

Critical Metals' Russell Fryer on the Rising Tide for Copper and Cobalt in Africa

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

In this InvestorNews interview with host Tracy Weslosky, Russell Fryer, CEO and Executive Director of [Critical Metals PLC](#) (LSE: CRTM), shared insights into the [strategic developments](#) at their past-producing Molulu Copper/Cobalt Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Russell outlined plans for essential infrastructure improvements, particularly the rehabilitation of a 28km road crucial for local logistics, which will facilitate the resumption of copper ore sales from Molulu. He also highlighted the positive outlook for the copper market, mentioning, "Copper prices have actually changed a lot... We saw the Bank of America come out and say they expect a 30% rise in the copper price within the next 12 months."

Russell also provided an update on the drill program aimed at enriching the company's mining block model and developing a JORC-compliant report, which are key steps toward escalating the Molulu project towards production. Additionally, Russell discussed the company's strategic move to expand Critical Metals' investor base with an upcoming listing on the US OTCQB market.

The interview also delved into the potential financial backing from the US Government, with Russell discussing the recent receipt of a term sheet for an \$11 million loan, supported by loan guarantees. This financial support highlights the confidence in the viability of Critical Metals' operations in the region to bring critical minerals to the global market.

To access the complete interview, [click here](#)

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About Critical Metals PLC

London listed Critical Metals plc is focused on identifying low CAPEX and OPEX brown-field projects with near-term production and cash-flow, concentrating on minerals that have strategic importance to future global economic growth. In line with this, and with an off-take partner already in place, the Company is currently focused on recommencing production at the formerly producing Molulu Copper/Cobalt Project in the Katangan Copperbelt in Democratic Republic of Congo ('DRC').

To learn more about Critical Metals PLC, [click here](#)

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Critical Metals Russell Fryer on Copper and Cobalt Plans for Production in 2024

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

In a revealing interview at PDAC 2024, InvestorNews host Tracy Weslosky engaged with Russell Fryer, CEO and Executive Director of Critical Metals PLC (LSE: CRTM), shedding light on the company's strategic operations in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and its forward-looking goals. Fryer discussed the evolving political climate in the DRC, highlighting the peaceful presidential election in December 2023 as evidence of the country's commitment to democracy and the rule of law, which is crucial for investors considering Congo-based companies. He underscored the significance of the DRC in the global supply of cobalt, essential for green energy, and the high-grade copper reserves, vital as other regions face diminishing supplies.

Navigating the Critical Mineral Investment Trail in

the Congo: Experts Weigh in on the CMI Masterclass

written by Tracy Weslosky | April 17, 2024

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has long been recognized for its vast mineral wealth. But with this abundance comes complexity. Recently, the Critical Minerals Institute (CMI) Masterclass series provided a deep dive into this rich, multifaceted topic, led by two individuals with considerable firsthand experience in the DRC: Melissa 'Mel' Sanderson, a Director for American Rare Earths Limited (ASX: ARR | OTCQB: ARRF), and Russell Fryer, CEO and Chairman of Critical Metals PLC (LSE: CRTM). Both Mel and Russell are members for the CMI Board, committed to education and B2B resources in the critical minerals sector.

Critical Metals Molulu Project to Prioritize Higher-Grade Copper Sulphide Ore

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

Copper prices have been surprisingly resilient in 2023 despite a China slowdown. This is partly because global copper grades are declining putting downward pressure on supply. It is also because there is a new demand for electric vehicles, charging infrastructure and renewable energy (solar and wind). In mining they say grade is "king" and it is very true. High-grade mines

tend to have lower costs and hence greater margins making them priced possessions. Today's company is shifting strategy to focus on high-grade copper sulphide mining with the potential to "increase profitability by orders of magnitude."

Russell Fryer of Critical Metals Plc Discusses Production from its Critical Minerals Mine in the DRC

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

In this InvestorIntel interview during PDAC 2023, Peter Clausi talks with Russell Fryer, Executive Director of [Critical Metals Plc](#) (LSE: CRTM) about some recent transactions which allowed the Company to now own 70% of the Molulu Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo ("DRC").

Russel mentions that the copper and cobalt mine is cash flow generating as it went into production in January of this year, which is an "achievement for a small-cap company" listed on the London Stock Exchange.

He also discusses the potential for further acquisitions and he works through a pipeline of potential target projects.

To access the full InvestorIntel interview, [click here](#).

