand's Geological Survey.

Prior to this very senior role, Mr Smillie was Exploration or Country Manager for companies such as Ok Tedi Mining in Papua New Guinea, the National Petroleum and Mining Authority in Timor-Leste and Calibre Mining in Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. Mr Smillie also worked for OceanaGold Ltd at projects in New Zealand and the Philippines.

Earlier roles included work for Kenex Knowledge Systems in New Zealand, PT Masmindo Mining in Indonesia and WMC Resources at St Ives in Western Australia, among others.

Mr Smillie has a Master of Business Administration from Victoria University, New Zealand and is a Fellow of the Society of Economic Geologists.

## Southern Gold Managing Director, Mr Simon Mitchell:

"It is great to have Rob join the Southern Gold team, including being prepared to reside in South Korea on a full time basis. I expect this will see excellent traction on the ground and give our exploration pipeline a boost as well. The South Korean team will very much benefit from having the mentoring and guidance on a day to day basis that Rob can bring to the role. Rob is also very well connected to an experienced group of geoscientists that are specialists in the field of epithermal gold geology and this will assist to augment the current team in its task of building the project drill pipeline. Rob's background in working in culturally complex environments as well as a variety of technical exploration target types, will be a great asset to the company and we welcome him aboard the exciting South Korean initiative."

## Mr Robert Smillie said:

"I am very much looking forward to joining the Southern Gold Team in South Korea to lead our exploration program in one of the most under-explored and gold-prospective jurisdictions in Asia. The opportunities for new discoveries are just tremendous."



Authorised for release by the Managing Director of Southern Gold Limited.

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## **Southern Gold Limited: Company Profile**

Southern Gold Ltd is a successful gold explorer listed on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX ticker "SAU"). Southern Gold owns 100% of a substantial portfolio of high-grade gold projects in South Korea that are largely greenfield epithermal gold-silver targets in the south-west of the country. Backed by a first-class technical team, Southern Gold's aim is to find tier one epithermal gold-silver deposits in a jurisdiction that has seen very little modern exploration.