



**MIRABELA NICKEL**  
LTD

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Manager Announcements  
Company Announcements Office  
Australian Securities Exchange  
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*via electronic lodgement*

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**MIRABELA NICKEL ENTERS INTO US\$190 MILLION SENIOR LOAN AGREEMENT AND  
SATISFIES RELEASE CONDITIONS FOR SUBSCRIPTION RECEIPTS**

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**PERTH, AUSTRALIA.** Mirabela Nickel Limited (TSX: MNB, ASX: MBN) (the “**Company**”) is pleased to announce that it has entered into a credit agreement (the “**Amended Senior Loan Agreement**”) with, among others, Barclays Bank plc, Credit Suisse International, WestLB AG, Caterpillar Financial Services Corporation and Bayerische Hypo-und Vereinsbank AG as lenders, for a non-revolving term loan in the aggregate principal amount of US\$190 million (the “**Senior Loan**”). The terms of the Amended Senior Loan Agreement are substantially as described in the Company’s final short form prospectus dated March 13, 2009.

The drawdown of funds under the Amended Senior Loan Agreement is subject to the satisfaction of a number of conditions precedent (the “**Conditions Precedent**”) all of which have been satisfied by the Company other than those which are of an administrative or routine nature to be satisfied as a matter of course.

On March 19, 2009, the Company completed a public offering of 120 million subscription receipts at a price of C\$1.00 per subscription receipt for aggregate gross proceeds to the Company of C\$120 million (the “**Offering**”). The Offering was conducted by a syndicate of underwriters led by GMP Securities L.P. and included Cormark Securities Inc., Dundee Securities Corporation, Macquarie Capital Markets Canada Ltd. and Haywood Securities Inc. (collectively, the “**Underwriters**”). The proceeds of the Offering (less certain expenses) were placed in escrow pending satisfaction of a number of release conditions, including execution of the Amended Senior Loan Agreement and satisfaction of the Conditions Precedent to the extent described above. The release conditions having now been satisfied, the net proceeds of the Offering will be released from escrow to the Company (less the commission payable to the Underwriters) and all subscription receipts will automatically convert into ordinary shares of the Company, without any further action on the part of the holders.

As the placement conditions to the Concurrent Private Placement have now been satisfied, the Subscription Receipts are deemed to be converted into ordinary shares as of and from the date hereof. As a result, trading in the Subscription Receipts on the Toronto Stock Exchange (the “**TSX**”) will cease immediately and the Subscription Receipts will be delisted from the TSX as soon as possible.

The Company will now proceed to settle the previously announced private placement of approximately 32.4 million ordinary shares to institutional and sophisticated investors outside of Canada, principally in Australia and Asia, at a price of C\$1.00 (A\$1.20) per share for gross proceeds of approximately C\$32.4 million (the “**Concurrent Private Placement**”), which was previously completed on a deferred settlement basis pending satisfaction of the release conditions described above.

In connection with the execution of the Amended Senior Loan Agreement, the Company has also entered into an option agreement with WestLB AG (“**WestLB**”) pursuant to which Mirabela granted WestLB options to purchase 750,000 ordinary shares of the Company at an exercise price equal to the greater of (i) the volume weighted average price at which the Company’s ordinary shares traded on the TSX during the five trading immediately following the date of this announcement; and (ii) A\$3.00, per share (the “**Options**”). The Options will vest upon the first drawdown of funds under the Senior Loan and will expire on July 7, 2013. The Options are not being granted to a class of securities holders and shareholder approval will not be sought.

The Company intends to use the net proceeds of the Offering, the Concurrent Private Placement and, once available, the Senior Loan, to fund the completion of construction of the Company’s Santa Rita Project in Bahia State, Brazil, remedy its working capital deficiency and pay amounts due under the Company’s project credit facilities and for general corporate purposes, all as more particularly set out in the Company’s final short form prospectus dated March 13, 2009.

The Concurrent Private Placement and the grant of the Options to WestLB have also been conditionally approved by the TSX.

***For and on behalf of the Board***

**Nick Poll**  
Managing Director

**Craig Burton**  
Corporate Director

**Background**

Mirabela Nickel Ltd owns 100% of the Santa Rita nickel sulphide project and its ordinary shares are listed on the Australian and Toronto stock exchanges.

Construction of a 6.4 mtpa nickel sulphide concentrator commenced in November 2007. Construction is now about 85% complete and the project remains on track to commence production mid 2009.

The plant will have a capacity of 18,500 tpa of nickel in a sulphide concentrate from one open-cut mine starting from mid 2009 increasing to 27,000 tpa by mid 2010. At this rate of production the project will have a mine life of at least 19 years.

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*Certain statements and information in this news release, including all statements that are not historical facts, contain forward-looking statements and forward-looking information within the meaning of applicable Canadian securities laws. Such forward-looking statements or information include, but are not limited to, statements or information with respect to management's expectations regarding the use of the proceeds of the debt and equity referred to herein. In making the forward-looking statements and providing the forward-looking information included in this news, the Company has made numerous assumptions. These assumptions include among other things, assumptions about the price of nickel, anticipated costs and expenditures, future production and recovery, that the supply and demand for nickel develop as expected, that there is no unanticipated fluctuation in interest rates and foreign exchange rates, that there is no further material deterioration in general economic conditions. Although management believes that the assumptions made and the expectations represented by such statements or information are reasonable, there can be no assurance that the forward-looking statements will prove to be accurate. By their nature, forward-looking statements and information are based on assumptions and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause our actual results, performance or achievements, or industry results, to be materially different from future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking information. Such risks, uncertainties and other factors include among other things the following: cost overruns at the Santa Rita Project, our lack of operating cash flow and dependence on external financing, availability of financing, as and when, required, any decline in the prices of nickel, changes in general economic and business conditions, discrepancies between actual and estimated production and mineral reserves and resources; operational and development risk; the speculative nature of mineral exploration and regulatory risks. The Company undertakes no obligation to reissue or update forward-looking statements or information as a result of new information or events after the date of this news release except as may be required by law.*

*The securities referred to herein have not been registered under the US Securities Act of 1933 and may not be offered or sold in the United States or to a US person absent registration or an applicable exemption from registration. Additional information about the Company and its business activities is available under the Company's profile on SEDAR at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com).*