A Million Ounces & Counting for Wesdome Gold Mines

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DIANOR is an innovative exploration company focused on advancing diamond exploration properties in Canada. The LEADBETTER DIAMOND PROJECT is its most advanced project and is located 12 kilometres north east of Wawa in Northern Ontario. It is a unique diamond deposit that in addition to diamonds contains gold, sapphires and rubies. It is also the oldest in the world being dated at 2.697 billion years old. Substantial exploration work has been conducted on the property and the Company is about to undertake a 6,000 metre drilling programme and conduct a 34,000 tonne bulk sampling programme in 2008.

- 12 km East of the Town of Wawa, Ontario
- Accessible by the Trans Canada Highway 17 and Hwy 101
- Gold and iron ore mining area
- Unique diamond property
- 2.697 billion years
- Diamonds plus gold, rubies & sapphires
- Large tonnage of diamond bearing conglomerate
- Conglomerate outcrop over 1.7 km

STRATEGY 2008-2009
- Bulk sampling program to recover between 7,000 and 13,000 carats of diamonds.
- Establish a per carat dollar value for the diamond parcel and estimate of diamond grade.
- Define a resource/reserve for portion of the property.
- Depending on positive results:
  - Proceed to pre-feasibility & feasibility studies to determine economics of mining part of the property.
  - Advanced exploration and bulk sampling of remaining areas on the property.
- Explore for and discover other diamond deposits in Canada.
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Purifying Water in the Field
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Ground Breaking Results...

2008 Highlights

- net earnings for the first six months of 2008 were
  $35.4 million on revenues of $252.9 million
- strong balance sheet (~$200 million cash) and
  no debt
- produced 7.0 million lbs of payable nickel, 14.2
  million lbs payable copper, 18,854 ozs total
  precious metals in the first half of 2008

- reported initial resources from middle portion of
  the Levack Footwall Deposit indicating mineral
  resources of 754,000 tons grading 8.09% Cu,
  1.26% Ni and 7.76 g/t (0.22 opt) Pt+Pd+Au
- declared commercial production at Podolsky
  and initiated production from Rob’s Deposit
- completed the Gold Wheaton transaction for
  $400 million in cash and shares

For further information, please contact:
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Another record exploration summer has just closed in Ontario. The continued success of explorers hasn’t slowed over the 2008 year. We have forecasts of more exploration and development dollars spent this year than 2007, and 2007 was a record!

Exploration programs have been successful in locating new (and enhancing known) mineralization across the province.

In the northwest, gold continues to be the hot commodity with Red Lake being the focus, but exploration continues in all greenstone belts. The Kenbridge Project of Canadian Arrow, the Shebandowan Nickel Project of North American Palladium and the Marathon PGM-Cu Project are advanced; Cu-Ni-PGM are northwestern Ontario projects making great headway.

In the northeast it becomes very hard to highlight the many exploration projects. Sudbury is running hard developing and exploring for Cu-Ni-PGM’s. Kirkland Lake continues to have great gold success with Kirkland Lake Gold defining new mineralization in a thought-to-be retiring gold camp. Around Timmins Cu-Ni and gold are the hottest targets with Lakeshore Gold and Timmins West extending the camp westward. Wawa has seen a resurgence of gold production with Richmont/Patricia Gold moving forward, and continuing production of Wesdome’s River Gold Mine producing its’ 1 millionth ounce. Last but not least in the northeast, by far, is the newly emerging Cu-Ni, Cu-Zn and chromite area of the Ring of Fire, McFaulds Lake! The McFaulds area is just exploding with exploration and new discoveries.

Southern Ontario has been busy also with uranium exploration and continued demands for aggregate.

To see some of these projects highlighted and presented join the Ontario Prospectors Association December 9th and 10th 2008 at the Radisson Hotel, Sudbury for the ONTARIO EXPLORATION AND GEOSCIENCE SYMPOSIUM. “Highlighting Another Successful Exploration Year.”

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“Highlighting Another Successful Exploration Year”

December 9 & 10, 2008 Radisson Hotel, Sudbury, Ontario

This event provides an excellent opportunity for industry and government to showcase their achievements of the past year. Exhibits and technical presentations will be delivered over the two days. As an added feature, the exhibit floor will be open to public review Tuesday, December 9th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The Radisson Hotel, located downtown Sudbury offers convention rates for delegates attending the Ontario Exploration & Geoscience Symposium. Contact them at 705.675.1123 and quote “0812EXPLOR”. Travel with Bearskin Airlines quote “OEGS08” to receive the convention discount.

