Mt Carlton

Overview

Evolution Mining is a leading growth focussed Australian gold company forecasting to produce between 770,000oz and 820,000oz gold in FY16. It is also the largest gold producer in Queensland and is expected to produce between 332,500oz and 362,500oz gold from its four Queensland assets. Mt Carlton is expected to produce between 80,000 and 87,500 gold equivalent ounces at a cash cost (C1) of A$525 - A$575/oz, AISC of A$760 - A$810/oz in FY16.

Location: 150km south of Townsville
Producing: Gold, silver and copper
Site management: Richard Hay – General Manager
Mine Site contact number: +61 7 4422 0100

History

- Small leases pegged over the Mt Carlton United prospect, hand picked copper ore shipped to Mt Isa for processing
- Ashton Mining applied for EPMs over Clarke Range area, covering Mt Carlton
- Gold Fields Australia joint ventured into the MIM tenements while exploring the Crush Creek prospect
- Discovery of V2 mineralisation 46m grading 9.11g/t Au, 68g/t Ag, 1.1% Cu
- April: Pre-feasibility study completed
- November: Merger of Conquest and Catalpa to form Evolution Mining and concurrent acquisition of 100% of Newcrest assets
- December: Mining lease granted, Mt Carlton project construction commenced
- March: First concentrate produced
- April: Official mine opening
- July: Commercial production commenced

Geology

The Mt Carlton project is a high sulphidation epithermal style deposit with mineralisation occurring within felsic volcanic rocks on the northern margin of the Permian Bowen Basin. The project is comprised of gold, silver and copper. Later andesitic volcaniclastics overlies a rhyolitic sequence which in turn underlies a package of sediments and conglomerates. Mineralisation is structurally controlled which is exclusively hosted within the advanced argillic altered rhyodacite. Discrete and discontinuous steeply dipping ENE trending breccia dominated quartz - sulphosalt infilled veins form high grade bonanza lodes. Paragenetically, the sulphosalts replace sphalerite and galena which are associated with late stage copper sulphides. Coarse gold occurs as small grains (0.1 mm) at quartz-sulphide infill contacts and in sulphosalts. Basaltic/doleritic dykes which mirror pre-existing structures cross cut mineralisation.

- Reserves: 4.45Mt @ 4.40g/t Au for 625koz
- Resources: 8.82Mt @ 3.07g/t Au for 871koz

Mining

Mining production is derived solely from the V2 deposit following the completion of the silver rich A39 deposit in FY14. The V2 deposit is flat lying and situated 20m to 180m below surface and is 70m thick with a 500m by 500m areal extent. Mining is by conventional drill and blast, load and haul methodologies, mining 5m benches in 2.5m flitches.
Mt Carlton CONT

Mining CONT

- Mining method/s: Conventional open pit mining
- Ore mined: 0.93Mt ore per year (FY16 budget)
- Waste mined: 3.0Mt per year (FY16 budget)
- Mining contractor: Owner operator
- Mine work roster: 8/6 days day shift / night shift rotation
- Haulage / mine trucks: 3 x Caterpillar 777F dump trucks
- Shovels / excavators / loaders: 1 x 1200 excavator, 2 x Caterpillar 980 loaders
- Dozers: 1 x Cat D10N
- Haul road maintenance regime/equipment: 1 x Caterpillar 14M grader, 1 x 773 water truck
- Drilling equipment: 2 x Panterra 1500, 1 x Panterra 1100, 1 x Atlas Copco L8
- Explosives: Johnex emulsion
- Blasting contract services: Cardross Mining
- Mine communications products/systems: Digital two-way radio communications via repeater station
- Mine survey equipment/products: Leica GPS / solar power base station / repeater
- Mine planning software: Surpac, MineSched, Leapfrog and MP3 for geological modeling

General

- Drive in Drive out service provider(s): Detour Coaches with buses to Townsville and Bowen
- Accommodation: Available for up to 200 people
- Mine workforce: 290 employees & contractors
- Mine workforce: Approximately 20-25% employees are local from Bowen Ayr Burdekin region. Apprenticeships and traineeships will draw on the local community for these roles
- Community: Evolution strives to enable all work activities related to its operations to be carried out safely and with all reasonable measures taken to remove or reduce risks to the health, safety and welfare of personnel, plant and equipment. Evolution is also committed to attaining an outstanding level of environmental performance in all of its workplaces
- Community: Evolution has a strong corporate culture and commitment to proactively and positively engage with the communities in which we operate. We recognise the need to proactively consult and understand the values, needs, beliefs, traditions and sensitivities of the communities in which we operate. Our community-focused programs are built around the belief that working collaboratively leads to more appropriately targeted and sustainable social initiatives
Processing Plant

Ore treatment / processing method/s: Crushing, grinding and bulk sulphide flotation to produce a polymetallic concentrate

Nominal treatment rate: Design capacity of 800,000tpa

Delivery: Concentrate trucked to port in Townsville and shipped to Shandong, China. Trip from Townsville port to smelter takes around three weeks for gold concentrate

Sale agreements: Guoda Gold Co Ltd: Gold concentrate from V2 deposit

Annual average throughput rate: 103tph (FY15). Design 100tph

Crushing plant total capacity: 250tph

Power: National grid via Ergon Energy

Primary crushing/grinding plant/ machinery: Single stage crushing, single toggle jaw 1,067mm x 760mm, feed size 500mm, produce size P80 120mm

Grinding plant equipment: Single SAG mill (7.32m x 3.8m EGL) with 32,000kW installed power, steel lined, 22 x 20mm discharge grates, 2 x 50mm pebble ports, trommel grate discharge with trommel screen, classification Warman Cavex 400mm cyclones

Grinding media: Blend of 125mm and 105mm forged steel balls

Screening/plant equipment: Trash screen horizontal vibratory 1.2m x 3.0m, polyurethane deck 13mm x 1.2mm cross flow slots

Recycle crusher: 2 x Sandvik cone crushers, nominal CSS of 8mm

Mineral liberation plant/equipment: Flotation circuit consists of 6 x Metso RCS 40 cells (Rougher/Scavengers) & 9 x Metso RCS 5 cells (cleaners), 2 x IsaMill M500 (regrind mill)

Mineral recovery plant/equipment: Delkor concentrate thickener (8.0m), 2 x concentrate storage tanks, Outotec LAROX Pf1052 filter press, Delkor tailings thickener (14.0m)

Process pumps: Majority of process pumps Warman, split casing. Cyclone feed pumps Warman 1500EE-MCU. Tails pumps Warman 4/3DD-AH

Chemical/reagents used: PAX (Potassium Amyl Xanthate), DSP009 (Thionocarbonate collector), frother, flocculant, lime

Final product storage handling: 2 tonne capacity bulk storage bags are filled with filtered concentrate via a materials handling screw. Bags are transported to Townsville storage facility to await shipment

Process control system: Citect SCADA

Maintenance system: Pronto

Processing and maintenance work roster: 4 shifts, 8/6 roster