

## Matilda Zircon Limited

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ASX / MEDIA RELEASE

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# MATILDA APPOINTS NEW CEO TO LEAD DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD-CLASS KEYSBROOK MINERAL SANDS PROJECT

Matilda Zircon Limited (ASX: MZI) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr Trevor Matthews as Chief Executive Officer.

Mr Matthews, who will take up his position on May 14, will lead development of Matilda's Keysbrook Zircon-Leucoxene Project in WA, which will underpin the Company's transition to a major mineral sands producer.

Mr Matthews has extensive experience in managing start-up resource projects, including feasibility studies, project planning and co-ordination. He also has an excellent understanding of capital markets and their roles in project development funding.

Mr Matthews was Managing Director-CEO of Murchison Metals Limited from shortly after the company's listing in 2005 until the \$325 million sale of Murchison's interests in Oakajee Port and Rail and Crosslands Resources to Mitsubishi earlier this year.

Mr Matthews holds a Bachelor of Commerce Degree, is an Associate of CPA Australia and a Fellow of the Financial Services Institute. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Matilda Chairman Mal Randall said Mr Matthews had the skills and experience to lead the Company through what would be a period of substantial growth underpinned by the development of Keysbrook.

"Trevor brings a wealth of project development and financing experience as well as a proven track record in corporate marketing and strategic development," Mr Randall said.

"His knowledge will be invaluable to Matilda as it starts the detailed engineering and design phase of Keysbrook and moves towards the funding and construction phases. It gives us the high calibre leadership required by a project as significant as Keysbrook."

Matilda has also engaged Burnvoir Corporate Finance to secure the equity and debt financing for the project.

The Company is currently updating the Keysbrook Bankable Feasibility Study ("BFS"). Burnvoir is updating the financial elements of the Keysbrook BFS and will provide advice on off-take agreements, zircon and leucoxene price forecast considerations and any toll treatment agreement that may be required.



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The Company expects the result of the Keysbrook feasibility study to be released later this month.

The Shire Development Approvals for Keysbrook have been finalised at the recent State Administrative Tribunal hearing and Matilda expects to receive formal written orders from the SAT shortly.

At that time, Keysbrook will have Federal, State and Shire approvals.

For further details please contact:

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#### **About Matilda Zircon**

Matilda Zircon (ASX: MZI) is a mineral sands company focusing on the high value minerals zircon, rutile and leucoxene. It has mineral sands projects in the Northern Territory and Western Australia.

The company mined the Lethbridge West deposit on the Tiwi Islands in 2010 and commenced mining and production at Lethbridge South in 2012.

Matilda's recent exploration success at Kilimiraka in the South East corner of Bathurst Island in the Tiwi Islands identified a substantial inferred resource of over 890,000 tonnes of Heavy Mineral. This large resource has the potential to provide an 8-10 year mine life. The Company commenced the process to gain the necessary approvals to allow mining. Mining is planned to commence in 2014.

The Company has an advanced zircon / leucoxene rich mineral sands project at Keysbrook in the south west of Western Australia. The two shires over which the deposit is situated have given the project Development Approvals and Extractive Industry Licences. These follow the Environmental Approval previously granted by the Western Australian Minister for Environment. Matilda plans to start construction at Keysbrook in 2012 and mining in 2013. Mining is planned to continue at Keysbrook for 8+ years.

Matilda's strategy is to be a specialised supplier of high grade zircon, rutile and leucoxene to the nearby Chinese and other world markets. The company has targeted zircon, rutile and leucoxene as high value mineral sands products with strong demand fundamentals. Zircon is primarily used to produce ceramic and porcelain products with demand driven by global urbanisation trends, particularly in countries such as China and India. Rutile and leucoxene are used to produce titanium pigment for paint and plastics as well as titanium metal and flux for welding electrodes.

#### **Competent Person's Statement**

The information that relates to resources or reserves of Matilda Zircon has been prepared by Mr John Baxter, Consultant Geologist and Mr Peter Gazzard, Matilda Technical Director. Mr Baxter is a member of Australian Institute of Geoscientists and Mr Gazzard is a member of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. Messer's Baxter, and Gazzard have sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking to qualify as Competent Persons as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves.' Messer's Baxter and Gazzard consent to the inclusion of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.