







ASX ANNOUNCEMENT **12 DECEMBER 2012** 

Australian Securities Exchange

Mr Chris Rowe Non-Executive Chairman

Mr Bill Beament Managing Director

Mr Michael Fotios Non-Executive Director

Mr Peter O'Connor Non-Executive Director

Mr John Fitzgerald Non-Executive Director

Ms Karen Brown Company Secretary

Shares 424 M

Options 4.25M

Current Share Price \$1.215

Market Capitalisation \$515 million

Cash/Bullion and Investments: 30 Sep 12 - \$67 million

Paulsens Ashburton Range Emull

# gold

gold gold, silver Zn, Cu, gold

Venturex (15%) Cu, Zn, Ag & gold

## NORTHERN STAR Northern Star set for lucrative 2013 as high-grade results flow in and plant expansion nears completion

WA gold miner on track to generate \$65m-\$85m surplus cash

## Highlights

- Drilling at Paulsens' Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 lodes returns results of up to 183qpt and 295qpt respectively
- Latest results are excluded from Paulsens' Project current 403,000oz<sup>1</sup> resource estimate
- Strength of the results provides more solid evidence that Northern Star will hit its key 2013 performance targets, including \$65m-\$85m in surplus cash
- Strong financial performance to be assisted by impending completion of mill expansion to 450ktpa. This will help lift production from ~80kozpa to 100-115koz in CY2013
- Rising production and cashflow underpinned by low total costs (\$850-950/oz), high grade (8.5gpt) and no bank debt - puts Northern Star on track for further dividends
- Significant results from Voyager 1 include (uncut);

9.5 m @ 46.5 g/t gold 3.4 m @ 41.4 g/t gold 7.4 m @ 34.8 g/t gold including 0.6m @ 183 g/t 1.1 m @ 37.9 g/t gold 1.6 m @ 33.7 g/t gold 3.2 m @ 31.7 g/t gold 2.6 m @ 29.0 g/t gold 1.4 m @ 28.9 g/t gold 3.6 m @ 26.8 g/t gold 2.6 m @ 23.3 g/t gold 3.5 m @ 18.1 g/t gold 7.0 m @ 15.6 g/t gold 3.2 m @ 15.0 g/t gold

(true width 5.0m) 523mRL UZ (true width 1.6m) 531mRL UZ (true width 5.2m) 532mRL UZ (true width 0.9m) 559mRL UZ (true width 1.0m) 479mRL UZ (true width 2.4m) 513mRL UZ (true width 1.6m) 507mRL UZ (true width 0.8m) 544mRL UZ (true width 1.7m) 525mRL UZ (true width 2.0m) 506mRL UZ (true width 2.6m) 518mRL UZ (true width 5.3m) 496mRL UZ (true width 1.5m) 561mRL UZ

Significant results from Voyager 2 include (uncut):

0.9 m @ 295.0 g/t gold \*2.0 m @ 101.1 g/t gold 7.7 m @ 43.8 g/t gold 4.6 m @ 40.7 g/t gold 2.4 m @ 23.1 g/t gold 1.3 m @ 23.8 g/t gold

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(true width 0.3m) 493mRL UZ2
(true width 2.0m) 380mRL LZ
(true width 1.4m) 473mRL LZ
(true width 1.2m) 460mRL LZ
(true width 2.0m) 498mRL UZ
(true width 0.5m) 467mRL UZ

## Further assays pending for Voyager 1 and 2

\* Previously released as a Voyager 1 intersection, now confirmed as Voyager 2



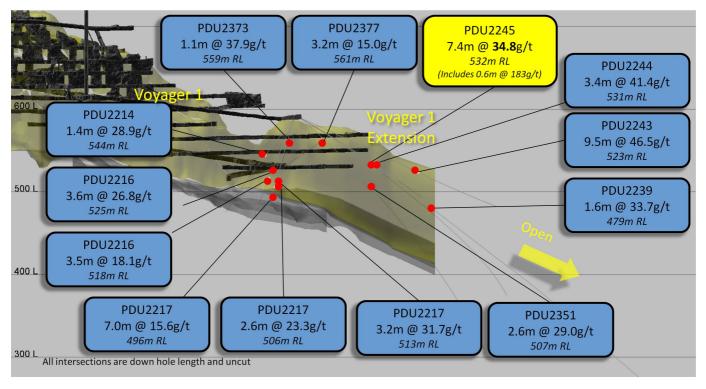
Northern Star Resources (ASX: NST) is pleased to announce that its forecasts for significant increases in cashflow and production next year are firmly on track, with drilling returning high-grade results of up to 295gpt and the mill expansion to 450,000tpa due to be completed later this month.