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About Critical Metals PLC

Critical Metals Plc has acquired a controlling 100% stake in Madini Occidental Limited, which holds an indirect 70% interest in the Molulu copper/cobalt project, an ex-producing, medium-scale asset in the Katangan Copperbelt in the Democratic Republic of Congo. In line with its investment strategy of focusing primarily on known deposits, targeting projects with low entry costs and the potential to generate short-term cash flow; the Company brought the Molulu Project into production in January.

The Company will continue to identify future assets that are in line with its stated acquisition objective of low CAPEX and OPEX projects with near-term production, concentrating on minerals that are perceived to have strategic importance to future economic growth and generate significant value for shareholders.

To know more about Critical Metals Plc, [click here](#).

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Critical Metals PLC joins the exclusive club of copper producers with its Molulu Project in the DRC

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

Copper is often said to be the ultimate green energy transition

metal, essential for transmitting electricity for use in almost all modern day devices. Solar systems, wind turbines and electric vehicles all rely heavily on copper components.

The [International Energy Agency \(“IEA”\) forecasts](#) copper demand to increase 2-3x from 2020 to 2040, similar to [Trend Investing’s forecast](#) of 2.3x from 2020 to 2037. As we move towards a world of lower emissions, copper’s importance grows significantly.

The [top 4 copper producing countries](#) in order are Chile, Peru, China, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (“DRC”).

While the DRC has its risks, the country is known for its exceptionally high grades of both copper and cobalt. Today’s company has invested into the DRC copper/cobalt mining sector and has a new producing mine.

[Critical Metals PLC](#) (LSE: CRTM) is now a new copper producer

As [announced](#) by Critical Metals on January 26, 2023: “Copper oxide production commenced at the Molulu Project, an ex-producing copper-cobalt mine in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.” Critical Metals owns [100%](#) of Madini Occidental Limited, which holds an indirect 70% interest in the Molulu copper-cobalt project in the DRC. The project is forecast to produce an initial 120,000 tonnes pa of copper oxide ore. Critical Metals [states](#): “The copper ore produced in January 2023 will be stockpiled for sale into the market in February 2023. All copper material extracted from the mine will be sent to local processing plants, of which there are four in the Likasi and Lubumbashi areas expressing interest in purchasing Molulu copper ore.”

The Molulu Project is an ex-producing, medium scale copper-cobalt project in the Katangan Copperbelt, adjacent to producing mines previously mined by artisanal miners. Molulu has very high

grades. According to the [company](#): “Molulu’s copper grades range between 15% & 40% (sulphides) and 2% and 15% (oxides). Cobalt areas have been identified and will be drilled for confirmation”, and [comments](#): “The Project’s fundamentals provide the potential for a long lived, low capital cost and high operating margin copper and cobalt mine in the DRC.”

Critical Metals development plan

Critical Metals plans to carry out additional exploration work at the Molulu Project. A \$200,000 drill program will be designed and initiated to further delineate the copper strike length and depth and to create a JORC compliant resource. There are numerous anomalies that have been discovered and are considered worthy of further investigation in order to potentially grow the resource and ultimately production (see image below).

Heat Map of Minière Molulu Copper/Cobalt showing numerous copper and cobalt anomalies yet to be investigated further