To obtain a delegate registration or a booth application form, visit the Ontario Prospectors Associations’ website at http://www.ontario-prospectors.com. To take advantage of the delegate discount send in your form before November 21, 2008.

The Annual Ontario Prospectors Association Award will be presented at the OPA Awards Dinner the evening of Tuesday, December 9th, 2008 in the Grand Paris Ballroom (ticketed event). Dinner Speaker is renowned author Michael Barnes.

For more information contact Susan or Garry at 807.622.3284 (866.259.3727) or via email at oegs@ontarioprospectors.com.

We look forward to seeing you at the OEGS.

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I
n 2008, Canada’s Barrick Gold Corporation is marking its 25th Anniversary. Barrick stock was worth $1.20 a share when it launched on the Toronto Stock Exchange on May 2nd, 1983. Its market capitalization back then was around a hundred million dollars. Twenty-five years later its market capitalization is closer to thirty billion dollars (USD) and this proudly Canadian company is now a global enterprise. At twenty-five, Barrick is the world’s pre-eminent gold miner, with twenty-seven operating mines. It is the gold industry’s leader in reserves, production, and earnings and with the industry’s deepest project pipeline.

To commemorate the anniversary, and the milestones through the years leading to it, Barrick commissioned “Passion to Succeed: Barrick Gold at 25”. The work of Canadian business writer Daniel Stoffman, Passion to Succeed tells the company’s story in text and photographs and will be distributed in early December to employees and other stakeholders. The following excerpt recalls the company’s acquisition of Placer Dome Inc, capping a string of acquisitions that steadily built Barrick to the size it is today, beginning with the purchase of the legendary Goldstrike mine in Nevada in the late 1980s. A second excerpt considers Barrick’s next twenty-five years.

From Major to Super Major:

“I recall standing by the side of the CEO’s desk,” said Vince Borg, senior vice-president of corporate communications, “saying, ‘This is too important for the company and potentially transforming, giving us scale. We’re managing everything else going on, and if anything else pops up, we can handle that too. We should launch when we are ready to launch. Let’s go for it.’ We went at Halloween.”

The bid was considered hostile at first because Placer Dome’s directors did not want their company absorbed by Barrick. In a few months the deal became a friendly takeover and Barrick succeeded. When the deal was done, Barrick got its $10 billion Halloween “treat”; it became the largest gold producer in the world.
displacing the former leader, U.S.-based Newmont Mining Corp.

The Placer Dome deal brought with it twelve mines, four major projects, 13,000 new employees, 50 million ounces of gold reserves, 6.2 billion pounds of copper reserves, a significant amount of platinum, and increased or new presence in the United States, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Chile, South Africa, and Tanzania.

A major reason for buying Placer, says Greg Wilkins, Barrick’s CEO from 2003 to 2008 and now the company’s executive vice-chairman, was to solidify Barrick’s status as a global company. Barrick was already well established as a major gold producer. Between the purchase of Goldstrike in 1987 and Placer Dome in 2006, it had made steady progress toward that goal. In 1999, it entered Africa by buying Sutton Resources Ltd., which had two projects in Tanzania.

Then, in 2001, Barrick acquired the Homestake Mining Company,
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Looking Ahead:

Challenging times are interesting times, says Peter Munk, Barrick’s founder. Doing well despite difficulties “proves your intellectual competence, your devotion to your corporate activity, and the combined achievement level of your employees.”

A good reason for Barrick to face the future optimistically is its current pipeline of ten projects. These projects hold the promise that the company will have plenty of gold to mine for years to come. Among them are several projects in countries where Barrick already operates – Tanzania, the United States, Chile, and Argentina. Others will extend Barrick’s portfolio of mines into four additional countries: the Dominican Republic, Russia, Pakistan, and South Africa.

These projects represent a massive investment in the future of the company. “Over the next seven to ten years we’ll spend somewhere between $10 billion and $15 billion,” says George Potter, Barrick’s senior vice-president of capital projects.