The latest batch of outstanding results will help underpin the budgeted increase in head grade at Paulsens from 7gpt to 8.5gpt in 2013 (see Figure 1).

This increase in grade will combine with the almost-completed plant expansion to 450,000 tonnes a year to lift Northern Star's production from ~80,000oz to 100-115,000oz in calendar year 2013.

As a result, Northern Star is on track to generate \$65-\$85 million in surplus cash for CY2013. This will leave the Company well-placed to back-up its recently paid fully-franked dividend of 2.5c a share for FY2012.

These forecasts are based on a gold price of A\$1,550/oz compared with the current price of A\$1,630/oz.



### Figure 1 - Long Section View of Significant drill results for Voyager One including the Extension zone

Northern Star has intersected the Voyager 1 high-grade extension zone earlier than planned, meaning the sharply higher-grade ore will boost the production profile sooner. Three development levels have now been completed in the extension zone with consistent high-grade faces. Stoping is due to commence later this month.

The high-grade extension zone is part of the Voyager 1 lode, which is currently the main ore source at Paulsens and has produced 190,000 ounces in just over two years. The lode continues to be open down plunge and the Company believes this lode will continue to grow and be the mainstay for production for a number of years.

All these latest drilling results from Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 are excluded from the current resource estimate of 403,000oz<sup>1</sup>.



Earlier in the year, the drilling program on Voyager 2 was suspended temporarily to enable drilling to be accelerated on the high-grade Voyager 1 extension zone. However, Northern Star recently undertook a small amount of drilling on Voyager 2 until the next purpose-built drill platform is commissioned in March 2013.

This new drill platform will give Northern Star a much better position to be able to extend the mineralisation on both Voyager 1 and 2 lodes, next year.

The latest high-grade results from drilling on the Voyager 2 lode at Paulsens (see Figure 2) augur exceptionally well for potential increases in Resources later next year.

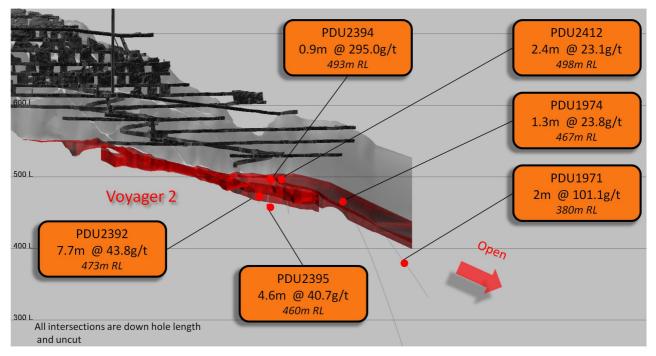


Figure 2 - Long Section View of Significant drill results for Voyager Two

Plans to increase the mine and processing plant capacity to 450,000 tonnes per annum by the end of the year are well on track. The major capital upgrade to the processing facility is nearing completion *(see Figure 3)*. The plant yesterday was successfully tied in to the upgraded infrastructure during a seven-day shutdown.





Figures 3 - New leaching tanks and Knelson Concentrator Level 1, 1 Puccini Court, Stirling WA 6021 Tel: +6 8 6188 2100 Fax: +6 8 6188 2111 Email: info@nsrltd.com Website: www.nsrltd.com



The new mobile mining fleet is again improving the mine productivity. September's record ore tonnage was beaten by 29% in the month of October, with 59,119 ore tonnes mined, well ahead of budgeted physicals.

This mining rate has again increased the stockpiled ore tonnes on the surface to 105,000 tonnes. It is also important to note that the mine is producing more than the expanded mill capacity.

