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11 March 2013

The Manager Company Announcements Australian Stock Exchange Limited Exchange Centre Level 6 20 Bridge Street SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

RE: SHAREHOLDER UPDATE - NEWCASTLE IRON RECOVERY PLANT

We are pleased to provide an announcement from the Managing Director of Austpac Resources NL for immediate release.

Yours faithfully

N.J. Gaston Company Secretary

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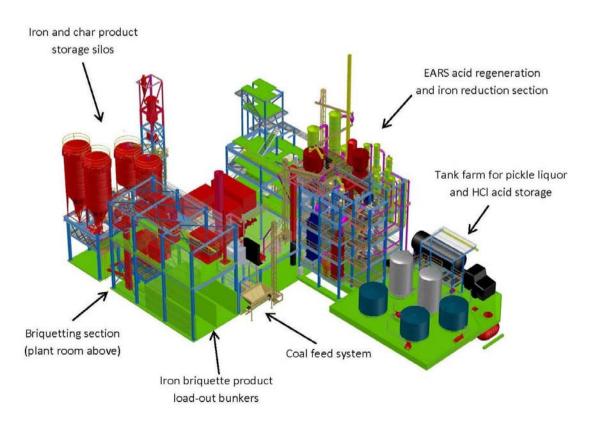
March 11, 2013

NEWCASTLE IRON RECOVERY PLANT – CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES

Construction of the Newcastle Iron Recovery Plant recommenced in mid-January, 2013. During February the following was achieved, as illustrated with photographs in this report:

- Construction schedules were finalised, the design and certification of the steel structure for the north tower extension to the process tower was advanced, and off-site fabrication of the steel for the mezzanine floor in the plant room commenced.
- The cooling tower and the plate filter were positioned in the Plant.
- Temporary access to the plant room and the control room was established
- The concrete bunded tank area of the tank farm was coated with acid-proof epoxy paint
- Construction of the new laboratory to house the pilot scale test equipment which will be relocated from the process tower commenced

Construction is proceeding well and will continue through the first half of the year. Commissioning of the Iron Recovery Plant will commence during the third quarter and production will commence in the fourth quarter of 2013.



3D rendition of the Newcastle Iron Recovery Plant





Preparing to lift equipment into the process tower



Installation of the frame for the plate filter



Installation of scaffolding for access from the control room



Cooling tower installed beside temporary access stairs to the plant room





Assembling the bucket elevator chain used to transfer the briquetted iron product

Preparing steel columns for epoxy coating



Diamond drilling through foundations to establish cable access to the switch room

Preparing foundations to support the CO₂ stripping columns





Tank farm bunded area with acid-proof epoxy sealant

Erection of walls for the new laboratory. Pilot scale test equipment will be relocated from the NIRP process tower and installed here

For further information please contact: Mike Turbott Managing Director - Tel (+61-2) 9252-2599

About Austpac Resources N.L. (ASX code: APG)

Austpac Resources N.L. <u>[www.austpacresources.com</u>] is a minerals technology company focused on the titanium, steel and iron ore industries. It has been listed on the Australian Stock Exchange since 1986. Austpac's key technology transforms ilmenite into high-grade synthetic rutile, a preferred feedstock for titanium metal and titanium dioxide pigment production. The technology is also being used to process waste chloride solutions and iron oxides produced by steelmaking to recover hydrochloric acid and iron metal pellets