One of the pillars of Barrick’s success has been its application of proven technology, most notably at Goldstrike, where it applied autoclaving on a scale never previously attempted. A good sign for the future is that the company continues to search for the technological edge in mining.

Barrick has a “mine of the future” initiative focused on technology and innovations to make operations more efficient. One thing it’s considering, says Peter Kinver, is greater use of automation. “We automated a couple of trucks at Hemlo and the productivity gains are spectacular,” he says. “They have GPS the degree of accuracy is
within centimetres. It has a sensor that knows if something gets in the way.”

In 2007, Barrick demonstrated its commitment to innovation and technology by launching the Unlock the Value program, a global scientific research project conducted through the internet. The program offers US$10 million to a scientist who can propose an effective and economically viable method to significantly improve silver recovery at the Veladero mine in Argentina. Because the silver particles in the gold reserves are encapsulated in silica, traditional processing methods recover only 6.7 percent of the silver. Barrick invited proposals from the broad scientific community, receiving 238 preliminary proposals. After review by an expert panel, 16 preliminary proposals were selected for further consideration in Phase 2. The program has four phases that test the solutions proposed, with the final phase being commercial viability testing at Veladero. Testing through the various phases may take two or more years.

“Our research and development group decided to harness the worldwide scientific community to search for solutions,” says Jacques McMullen, senior vice-president of technical services. “It reflects the emerging trend to use the internet for research, and the response far exceeded our expectations. In addition, 2,018 scientists registered with Barrick on the Unlock the Value website, building an innovation network for the future.”

What does Barrick need to do to produce twenty-five more years like the twenty-five that have now passed?

“This company has to build shareholder value. We cannot exist as a public company unless we do that,” says Munk. “Second, it has to grow, because if you’re standing still you are going backwards. If we can do those two things while maintaining our ethical standards and commitment to responsible mining, then we will be successful.”

Barrick has come a long way in twenty-five years. Where will it be after twenty-five more? “I promise it will be here,” says Munk. “It’ll be here, stronger and more powerful than ever.”
Northgate Minerals Corporation is a gold and copper mining company focused on operations and opportunities in Canada and Australia. Among the company’s assets is the **Young-Davidson property**, located on the southern part of the Abitibi belt in northern Ontario with a total resource base of 2.34 million ounces of gold.

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A Million Ounces And Counting For Wesdome Gold Mines

From L to R: Benoit Laplante - VP Operations, Rolly Uloth - President, Donovan Pollitt - VP Corporate Development

Photo Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd.
Contributed by Donovan Pollitt, P.Eng., VP Corporate Development, Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd.

Tracing its roots to Val d’Or, Quebec, Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd. recently poured their millionth ounce of gold – a testament to perseverance and old style risk-taking that built the Canadian mining industry.

Western Québec Mines Inc. was incorporated in 1946 with their principal asset being the tie-on property to the famed Siscoe Gold Mine – Val d’Or’s first and richest gold mine.

In 1987, the company built its first gold mine, the Joubi Mine in Val d’Or. Subsequently, it bought the Eagle River property near Wawa, Ontario, in 1994, creating River Gold Mines Ltd. to operate in Ontario. In 2003, the company bought the Kiena complex in Val d’Or which merged an extensive mining and milling infrastructure with its prospective surrounding land package. In 2006 and 2007, the group folded its assets under one corporate roof – Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd.

To date, the company has generated over $500 million in revenue directly. This primary wealth has contributed to government and service industries’ revenues and, most importantly, to many families in the north. The bulk of this has come from Ontario operations anchored by the Eagle River mine. A breakdown of historic production is provided below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Start – End</th>
<th>Tonnes</th>
<th>Grade (g/t)</th>
<th>Ounces</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mishi, Wawa</td>
<td>(2002 – present)</td>
<td>133,456</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>15,426</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiena, Val d’Or</td>
<td>(2006 – present)</td>
<td>378,959</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>44,188</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total to December 31, 2007</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,654,953</td>
<td>8.28</td>
<td>972,729</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>January to April 30, 2008</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eagle River</td>
<td></td>
<td>36,846</td>
<td>14.99</td>
<td>17,753</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kiena</td>
<td></td>
<td>85,559</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td>11,335</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total 2008</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>122,405</td>
<td></td>
<td>29,088</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total to April 30, 2008</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>3,777,358</td>
<td>8.25</td>
<td>1,001,817</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 1,000,000th ounce precipitated at Eagle River on April 27, 2008, then refined to doré bar and poured on June 26, 2008.
Wesdome Gold Mines Ltd. is a growing Canadian gold producer with two producing mines and three advanced exploration projects.

