



MINING INDUSTRY



Week ended **04 July 2008**

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This industry update from KPMG Manabat Sanagustin & Co. is a bi-monthly collection of the latest news and developments from the country's Mining segment. We hope that you will find this service, which the Firm provides its clients for the different Lines Of Business, interesting and useful.

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If you want us to send this to any other member of your company, please contact Gillian de Guzman, KPMG Markets Communication Officer, at 8857000 loc 369 or at gddeguzman@kpmg.com

Nihao gets nickel mine permits

Mining firm Nihao Mineral Resources International Inc. said Wednesday its group was granted two small-scale mining permits that allowed its subsidiaries to extract as much as 50,000 tons of nickel ore annually from its mine in Botolan, Zambales, northwest of Manila.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=146127

Philex acquires 13.94% stake in UK's Forum Energy

Philex Mining Corp., the Philippines' biggest gold and copper producer, said Thursday its unit Philex Petroleum Corp. has acquired a 13.94-percent stake in Forum Energy Plc of the United Kingdom for \$3.8 million. Philex Petroleum acquired four million shares in Forum Energy from Sterling Northwest Africa Holdings Ltd. at 48 pence per share, Philex said in a statement.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=146252

DENR grants ECC to mining firm

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources has granted an environmental compliance certificate (ECC) to Citinickel Mines and Development Corp. in connection with its Pulot Nickan Mining Project in three barangays in Sofronio Española town in Palawan, according to a DENR press release.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=145537

Gov't expects mineral sales to hit \$10B in 2011

The government remains bullish on the prospects of the mining industry, which it expects to generate as much as \$10 billion in mineral sales by 2011. The projected sales revenue translates to 58.9-percent average annual growth from 2004 to 2011, data from the Bureau of Mines and Geosciences showed. Mineral sales are expected to reach \$3.62 billion this year; \$4.51 billion in 2009, and \$5.379 billion in 2010.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=145480

PGMC to export 450,000 MT of nickel ore

Mining firm Platinum Group Metals Corp. is set to ship 450,000 metric tons of nickel ore to Australia from its mine sites in Surigao del Norte and Isabela in the third quarter. In a statement, PGMC said that of the total, 300,000 MT of nickel ore would come from its Cagdianao, Surigao del Norte mine site and 150,000 MT would be shipped by its Isabela mine.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=145481



2 firms see gold potential in Masbate

LEGAZPI CITY – Geograce Resources Philippines Inc. and Vale Exploration Philippines Inc. have agreed to jointly explore seven mineral claims covering 84,046 hectares of land on Masbate Island, about 350 kilometers south of Manila.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=144781

OceanaGold seeks \$185M for Didipio project

Australian miner OceanaGold Corp. said it was seeking \$185 million to pursue its Didipio copper-gold project in Kasibu town in the northern town of Nueva Vizcaya. OceanaGold chief executive Steve Orr said in a statement that the company was considering several funding options, including conventional and hybrid debt facilities, a placement to current shareholders, and joint venture or merger opportunities.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=144792

Geograce signs exploration deal with foreign miner

Geograce Resources Philippines Inc. on Tuesday said it had signed an exploration and option agreement with Vale Exploration Philippines Inc., a subsidiary of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, for exploration of seven mining claims containing copper and iron ore in Masbate province. Vale has committed to fund exploration expenditures of up to \$6 million for the first two phases of the exploration agreement.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=144823

Sultan Mining postpones \$10.7-million IPO to late July

Coal miner Sultan Mining and Energy Development Corp. has delayed its P480-million (\$10.7 million) initial public offering to late July, its underwriter Asian Alliance Investment Corp. said Tuesday. Asian Alliance said the postponement will allow Sultan to complete and present its interim operating results for the first half of 2008 to prospective investors.

http://archive.inquirer.net/view.php?db=1&story_id=144443

Mining group wants clearing-house in South

An influential mining group in Mindanao has asked the national government to consider putting up a clearing-house in Mindanao for all applications of mining permits and licenses to remove a major obstacle to a vibrant mining activity, at least in southern Philippines.

<http://www.businessmirror.com.ph/07022008/economy03.html>

Govt holds summit to know why mining did not perk up as hoped

DAVAO CITY—Various government agencies and a Mindanao business group would look anew into the causes of a sluggish industry that only a few years back was harped as the country's economic savior. A two-day forum here in August would try to unlock the grid that slowed down the entry of foreign investors, or rev up the operations of known rich deposits and plow the dollars to the economy.

<http://www.businessmirror.com.ph/07012008/economy04.html>

**Feedback**

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