Prophecy’s Oosterman on being the only U.S. player for vanadium supply

written by InvestorNews | June 26, 2018

June 26, 2018 — “China controls about 56% of the vanadium in the world. The other two big players are Russia and South Africa. As a result, of course, it has been deemed as a strategic metal. The United States, for example, imports about 99% of its vanadium. It is a key metal in construction. It is a key metal in the aerospace industry. Really this is where our project is poised to basically be the only player in the United States for vanadium supply.” states Danniel Oosterman, Vice President of Exploration at Prophecy Development Corp. (TSX: PCY | OTCQX: PRPCF), in an interview with InvestorIntel Corp. CEO Tracy Weslosky.

Tracy Weslosky: Vanadium is one of those critical materials with regards to a lot of sustainability issues that are currently happening today that very few people understand. Would you mind giving us kind of an introduction to vanadium?

Danniel Oosterman: Vanadium, even though it is not widely known about, it is widely used and widely applied in a number of applications. The principle application is actually steel. 92% of vanadium used in the world is used in steel. A small percentage added to steel actually doubles the strength and lightens it by 30%. As such it is ideal for, not only, rebar in construction and steel for skyscraper and such, but actually it is very useful in the aerospace industry as well.

Tracy Weslosky: Of course, we cannot forget the electric vehicles and the battery storage sector.

Danniel Oosterman: The battery space is a growing space, lots of excitement. You have a lot of big players, key players, like Robert Friedland, now are paying attention to it. That really puts us in a position where we with our project may be able to access every single one of these aspects, aerospace, chemical industry, steel industry, with our project in Nevada.

Tracy Weslosky: Respectfully, to Robert Friedland, which we all know in the resource sector, we have major players, mainstream players, like Elon Musk, that are drawing attention to the requirements for vanadium in their batteries. Give us a little bit of an overview of vanadium. We know that the Chinese control 90% of the rare earth and 80% of the graphite. What do the Chinese control of vanadium?

Danniel Oosterman: Well, Tracy, China controls about 56% of the vanadium in the world. The other two big players are Russia and South Africa. As a result, of course, it has been deemed as a strategic metal. The United States, for example, imports about 99% of its vanadium. It is a key metal in construction. It is a key metal in the aerospace industry. Really this is where our project is poised to basically be the only player in the United States for vanadium supply for the United States. That really just puts our project in an advanced position. If you look at the political landscape in the United States, with Donald Trump deregulating a lot of things, he recognizes a lot of strategic value of certain metals. Principle of that, and we have had discussions with the Federal government in the United States regarding this, our project in particular is a high priority project because vanadium is considered one of these critical metals in the strategic sense that Trump has raised concern. As such we will essentially anticipate that we would move to the front of the queue in terms of our project going ahead and eventually put it into production…to access the complete interview, click here

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Northern Graphite CEO on their patent pending purification technology

written by InvestorNews | June 26, 2018
March 23, 2018 — "We were the original new graphite company a number of years ago. We have been at this a little longer than everybody else. As a result of that we have a project that has a full feasibility study. We have our major environmental permit." — states Gregory Bowes, CEO and Director of Northern Graphite Corp. (TSXV: NGC | OTCQX: NGPHF), in an interview with InvestorIntel's Andy Gaudry.

Andy Gaudry: Thank you very much for coming. How is PDAC treating you this year?

Gregory Bowes: Pretty good. It is a little more upbeat than last year.

Andy Gaudry: That is wonderful. We are talking lithium batteries.

Gregory Bowes: Yes we are.

Andy Gaudry: Can we touch more on that please?

Gregory Bowes: Yes. I think graphite is a little bit underappreciated. We hear a lot about lithium and we hear a lot about cobalt. The price of both of those minerals has appreciated substantially. The third major battery mineral is graphite. Graphite is the anode material in the battery. You cannot have a lithium-ion battery without graphite. By weight there is 10 times more graphite than there is lithium in a lithium-ion battery. Elon Musk himself said it should be called a graphite-nickel battery.

Andy Gaudry: Really? Interesting, I did not hear that. Now to your project, it is quite technologically advanced. Can you please touch on that?

Gregory Bowes: Yes. We were the original new graphite company a number of years ago. We have been at this a little longer than everybody else. As a result of that we have a project that has a full feasibility study. We have our major environmental permit. We could probably be in construction late this year or early next year. The next step is $100 million dollars Canadian in financing to build the mine. This is not a junior exploration story. This is a predevelopment story.

Andy Gaudry: That is wonderful. What kind of strategy will you be using moving forward with that technology?

Gregory Bowes: The basic mine itself produces a concentrate. In order for that material to be used in batteries it has to go through various upgrading manufacturing type steps. All of that is currently done in China. A key step is purification and they use hydrofluoric acid, which is a very nasty substance. If you want to produce anode material for batteries in the West you need an alternative process. We filed a patent in January on a proprietary purification process that we developed. The thing that makes that unique is that Hatch Engineering, which is one of the world’s preeminent process engineering companies, is the co-inventor on that patent and our technology partner. That is pretty strong third-party endorsement that we have something that has a real chance of being a commercial process that can compete with the Chinese…to access the complete interview, click here