Wesdome has been in production for over 20 years and has produced over 1 million ounces of gold.

Wesdome seeks out undervalued opportunities in proven camps that larger players have overlooked or are unable to exploit. Wesdome's goal is to leverage its exploration and mine-building skills to create a premium, unhedged junior gold producer.

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Joubi

The Joubi Mine was located in Val d’Or immediately southeast of the Goldex Mine. Joubi operated for ten years as a custom milling operation and enabled the company to assemble an experienced operating team. At the best of times, Joubi was a self-funding underground exploration project. The mineralized zone which hosts Agnico-Eagle’s neighbouring Goldex Mine of Agnico Eagle is projected to cross onto the Joubi property at a depth of 1000 metres. Proceeds from a gold bar from Joubi facilitated the purchase of the Eagle River property.

Eagle River Mine

The Eagle River Mine has been in production since 1996 and to date has produced more than 700,000 ounces of gold from 2.4 million tonnes of ore. Recent discoveries of high grade mineralization in the western portion of the mine are now going into production. Mine site exploration has a history of replacing reserves through modest expenditures. Other known deposits in the camp are being re-examined in light of current strong gold prices.

Edwards Mine

The Edwards property was purchased in 1996 and fully permitted and placed into production from scratch within 12 months. It was a prolific, high grade satellite operation providing incremental millfeed to the Eagle River operation. Despite its awful timing regarding the gold price (1997-2002), the mine was very profitable and strategically enabled the company to protect the integrity of the Eagle River Mine during the low gold price cycle.

Mishi Mine

The Mishi property was purchased in 1998. It is located two kilometres west of the Eagle River mill. The shallow portions of the deposit have been intermittently mined by open pit methods from 2002 through 2007 generating approximately 135,000 tonnes of low cost incremental millfeed. The deposit consists of a series of five en echelon lenses hosting indicated resources of 1.04 million tonnes at a diluted grade of 5.1 gAu/tonne. Studies are currently underway to examine the economics of underground development of this asset as a satellite operation in light of recent strength in the gold market.

Kiena Mine

The Kiena Mine was acquired in 2003. Its mining and milling infrastructure complements the company’s surrounding exploration properties. Historically, the Kiena Mine produced 1.5 million ounces of gold from 10 million tonnes of ore primarily from the S50 zone which remains open at depth. Recent work has focused on developing several promising satellite deposits as part of a long-term strategy to progressively explore, develop and harvest the potential of this extraordinary land package located in the heart of the prolific Val d’Or mining camp.

The company has built and operated five gold mines in twenty years. It is truly an underground mining culture where decisions are made at the minesites not by accountants or marketing experts in far away cities. The orebodies remain open at depth and it is reasonable to assume ongoing...
persistence and a little luck will continue to replace reserves. Operations are primarily underground occupying a very discrete surface area. This factor, combined with the clean nature and simple metallurgy of the ores, reduce the ecological footprint of these significant contributors to local economies.

Wise allocation of capital in development is necessary to ensure future exploration and development access to new mineralized zones. The company has benefited from acquiring key assets during downturns in the gold price. Now that times are rosier, it is a great time to be producing from and exploring these assets. The fact that operations have survived the very low gold prices from 1997 through 2002 is an indication of the resilience of the orebodies and the resourcefulness of the miners.

Both operations have built-in milling capacity to double production so any future success in exploration and development could easily be accommodated without undue capital expense. Under current conditions of soaring construction and capital budgets, this is an advantageous luxury.

Operations are currently benefiting from the increase in gold prices. For the first six months of 2008, 43,000 ounces of gold were produced with sales averaging $921 Cdn per ounce. This generated cash flow of a little over one million dollars a month. The Eagle River mine continues to be a strong producer with recovered grades averaging 14.8 grams per tonne during the first half of 2008.