In addition, the Mining Services Division has saved us 13% more than predicted, with \$3.3 million saved in the first five months. Northern Star budgeted \$7 million in savings for the financial year.

"Our key forecasts for 2013 are looking increasingly solid and in some cases there is already evidence that our targets may be exceeded," Managing Director Bill Beament said.

Further announcements will be released regarding the ongoing underground diamond drilling as results become available.

Assay results from underground diamond drilling completed on Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 since the last releases are listed in the attached tables.

Yours faithfully,

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Bill Beament Managing Director Northern Star Resources Ltd

	Measured		Indicated		Inferred		Total		
	Tonnes	Grade	Tonnes	Grade	Tonnes	Grade	Tonnes	Grade	Oz Au
30 June 2012	(,000)	(g/t)	(,000)	(g/t)	(,000)	(g/t)	(,000)	(g/t)	(,000)
Open Pit			573	2.5	169	2.5	742	2.5	61
Paulsens Upper Levels			136	7.1	32	5.0	168	6.7	36
Voyager 1	277	8.8	75	12.4	44	10.7	395	9.7	123
Voyager 1 Extension			64	20.0	39	33	103	25.0	83
Voyager 2			22	14.3	71	10.5	93	11.4	34
Paulsens Stockpiles									11
Belvedere			45	2.8	123	3.5	168	3.3	18
Merlin					523	1.4	523	1.4	24
Mt Clement JV					226	1.8	226	1.8	13
Total	277	8.8	915	5.5	1227	3.8	2418	5.0	403

<sup>1</sup>Table 1 - Paulsens Resources @ 2.5g/t Au Lower Cut-Off Underground and 1.0g/t Au Lower Cut-Off Open Pit



	VOYAGER ONE RESOURCE DRILLING									
Hole #	Downhole Intersection (m)	Est. True Thickness (m)	Uncut Grade (g/t)	Grade (g/t) cut to (150g/t)	Gram/mts (cut)	Ore zone and comments	RL of intersection			
PDU2238	0.9	0.3	2.2	2.2	0.6	Quartz in HW sediments	483mRL			
PDU2238	0.8	0.2	6.6	6.6	1.3	Quartz in HW sediments	480mRL			
PDU2239	1.6	1.0	33.7	33.7	33.7	VOY1 UZ Extension	479mRL			
PDU2239	1.1	0.3	16.7	16.7	5.0	VOY1 UZ2	474mRL			
PDU2242	2.2	0.6	19.9	19.9	11.9	VOY1 UZ HW Splay	505mRL			
PDU2243	9.5	5.0	46.5	45.6	229.5	VOY1 UZ Extension	523mRL			
PDU2243	0.3	0.2	28.8	28.8	4.6	VOY1 UZ2 Extension	514mRL			
PDU2244	3.4	1.6	41.4	38.6	61.8	VOY1 UZ Extension	531mRL			
PDU2245	7.4	5.2	34.8	31.1	161.5	VOY1 UZ Extension	532mRL			
including	0.6		183.0							
PDU2245	1.4	0.8	2.2	2.2	1.8	VOY1 UZ2 Extension	527mRL			
PDU2351	1.0	0.5	5.8	5.8	2.9	VOY1 HW Splay	517mRL			
PDU2351	2.6	1.6	29.0	29.0	46.4	VOY1 UZ Extension	507mRL			
			VOYAGER C	NE GRADE	CONTROL I	DRILLING				
Hole #	Downhole Intersection (m)	Est. True Thickness (m)	Uncut Grade (g/t)	Grade (g/t) cut to (150g/t)	Gram/mts (cut)	Ore zone and comments	RL of intersection			
PDU2206	0.5	0.5	2.4	2.4	1.2	VOY1 HW Splay	591mRL			
PDU2207	3.9	2.7	3.4	3.4	9.0	Pluto	599mRL			
PDU2209	1.2	1.2	2.4	2.4	2.9	Quartz in dyke	588mRL			
PDU2209	1.3	1.0	4.5	4.5	4.5	Pluto	588mRL			
PDU2210	1.7	0.8	2.2	2.2	1.8	Pluto	594mRL			
PDU2214	1.4	0.8	28.9	28.9	23.7	VOY1 UZ	544mRL			
PDU2214	2.1	1.2	5.5	5.5	6.9	VOY1 UZ	524mRL			
PDU2215	0.8	0.7	9.8	9.8	7.2	VOY1 UZ	536mRL			
PDU2216	3.6	1.7	26.8	26.8	45.6	VOY1 UZ HW	525mRL			
PDU2216	1.6	0.8	4.1	4.1	3.0	VOY1 UZ	520mRL			
PDU2216	3.5	2.6	18.1	18.1	47.1	VOY1 UZ	518mRL			
PDU2217	3.2	2.4	31.7	31.7	75.7	VOY1 UZ	513mRL			
PDU2217	2.6	2.0	23.3	23.3	47.0	VOY1 UZ	506mRL			
PDU2217	7.0	5.3	15.6	15.6	83.1		496mRL			
PDU2304	0.9	0.6	4.8	4.8	2.9	VOY1 HW splay	587mRL			
PDU2305	1.0	1.0	3.9	3.9	3.9	Pluto	590mRL			
PDU2305	1.1	0.9	12.9	12.9	11.6	Quartz in gabbro	596mRL			
PDU2305 PDU2308	1.3 2.1	1.1 2.0	2.4	2.4	2.5 16.0	Quartz in gabbro Pluto	598mRL 595mRL			
PDU2308 PDU2308		0.8	8.0 2.1	8.0 2.1	1.6	Pluto				
PDU2308 PDU2326	0.8	0.8	5.7	5.7	2.3	LZ	585mRL			
PD02326 PD02327	3.5	1.7	9.0	9.0	2.3 15.6	VOY1 LZ	866mRL 857mRI			
PD02327 PD02373	3.5	0.9	9.0 37.9	9.0 37.9	<b>34.1</b>	VOYI LZ	857mRL 559mRL			
PDU2373 PDU2376	4.4	3.7	5.4	5.4	20.1	VOY1 UZ Extension	561mRL			



