## **ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

15 October 2024



## **Positioning for More Gold Sooner - Board Appointment**

Black Cat Syndicate Ltd ("Black Cat" or "the Company") is pleased to announce that well-known and experienced director, Richard Laufmann, will join the board as an independent, non-executive director.

As the Company accelerates ramp-up and increases production, this engagement is another step toward broadening and strengthening the board. Richard brings current and extensive corporate and operational mining experience, much of it in gold.

Richard has been appointed as an independent non-executive director of Black Cat effective 15 October 2024.

Non-executive director. Richard Laufmann said:

"With mining already underway at two of the three operations, Black Cat is uniquely positioned to have a significant impact on the Australian gold scene. I am looking forward to contributing to the Black Cat team and to building a substantial, Western Australia focussed gold business."

## Richard Laufmann (Biography)

Richard, a graduate of the WA School of Mines, is a mining engineer with broad experience in the resources sector – specifically in copper, gold and nickel – both corporately and operationally.

Richard is currently a founding director and Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Managing Director of Rex Minerals, currently the subject of a shareholder approved ~\$400M takeover by MACH Metals Australia. Richard was instrumental in driving this transaction.

Before becoming CEO of Rex Minerals, Richard was CEO of Indophil Resources which had ownership in and management of one of the world's largest undeveloped copper projects (Tampakan). Indophil operated in an extremely challenging commodity price and geo-political environment and was subject to a \$360M takeover by Alsons Group in 2014.

Prior to Indophil, Richard was CEO of Ballarat Goldfields. On joining, he recapitalised and led the company, through feasibility, financing, construction and commissioning of the Ballarat Gold Mine. In early 2007, Ballarat was taken over by Lihir Gold. Previously, Richard was the General Manager of Gold for Western Mining Corporation, with some of the largest and most diverse surface and underground operations in the country. Of particular relevance to Black Cat, Richard ran the large St Ives Gold Operation south of Kalgoorlie.

Richard is a past Chairman of the State Council of the Minerals Council of Australia (Victorian division) at the time the State Council merged into the national MCA.

Black Cat's Chairman, Paul Chapman, said "I am delighted to announce Richard's appointment to the board.

Black Cat is transforming and set to grow quickly, and Richard's corporate deal expertise, coupled with a strong operational background will complement our team at this transformational point in time. Richard is a long-standing shareholder in, and supporter of, Black Cat. Throughout his career, Richard has driven strong value growth in all businesses with which he has been associated.

On behalf of the board, I welcome Richard to our team and we look forward to his contribution to driving Black Cat forward."

Richard will receive fees of \$70,000 per annum (excluding statutory superannuation) and the Company has issued Richard with a total of 500,000 unlisted options on his appointment as a director. The options are exercisable at \$0.794 each and expire 13 October 2028. An Appendix 3X, Initial Director Interest Notice, will be lodged in due course.

For further information, please contact:

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This announcement has been approved for release by the board of Black Cat Syndicate Ltd.