Going forward, the company sees ample potential for further growth around its existing infrastructure. Having cobbled together an impressive collection of land, mining talent and infrastructure over a 60 year history, the company believes that exploration and development of its existing properties is currently its best bet. Nonetheless, attention is always paid to potential opportunities where Wesdome's mine building experience could be applied. The impact of potential production growth on a relatively small producer like Wesdome is huge. A good gamble on a prospect that would not meet the minimum size criteria of a large company could have a major impact.

Over the years, new generations replace aging ones, yet the corporate vision and philosophy lives on. This is based on owner-operated, low overhead ventures in proven mining camps. This is underpinned by an unflagging belief that the gold price will rise substantially and significant primary wealth will be created. The golden age of gold mining will return.

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- Discovery Hole Lynx Gold Zone
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- 0.494 oz/tonne over 40 feet
- Visible Gold at 415 m
- Exploration budget C$1,000,000

KIDD TOWNSHIP PROPERTY, ONTARIO
- 20 km north of the City of Timmins
- Property is 1.5 km south of the Kidd Creek Mine
- The Kidd Creek Mine has produced 130M tonnes of base metal ore since 1966
- Property consists of 113 claims over 1948 ha
- Main targets, several untested EM anomalies
- Diamond Drilling program underway
- Exploration budget C$750,000

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one are the days when having a web presence was something only for multi-national companies with huge marketing and technology budgets. In today’s business environment, having a website is a must for any business, no matter how large or small. In fact, not having a web presence is like having a storefront in a busy shopping district, yet always having the “closed” sign displayed and the doors locked. So while people may have heard about you, they have no easy way to buy from you or to get more information about what you do.

Even if you currently have a website for your company, have you analyzed it lately? Have you looked at it from today’s perspective of web design? Have you thought about your website from the perspective of your current customers or clients? For many businesses, the answer is “no.” That is, they may have created a website several years ago, but they have made little to no changes to it since then.

In order for your website to be a true asset to your company, you need to follow some website development guidelines. Following are the top 7 tips to building a dynamic and profitable web presence for your business.

1. Whether you’re designing a site from scratch or revising an existing site, you must first have a thorough understanding of the business, product, or service your website is going to promote or sell. A good starting point is to research your competition and see what their sites look like. What about their sites do you like and dislike? While you don’t want to totally copy your competitor’s
website, you can get pointers of what works and what doesn’t work based on their design.

Make sure your website is visually appealing for the target customer you have in mind. Realize that unless you’re targeting a very young demographic, cool graphics and flash animation typically turn off a lot of customers. Also, avoid having too much clutter. Doing so can overwhelm or confuse people. However, you don’t want too much empty space either. That may make you appear as if you don’t have anything meaningful to say. It’s a fine balancing act, but one worth mastering.

Give your website a consistent look throughout. If your home page is red and has a navigation bar across the top, then every other page must match that style. Designing every page differently confuses people. As they click from page to page, they may think they left your site. Other ways to ensure a consistent look include using the same font, graphic elements, colour scheme, and layout.

Design your site so it’s easy to read. If you’re targeting seniors, make the font larger than if you were targeting teenagers. Use bullet points and lots of short paragraphs to break up the text. Additionally, keep the length of the text in your main message to one screen shot. Having a page that rambles on forever makes your site appear complicated. Keep your messages short and easy to understand.

Remember that usability is more important than aesthetics. If a website looks beautiful but doesn’t convert prospects into buyers, then it’s not an effective website. Blend your message and the technology used to deliver it seamlessly. Your site needs to engage the target consumers so they can interact with the site almost effortlessly. When that occurs, consumers will have a better feeling about your product, service, or brand, which will lead to a higher conversion rate.

Speaking of conversion rates, one of your site’s main goals needs to be converting prospect into sales. To make that happen,
you need to give visitors to your site a satisfying experience. This means having the technology that makes the site secure so people feel comfortable shopping there and giving out their credit card. So while you want your site to be entertaining, you don’t want people to be too distracted from the goal of learning more about your company or buying your product.

Be sure to work with a web designer who can analyze your site’s performance and analyze results to improve the conversion to sales ratio. Remember, your website should not be a static type of marketing tool. You need to constantly review and update it so you can improve it over time. The most successful internet marketers frequently update their site and make it more usable.

**Website Rewards**

While website design can be a complicated topic, it does follow some basic rules that anyone can master. So if you’ve had your existing website for a long time, now is the perfect time to analyze it and make changes as appropriate. And if you’re creating a new website from the ground up, keep these 7 guidelines in mind so you minimize your learning curve. Taking the time to analyze and plan your website effectively will enable you to experience greater results and higher profits in the future.