Figure 3-2: Soil Geochemistry Copper (Cu) Anomalies

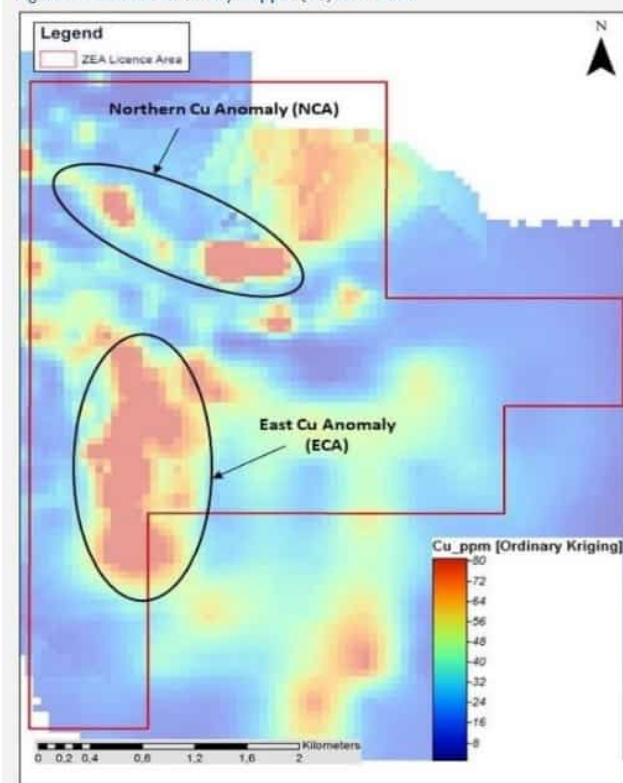
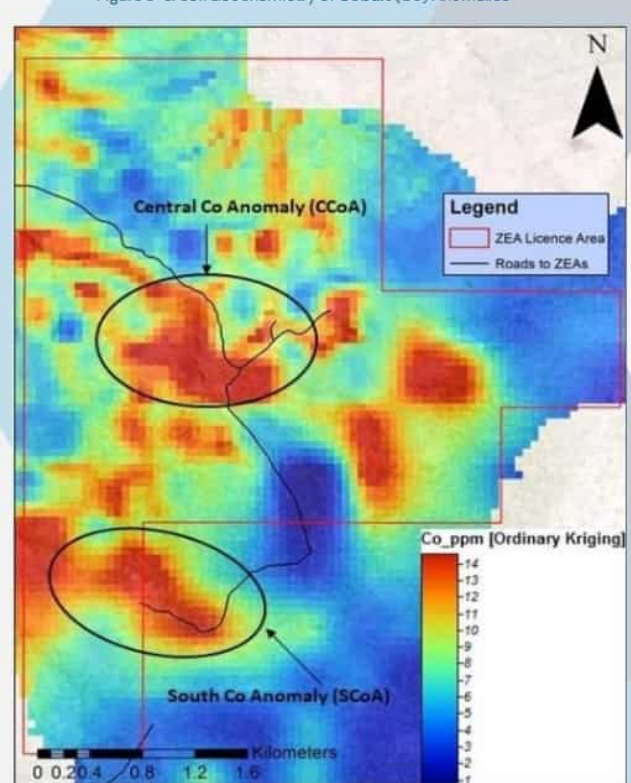


Figure 3-3: Soil Geochemistry of Cobalt (Co) Anomalies



Source: [Company presentation](#)

The Company also intends to seek further potential investment opportunities in the DRC.

Closing remarks

High grade copper and cobalt producing mines are rare but are commonly found in Katangan copper belt of the DRC. The country is not without significant sovereign risks, but if these can be managed the rewards can flow from the high grade copper and cobalt mining in the region.

Critical Metals PLC trades on a market cap of only [~C\\$15 million](#).

Critical Metals Russell Fryer on getting the Molulu Cobalt and Copper Mine Back into Production

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

In this InvestorIntel interview, Tracy Weslosky interviews [Critical Metals PLC](#)'s (LSE: CRTM) CEO and Chairman Russell Fryer to discuss an update on Critical Metals' Molulu Mine, an ex-producing copper cobalt mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo ("DRC").

Providing a timeline for production on the Molulu Mine, Russell

shares an update on when Critical Metals may begin to generate revenue from the mine. He goes on to talk about the 'King of Mining' Ian Hannam becoming a significant shareholder in Critical Metals. Discussing the strength of their team that he has put in place at Molulu already, Russell references the recent appointment of John Greeff as the Mine Manager.

To access the full InvestorIntel interview, [click here](#)

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About Critical Metals PLC

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The Company will continue to identify future assets that are line with its stated acquisition objective of low CAPEX and OPEX projects with near term production, concentrating on minerals that are perceived to have strategic importance to future economic growth and generate significant value for shareholders.

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Russell Fryer on the role of critical minerals in an Economic World War III

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

In this InvestorIntel interview, host Tracy Weslosky interviews [Critical Metals PLC](#)'s (LSE: CRTM) CEO and Chairman Russell Fryer about existing market conditions and why some experts forecast that World War III will be driven by economics and a shortage of natural resources. Citing increasing demand for critical minerals and their role in achieving a decarbonized economy, Russell explains how we are arguably already on the precipice of an Economic World War III.

Russell says that an Economic World War III will not be about missiles, tanks, and boots on the ground; but will be a war where leading countries want to control the flow of minerals that other countries require to run their economies. He goes on to talk about the criticality of copper and cobalt as the world transitions towards green energy. Adding that while copper is an important metal to conduct electricity that cobalt is a key component for building nuclear power plants – without which, we are “never going to have a Nuclear Renaissance”.

