

## ASX Release

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# ASM PRODUCES HEAVY RARE EARTH METAL DYSPROSIUM IN KOREA

### Highlights:

- ASM produces 7.5kg of heavy rare earth dysprosium metal
- Dysprosium metal assay – 99.53%
- Metallisation of ferro-dysprosium and zirconium progressing

Australian Strategic Materials (ASX: ASM) (**ASM**), through its partner Ziron Technology Corporation (**Ziron Tech**), has successfully produced 7.5 kg of a high purity dysprosium metal at its commercial pilot plant in South Korea.

After producing 0.76 kg of the heavy rare earth metal last month, this second run confirms that it can be done at scale, marking the completion of the final key permanent magnet metals to be produced at the Ziron Tech facility. ASM has now produced neodymium, praseodymium, neodymium praseodymium alloy and dysprosium all key for permanent magnets through the commercial pilot plant using its innovative metallisation process.

Work has commenced on the production of ferro-dysprosium and zirconium metals. These are anticipated to be the final products metallised from material sourced from the Dubbo Project in central west NSW.



Figure 1: 99.53% Dy Metal Produced at the Ziron Tech Pilot Plant

ASM Managing Director, David Woodall said: “ASM is progressing further in its development to become an integrated mine to metal business, with the successful production of the heavy rare earth metal, dysprosium. With the production of these key permanent magnets metals and metal alloys, and the development of zirconium metal production, ASM is one step closer to converting all

### Contact Information

**Contact** David Woodall, Managing Director, ASM Ltd, +61 8 9227 5677

**Investors** Natalie Chapman, Corporate Communications Manager, +61 418 642 556

**Media** Marcha Van Den Heuvel, Hill+Knowlton Strategies, +61 2 9286 1226 or +61 468 960 457

products from the Dubbo Project into value adding metals.”

“Our focus is now on commencing the design and construction of a 250 kg per day continuous metal plant in Korea. This is the first phase of our strategy to develop a 3,000-5,000 tonne per year plant designed to meet some of the demand for critical materials in the Korean manufacturing sector. ASM continues to advance discussions for a potential partner in the metal business,” Mr Woodall said.

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**This document has been authorised for release to the market by David Woodall, Managing Director.**

**About Australian Strategic Materials – [www.asm-au.com](http://www.asm-au.com)**

ASM is focused on producing specialty metals and oxides for advanced technologies and is the 100% owner of the [Dubbo Project](#).

Located in central-western NSW, ASM’s cornerstone Dubbo Project has a long-term resource of [zirconium](#), [rare earths](#), [niobium](#) and [hafnium](#)– a globally significant source of these [critical materials](#) for a diverse range of emerging and sustainable technologies.

ASM, together with its partners, is advancing oxide separation and [metallisation technologies](#) to create a range of value-added materials from the Dubbo Project. ASM’s pilot plant in South Korea has been completed with successful production of titanium, neodymium, praseodymium and dysprosium metal. ASM’s innovative metallisation process is energy efficient (titanium production uses 70% less energy) and has significant environmental advantages than the industry standard Kroll process.

ASM is progressing an optimisation study with key products for metallisation having been defined to be supplied from the Dubbo Project, and with the potential inclusion of flotation that have potential to positively impact the capital and operating costs of the project. The metals feasibility study is planned to be completed by the end of 2020 with the optimisation study to be completed by the end of Q1 2021.