About the Author:

Peter Koeppel is Founder and President of Koeppel Direct, a leader in direct response media buying, marketing, campaign management and creative strategies. Koeppel specializes in utilizing an integrated media buying strategy including online, radio and print, in addition to television. With over 25 years of marketing and advertising experience, Peter has helped Fortune 500 companies, small businesses and entrepreneurs develop marketing campaigns to increase profits. Peter is a Wharton MBA and has improved the media buying strategies and advertising for clients such as H.J. Heinz, DIRECTV, Columbia House, The Hair Club for Men, Ben Hogan Golf, and Scholastic. For more information on his work, please visit: www.koeppeldirect.com or call: 972-732-6110.
Geotech’s Advances Increase Exploration Success

By Conrad Dix, B.Sc., Client Relations Manager, Geotech Ltd. & Quentin Yarie, P.Geo., Business Development Officer, Geotech Ltd.
When you think of Geotech, the first thing that comes to mind is VTEM (Versatile Time-Domain Electromagnetics). VTEM is a powerful helicopter-borne Time-Domain Electromagnetic system with a large dipole moment and remarkably low noise. VTEM has evolved into an everyday word in the exploration business, and it’s a word synonymous with success. With over 1,200,000 line kilometres surveyed in the past six years, the VTEM system has established itself as the globally preferred exploration tool, used on exploration programs from Sweden to South Africa, Canada to Congo, Portugal to Peru, Angola to Australia, Botswana to Brazil, United States to the United Kingdom and many places in between.

However, Geotech is more than just VTEM. We are a full-service airborne survey company offering services such as Gravity, Magnetics, Gradient Magnetometer, Radiometrics and VTEM. Our latest advancement, AirMt (Airborne Magneto-tipper) is a new and innovative system that combines some of the best features of ZTEM, which has already proven to be an extremely valuable exploration tool.

Geotech Ltd. is based in Aurora, Ontario, Canada. We have expanded our state-of-the-art research, manufacturing and engineering facilities that enable us to conduct the research and development required to bring new
advances and superior airborne survey systems and methods to the mining, engineering and environmental industries. Our managerial force has expanded in the operations, interpretation, support and sales departments, meaning that Geotech can focus on customer needs and ensure we continue to deliver a superior product to our clients.

At the present time there are two configurations of the VTEM system available, the VTEM and the VTEM-M. Both systems are technologically identical, the main differences are the size of the transmitter loop and the weight. The VTEM loop measures 26m in diameter and the VTEM-M measures 20m. Both systems incorporate the same advanced technology allowing them to measure the B-field and have the highest signal to noise ratio of any airborne EM system in the business. Both systems can be easily disassembled and packed in small enough pieces to allow it to be shipped using standard containers, therefore making it available for surveys in remote locations throughout the world.

The VTEM-M system is light-weight, more than 150km lighter than the VTEM system and an extremely versatile system, that has been designed specifically for surveying in rugged or vertically challenging terrain. While the “M” configuration has approximately half the dipole moment of VTEM, this lighter system can more easily follow difficult terrain and work at higher elevations. The VTEM-M may be smaller but it is just as accomplished as the VTEM at detecting small and complex deposits. As an example of its effectiveness, the VTEM-M response over the Caber deposit located in Northern Abitibi, Quebec, Canada, which has proved problematic to airborne EM systems, is shown in Figure 1. Here we see that even with the smaller loop diameter and half the dipole moment, the VTEM-M system clearly identifies the Caber deposit.

Geotech has made remarkable advances in technology with the VTEM system that have ensured we have maintained our position as the leading airborne EM service provider. All of the VTEM systems are equipped to survey at a low base frequency of 30Hz or 25Hz, depending on powerline frequency. VTEM can measure during the long on-pulse and derive the B-field from the integration of the entire pulse (both the on- and off-times), allowing the system to detect and resolve high conductance targets. The newest VTEM system is designed to measure the X and Z components allowing for better anomaly definition as well as measuring the vertical magnetic gradient, which therefore gives greater resolution of the data collected. VTEM also has the ability to measure early off-time responses which are useful when mapping slightly conductive features generally not to be seen in the late channels in an off-time survey or in the B-field. Having the best signal to noise ratio in the industry allows some of the most impressive depth penetration of any airborne system in use. Due to the high resolution and deep penetrating ability of the VTEM system, more and more exploration companies are foregoing ground follow up and drilling directly off the VTEM data with increasingly successful results that allow for more drill holes bringing about more discoveries.

