

20 October 2020

ASX RELEASE

U.S. TITANIUM & ZIRCON DRILLING PROGRAM COMMENCES

- Titan Project drilling program has commenced for exploration of titanium and zircon rich mineral sands in Tennessee, USA.
- Drilling program will be overseen by a seasoned team of U.S. based specialists in mineral exploration and mineral sands operations, including;
 - Lamont Leatherman, Chief Geologist & Co-founder of Hyperion Metals and Piedmont Lithium;
 - Adam Karst, former Senior Geologist and Operations Superintendent for Iluka Resources' U.S. operations and exploration programs; and
 - Jonathan Lord, former Geologist and Mine Planning Engineer for Chemours' mineral sands operations in Georgia and OceanaGold's Haile gold mine in South Carolina.
- Drilling program will comprise ~20 drill holes across 2,100 acres following up on the historic exploration conducted by Dupont, BHP and others in the area.
- Results of the drilling program are expected to be released during Q4 2020 and Q1 2021.

Tao Commodities Limited ("TAO" or "the Company") (ASX: TAO) is pleased to announce that Hyperion Metals Pty Ltd ("Hyperion") has commenced drilling on the Titan Project, which is highly prospective for titanium and zircon mineral sands in Tennessee, USA. TAO has entered into an option to acquire 100% of the issued capital of Hyperion which holds a 100% interest over the Titan Project, comprised of ~2,100 acres of options to lease or purchase private surface and mineral rights in Henry, Carroll and Benton Counties, Tennessee, USA.



Figure 1: First hole chip box showing 1.5 metre (5 foot) intervals of drilling at the Titan Project



Figure 2: Drone view of sonic drill rig and crew at the Titan Project



Figure 3: Sample of panned heavy mineral sands from drill core

Hyperion has assembled a team of seasoned geologists with significant experience in exploration and development of heavy mineral sand projects in the southeastern U.S., with

over 60 years of combined experience encompassing private land negotiation and acquisition, exploration, permitting and mine development. A brief biography on each of the core team members is below.

Lamont Leatherman

Mr. Leatherman is an exploration geologist with over 25 years of experience. Mr. Leatherman is a founder of Piedmont Lithium Limited (ASX: PLL), prior to which he was a project geologist for BHP Minerals (ASX: BHP) and Noranda. He has extensive experience in numerous styles of mineralisation including precious and base metals, lithium, rare earths and mineral sands.

Adam Karst

Mr. Karst is a registered professional geologist with over 20 years of experience and holds both bachelor's and master's degrees in geology. His primary focus area is mineral sands including exploration, resource development, and mining, with twelve years of direct experience working for Iluka Resources (ASX: ILU), the world's largest mineral sands miner. Mr. Karst has experience in the style and type of mineralization present at the Titan Project area, allowing him to act as Competent Person for Hyperion Metals.

Jonathan Lord

Mr. Lord is a professional geologist with over 10 years of experience and holds a bachelor's degree in geology. Mr. Lord has deep experience in U.S. mineral sands exploration and operations, having most recently been employed by Chemours Company (NYSE: CC) as a mine planning engineer and geologist at their titanium and zirconium mineral sands operation in Georgia, USA. Previously, Mr. Lord was a geologist for OceanaGold (ASX: OGC) and Cornish Metals (TSX-V: CUSN).



Figure 4: Hyperion geology team (Lamont Leatherman, Jonathon Lord, Adam Karst & Joshua Seay)

Hyperion has engaged M&W Drilling LLC of Knoxville, Tennessee to conduct a sonic core drilling program and expects that ~20 holes will be conducted in the current program. The



drilling is expected to be complete by November 2020 with the core being sent for heavy mineral separation and mineralogical analysis during Q4 2020 and Q1 2021.

The results of the drilling program will be released to market as they become available with the aim of validating historic exploration and enabling the targeting of further drilling for resource delineation and additional land acquisitions.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the board.

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