	VOYAGER TWO RESOURCE DRILLING								
Hole #	Downhole Intersection (m)	Est. True Thickness (m)	Uncut Grade (g/t)	Grade (g/t) cut to (150g/t)	Gram/mts (cut)	Ore zone and comments	RL of intersection		
PDU1971	2.0	2.0	101.1	75.6	151.2	VOY2 LZ	380mRL		
PDU2395	4.6	1.2	40.7	40.7	48.8	VOY2 LZ	460mRL		

	VOYAGER TWO GRADE CONTROL DRILLING									
Hole #	Downhole Intersection (m)	Est. True Thickness (m)	Uncut Grade (g/t)	Grade (g/t) cut to (150g/t)	Gram/mts (cut)	Ore zone and comments	RL of intersection			
PDU1922	16.3	4.7	3.4	3.4	15.9	VOY2 LZ	510mRL			
PDU1974	1.3	0.5	23.8	23.8	11.0	VOY2 UZ	467mRL			
PDU1974	1.6	0.6	2.8	2.8	1.7	VOY2 UZ	464mRL			
PDU2013	0.7	0.7	9.2	9.2	6.4	VOY2 LZ	528mRL			
PDU2390	1.0	0.4	3.1	3.1	1.2	VOY2 UZ	497mRL			
PDU2390	1.6	0.7	2.2	2.2	1.5	VOY2 UZ	485mRL			
PDU2391	2.4	1.1	2.1	2.1	2.4	VOY2 UZ	501mRL			
PDU2391	1.2	0.3	2.1	2.1	0.6	VOY2 UZ2	471mRL			
PDU2392	7.7	1.4	43.8	43.8	61.3	VOY2 LZ	473mRL			
PDU2394	0.9	0.3	295.0	150.0	37.5	VOY2 UZ2	493mRL			
PDU2410	1.5	0.3	2.3	2.3	0.7	VOY2 UZ	503mRL			
PDU2410	0.8	0.4	4.5	4.5	1.8	VOY2 UZ	493mRL			
PDU2411	1.5	0.2	8.6	8.6	1.7	VOY2 UZ	494mRL			
PDU2411	1.3	0.4	5.2	5.2	2.1	VOY2 UZ	490mRL			
PDU2412	2.1	0.8	3.8	3.8	3.1	VOY2 UZ	490mRL			
PDU2412	<b>2.4</b>	2.1	23.1	23.1	47.3	VOY2 UZ	498mRL			