Geotech’s latest advancement in Airborne EM systems is the AirMt (Airborne Magneto-tipper) system. AirMt is a passive EM technique, using the natural fields of the Earth as its source of transmitted energy. The system has shown superior depth penetration in test surveys, successfully mapping structures to at least 1500m deep. AirMt is poised with the potential to generate new exploration targets at depths never considered possible for an airborne system – until now.

Presently, there are 30 VTEM systems available world-wide, with 9 systems in Canada operated by Geotech Ltd., and the remaining 21 systems operated by Geotech Airborne Limited outside of North America. With a system in almost every province or territory in Canada, helping exploration and mining companies increase their rate of success in some of the hottest exploration locations in Canada such as McFauld’s Lake, The Raglan Belt, The Athabasca Basin, The Golden Triangle and Voisey’s Bay area, there is a good chance, if you look up, you may catch a glimpse of one of Geotech’s advanced airborne geophysical systems.
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— the success of our customers.

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“Geotech’s proven technology has given Goldbrook a definite advantage in identifying and targeting nickel sulphides in the Raglan Belt.”
Brian Grant, President and COO, Goldbrook Ventures Inc.

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Map Skills & GPS

Could You Pass the Tests?

Hand-held Global Positioning Systems (GPS) have made travel through wilderness easier and easier, but they can also provide a false sense of security. GPS systems are incredibly user-friendly and accurate for identifying the user’s geographic location, but they are susceptible to dying batteries, indented screens and water damage. A GPS should always be used with a map and compass in case any damage to the system occurs.

Topographic maps allow users to see much more of the landscape at once (GPS screens tend to be small and involve a great deal of scrolling). This enlarged map view makes route finding easier as obstacles between Point A and B can all be seen at once. Topographical maps reveal elevation contour lines and physical hazards and features to help choose a safe, efficient path. Companies should have a navigation program in place for workers travelling through bush. The program should include training on map, compass and GPS use.

Before workers go into the bush to navigate by map and compass, they should be able to demonstrate the following:

- Identify features on a Canadian 1:50 000 topographical map;
- Understand the scale of the map to determine distance between two points;
- Understand how contour lines and physical hazards affect route planning;
**GLOSSARY**

**Topographical Maps:** Provide details of land (as opposed to charts, which focus on water depth etc). Land details include roads and rail, density of forest cover, swamps, populated areas, etc.

**Contour Lines:** Show elevation on a topographical map. Lines that are close together indicate steep changes in elevation, good to know for route planning.

**UTM:** Refers to the Universal Transverse Mercator grid system. Topographic maps have a grid pattern over top of them, with corresponding numbers along the sides of the map used to identify location. An example of UTM coordinates would be: 18T 0424200 5097850

18T is the zone the map is in, '0424200' is the UTM equivalent of latitude and '5097850' of longitude.

**Waypoint:** A waypoint is a stored location in a GPS. It can represent a camp, work area, first aid station, anything the user feels is worth identifying. Waypoints can be recorded by entering UTM coordinates or longitude and latitude or a reading can be taken from where the user is standing. It is important to record coordinates for waypoints in a logbook in the event of GPS failure.

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[Map of Timmins Gold camp with locations of Kirkland Lake and Cadillac]

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Safety Scenarios

How good are your map skills? Workers heading into the bush, dependent on map, compass and GPS should feel comfortable responding to the following situations:

• On route to your work area, a member of your group falls and breaks his leg and goes into shock. You need to radio in with the location of your party.
• You keep seeing evidence of bears in an area five kilometres from the camp. You would like to relay this location to everyone back at base camp.
• While hiking, you spot smoke in the distance and suspect a forest fire. You need to radio in the location and wind direction to an emergency contact.

Training on map skills, GPS use and route finding is often available for local outdoors centres.