To access the full InvestorIntel interview, [click here](#)

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With sunny skies ahead, Critical Metals prepares for Copper ore production by Year- End

written by InvestorNews | April 17, 2024

With the focus of late on critical minerals, or metals or materials or however you want to describe them, it should come

as no surprise that corporate names and entities are jumping on board with the trend. Most, if not all, G7 nations now have a critical minerals strategy, and in Canada several provinces also have their own frameworks to best take address the situation, which was the main driver behind the [Dean's List](#) we did at InvestorIntel in July and August. Along those lines, InvestorIntel has also established the [Critical Minerals Institute](#), an international organization for companies and professionals focused on battery materials, technology metals, defense metals, ESG technologies and practices, the general EV market, and the use of critical minerals for energy and alternative energy production.

With that kind of introduction, how could we not have a look at one of the companies out there that is part of the club, with the right name for the times – [Critical Metals PLC](#) (LSE: CRTM). Critical Metals has acquired a controlling 57% stake in Madini Occidental Limited, which holds an indirect 70% interest in the Molulu copper and cobalt Project, an ex-producing medium-scale asset in the Katangan Copperbelt in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). In line with its investment strategy of focusing primarily on known deposits, targeting projects with low entry costs and potential to generate short-term cash flow; the Company intends on bringing the Molulu Project into near-term production. Additionally, the Company will continue to identify future assets that are in line with its stated acquisition objective of low CAPEX and OPEX projects with near-term production, concentrating on minerals that are perceived to have strategic importance to future economic growth and generate significant value for shareholders.

There are several appealing features of Critical Metals' flagship Molulu Project. For starters, it is a brownfield, ex-producing copper/cobalt project, having previously been mined by artisanal miners from 4 pits. Copper mining operations at Molulu

are planned to begin by the end of 2022 to provide near-term free cashflow. The Company [announced last week](#) the appointment of a Mine Manager and the camp is now operational and onsite developments continue. Critical Metals has contract arrangements for the required earth moving and mining equipment that will be used in copper oxide ore production, as well as a contract arrangement for a 20,000-litre diesel fuel tank to support mining operations.

The grades at Molulu are also appealing with copper grades ranging between 15% and 40% sulphides and 2% and 15% oxides. In tandem with preparing the Molulu mining restart, a \$200,000 drill program will be designed and initiated to further delineate the 3 km copper strike length and depth. Cobalt areas have also been identified and will be drilled for confirmation. Lastly, proximity to copper smelters in Lubumbashi and Likasi provide selling channels for copper and cobalt production. All this adds up to make Critical Metals not your typical junior mining company as first year cash flow minimizes future shareholder dilution and early cash flow allows for a potential market re-rating. Not bad for a Company that started trading September 12th (granted it was incorporated in May, 2018).

With that said, it's not all sunshine and lollipops for Critical Minerals moving forward. For starters, the Molulu mine is ramping up activities as the region heads into seasonal heavy rains that normally arrive at the end of the year. Despite designing a brick making process to increase and fortify the camp's infrastructure to ensure adequate protection from the seasonal heavy rains, the question remains if enough will be completed on time for this season. As well, the last 38 kilometers to the mine site (from Lubumbashi City) is on a dirt road. Although the Company plans to fund the upgrading of about 12km of this road, until this takes place, there is a risk of difficulties getting to the Project and/or trucking minerals

produced from the Project for processing in the rainy season when the dirt roads can become treacherous. Then there's the political risk, with presidential elections scheduled for December 2023 that could disrupt the relative calm seen in the DRC over recent years, plus the question of whether key markets are even willing to buy products from the DRC.

Despite some known risks, it's hard to find a mining company this close to generating revenue this quickly. Another promising fact is that Critical Metals stock price remains above the issuance price of 20 pence per share that was done in conjunction with the Molulu acquisition, where the Company successfully raised £1,800,000. With a market cap of £12.3 million (US\$14.6 million, C\$19.6 million) and ample capital to fund the Company for the foreseeable future there could be plenty of sunny days ahead. At least once the heavy rains have come and gone.

Invitation for Trump to join Lifton on the Technology Metals Show to discuss the Critical Materials Executive Order issued yesterday

written by Tracy Weslosky | April 17, 2024

This morning I raced through Fallon, Kimmel, Corden and Colbert as I do every morning with a cup of coffee. The idea? Hit the

ground running having enjoyed the late-night talk show hosts translations of the news events from the day before...