At a nominal 3g/t lower cut off and a 150g/t upper cut off

NSR means no significant result

Quality Control – Paulsens, All core is logged and whole core samples (if LTK60 size, NQ2 sized core is cut and half cored) are marked and prepared for shipping at the Paulsens Mine Property and sent to an independent Laboratory for assay. The remaining half core is stored on site. All samples from which information in this document is derived were received by ALS Chemex – Australian Laboratory Services Pty ('ALS') Limited in Perth, Western Australia. Samples are weighed and crushed to 70% passing -6mm mesh. The crushed material is split and a portion is pulverised. A 100-gram pulp is sent to ALS Perth, Western Australia for assay. A 30-gram portion of the pulp is treated by fire assay method with atomic absorption finish (Au-AA25). Sample rejects are discarded after 90 days. Limit samples (>100 grams per tonne gold) are re-analysed using ALS' dilution method (Au-DIL). Northern Star Resources inserts one standard in each hole, and one blank is now inserted in each ore zone. Laboratory standards and blanks are inserted by ALS and several pulp duplicates are also assayed as a determinant of mineralisation variability. ALS has AS/NZS ISO 9001:2000 certification in Perth.

#### **Competent Persons Statements**

The information in this announcement that relates to Paulsens Project and Ashburton mineral resource estimation, exploration results, data quality, geological interpretations, potential for eventual economic extraction and estimates of exploration potential, is based on information compiled by or under the supervision of Brook Ekers, (Member AIG), who is a full-time employee of Northern Star Resources Ltd. Mr Ekers has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the "Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves". Mr Ekers consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on his information in the form and context in which it appears.

#### **Forward Looking Statements**

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Paulsens Resource and Grade control drilling collar data										
Drill Hole #	Drill type	Grid	Northing	Easting	RL	Azimuth (degrees)	Dip (degrees)			
PDU1922	DD	PMG	50386	9204	592	313	-34			
PDU1971	DD	PMG	50453	8909	588	267	-52			
PDU1974	DD	PMG	50453	8909	588	273	-58			
PDU2013	DD	PMG	50387	9208	593	25	-33			
PDU2206	DD	PMG	50450	8913	590	182	3			
PDU2212	DD	PMG	50450	8914	588	112	-39			
PDU2214	DD	PMG	50451	8914	588	112	-49			
PDU2215	DD	PMG	50451	8914	588	112	-57			
PDU2216	DD	PMG	50451	8914	588	113	-65			
PDU2217	DD	PMG	50450	8914	588	112	-72			
PDU2239	DD	PMG	50472	8905	588	253	-28			
PDU2242	DD	PMG	50473	8905	589	249	-23			
PDU2243	DD	PMG	50472	8905	588	246	-21			
PDU2244	DD	PMG	50472	8905	588	236	-26			
PDU2245	DD	PMG	50472	8905	588	238	-28			
PDU2304	DD	PMG	50451	8914	589	139	-2			
PDU2327	DD	PMG	50374	9644	882	120	-25			
PDU2351	DD	PMG	50471	8905	588	238	-37			
PDU2373	DD	PMG	50373	8929	533	352	30			
PDU2376	DD	PMG	50372	8924	533	307	29			
PDU2377	DD	PMG	50372	8924	533	304	21			
PDU2390	DD	PMG	50443	8939	528	22	-28			
PDU2391	DD	PMG	50443	8939	528	22	-34			
PDU2392	DD	PMG	50443	8939	528	22	-44			
PDU2394	DD	PMG	50443	8939	528	8	-34			
PDU2395	DD	PMG	50443	8939	528	8	-44			
PDU2410	DD	PMG	50441	8929	528	351	-27			
PDU2411	DD	PMG	50441	8929	528	351	-34			
PDU2412	DD	PMG	50441	8929	528	351	-44			