Sources:
National Green Check GPS Certification Program, www.greencheckgps.ca
Mines and Aggregates Safety and Health Association, www.masha.on.ca
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Back to Basics

Purifying Water in the Field

Water purification is essential in the backcountry. While water may appear clean, cold and refreshing, it can contain invisible microorganisms that can wreak havoc on the human digestive system.

The main culprits in water contamination are two microscopic cysts: giardia and cryptosporidium. These cysts find their way into the water system through animal waste. Giardia (also known as ‘beaver fever’ for the high concentration of cysts found near beaver dams) remains dormant in the human body for one to three weeks, which can lead to a false sense of security for people drinking untreated water in the outdoors. The consequences of ingesting these cysts are quite severe and include diarrhea, vomiting, abdominal cramps and nausea that can last from one week to one month. The risk of dehydration is quite high and medical attention should be sought immediately.

There are three main methods for eliminating these organisms from your drinking water: boiling, chemical additives and filtering—each with its own advantages and disadvantages. Deciding which method is best for you will depend on how much time you are able to spend purifying water, what you’d like it to taste like and how much money you are willing to spend.

**Boiling:**
Boiling is the oldest and most trusted method of removing bacterial contamination from water. Once water has been brought to a boil (1/2 inch bubbles breaking the surface) it is considered clean. The method is simple and effective, but requires fuel, time and access to a heat source and cooking utensils to purify water. Flavour wise, the water is left with a very flat taste. The taste can be improved by pouring the water quickly from one container to another or by adding juice crystals.

**Water Filters:**
Water filters treat water by forcing water through a ceramic or glass-fiber filter to remove contaminants. An intake tube is placed in a water source and then water is hand-pumped through the filter. A recommended filter is one with “1.0 micron absolute pore size.” This captures anything bigger than one micron from passing through the filter. Giardia and cryptosporidium cysts are approximately four to five microns in size. Filters are extremely sensitive - treat them gently to avoid cracking. Pay attention to when the filter needs to be replaced.

**Iodine and Chlorine:**
Iodine and chlorine are chemical additives that can be used to treat water. Neither additive is effective against cryptosporidium, and both additives are more effective in the summer months when water temperatures are warmer. Iodine can treat water at 20 Celsius in 30 minutes, in colder conditions water may have to sit overnight. Because of the sensitivity of filters (if dropped the filter can break) iodine and chlorine are a good back-up method to have on hand. Bottles of iodine and chlorine are small, lightweight and inexpensive.

Water purified by chemical additives has a distinct taste, which can be resolved by adding juice crystals. Make sure to add your juice crystals after the water has been treated. If not, the iodine will bond with sugar crystals instead of giardia and cryptosporidium. Iodine is not recommended for long-term use (more than three months) and is not recommended for people with thyroid problems, people using lithium or pregnant women.
Where to Draw Your Water From

Certain parts of lakes and rivers are more likely to offer clean drinking water than others. While there is a risk of contamination in all surface water, you can decrease your risk by seeking out certain areas to draw water from and avoiding others.

- Take water from the middle of the lake when possible.
- Fast moving rivers offer a good source of drinking water.
- Avoid stagnant ponds and beaver dams.
- Avoid shoreline water.
- Avoid water near camps.
- In winter it is best to obtain water from a hole in the lake. Make sure to check ice conditions first!

Avoid Murky Water

It is much easier and more effective to purify clear water than silty water. Silty or murky water can clog filtration systems. Silt can also tamper with chemical additives - iodine may bond with silt instead of bacteria. To avoid murky water, take the following precautions:

- Keep the end of the filtration tube on the surface of the water, don’t let it rest against the bottom.
- Remove silt from water by filtering through a bandana or coffee filter before purifying.
- Let untreated water can sit overnight to let the particles sink, then pour off water to be purified.

Water Purification Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Effectiveness</th>
<th>Taste</th>
<th>Cost/Effort</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Boiling</strong></td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Flat water taste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Requires extra fuel and time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chemical Additives</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iodine</td>
<td>Temperature Dependent</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Can be adjusted with flavour crystals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Inexpensive, works best in warm temperatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine</td>
<td>Temperature Dependent</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>Can be adjusted with flavour crystals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Inexpensive, works best in warm temperatures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Filtration Systems</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Individual Filter</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Approx $100 plus new filters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Requires time and effort to pump water through filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Group Filter</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Approx. $1200 4L/minute for approx. 98,000 litres</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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