Henry Weingarten doesn't understand why I cannot commit to a [follow up interview](#), he's right – we need one. After all, in our last interview he forecasted everything from who will win the Presidential election to a bullish graphite, gold and media market this Fall. Undoubtedly we would all like to know what percentage of forecasts he is making on our capital markets that are right and which ones are wrong. Alright, we will get this done and live by next week.

Reviewing the emails, Russell Fryer of [Critical Metals PLC](#) (LON: CRTM) alerted many of this AM to the [Executive Order on Addressing the Threat to the Domestic Supply Chain from Reliance on Critical Minerals from Foreign Adversaries](#) that was published on the White House site yesterday.

Russell adds in his email: “The use of the term ‘foreign adversaries’ is quite a strong phrase, designed and inserted to call out China...” He then adds his summary points of interest:

1. the United States develops secure critical minerals supply chains that do not depend on resources or processing from foreign adversaries. (i.e. China)
2. the United States develops globally competitive, substantial, and resilient domestic commercial supply chain capabilities for critical minerals mining and processing.
3. reduce the vulnerability of the United States to the disruption of critical mineral supply chains through cooperation and coordination with partners and allies, including the private sector
4. build resilient critical mineral supply chains, including through initiatives to help allies build reliable critical

mineral supply chains within their own territories

OK, thanks Russell and kudos on listing Critical Metals PLC in London earlier this week, we are all watching to see what you do next.

Now Trump? While the content of this Executive Order is unquestionably of great interest to me and my associates in this sector, why wasn't Trump busy investing in how to clean up his post debate mess is of great interest to me. Experts tell me that the positive he is doing for critical materials will continue no matter who becomes President this Fall, but it does makes it hard to communicate what I deem to be a very positive action on his behalf when he is **not** behaving like a gentleman.

For the record, talkative is fine. After all, rare earths' experts are exceptionally talkative....

In fact, I was speaking with Jack Lifton earlier this last week and asked him about a new editorial candidate for InvestorIntel to do a regular column on our sector, and his response to one candidate was "he's good, but if you ask him the time, he will give you the history of how time was created."

My point? Give us Trump for the Technology Metals Show and I will have no challenge being the moderator with Jack Lifton as I am used to strong driven communicators with passionate positions on why we should all be buying their stock. On that note I would like to personally extend an invitation for President Trump to be on the Technology Metals Show and have Jack Lifton interview him on this Executive Order?

Now why will this work? It will work, because we are all on the same side here...when it comes to our North American issues around sustainability, we all agree. No one should ever be solely reliant on one nation for all of our Technology Metals.

See a theme here?

Before I change the point here, yes, I do plan on asking Ron Wortel to write a piece on this order ASAP. Why Ron? Well in a conversation with Ron yesterday in discussions about him taking on a regular moderator role of a critical materials editorial board (this clever idea was suggested to me by Jeff Green and his team at J.A. Green & Company last week). Ron was discussing his history in rare earths, and you know what? I think he can do it and do it well. Ron's style is understated and many of us enjoy reading well done text that is written by knowledgeable professionals that understand the business...you will of course tell me what you think – you always do.

Alright, I am running to go assist Raj Shah on putting together a Top 20 InvestorChannel Watchlist of graphite companies today. Would like to thank Julie Pacquet of [Nouveau Monde Graphite Inc.](#) (TSXV: NOU | OTCQX: NMGRF) for being the catalyst of this idea.

On a final note I am going to start calling out 'flags on the field' of the capital markets and today I would like to highlight an analyst who did what I deemed a 'smackdown' on another rare earths company in an eblast I received yesterday. Let me add, I have grown weary of advising him that his content is not my friend and have been unsuccessfully and getting off of his darn list, but hey this is simple.

How can you call out other critical material company when you sit on Boards and are presently raising funds for your own company (in the same sector of course)? When are we as investors simply going to build a wall for you and insist that you not climb over it? Consider this my brick, and as I have told you before – why can you not just market yourself without tearing someone else down, especially when you do not know what is going on.

It seems we have analysts that could use a brush up on professional behavior as well.

Enjoy your day, we will get Mr Weingarten set up for an interview, finish the InvestorChannel Graphite Watchlist, and attempt to get the news release written on the new Investor Talks video meeting series and in your inbox by Friday afternoon.

If you would like to subscribe to Investor Talks, [click here](#)