

5 November 2012

JAMBREIRO FEASIBILITY STUDY CONFIRMS LOW COSTS, STRONG ECONOMICS FOR 2MTPA IRON ORE OPERATION

FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION ON TRACK FOR Q1 2013; ON-SITE CONSTRUCTION PLANNED FOR APRIL 2013

- Jambreiro Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) demonstrates strong returns from Centaurus' first planned iron ore project in Brazil, with key highlights including:
 - \circ A\$140M post-tax NPV₈ and 33% IRR at life-of-mine average mine gate domestic iron ore price of A\$47/tonne;
 - 2Mtpa operation delivering a high grade (+65% Fe), low impurity sinter blend concentrate product into the domestic steel industry in SE Brazil over an initial mine life of 9 years;
 - Extremely competitive mine gate cash operating costs (life-of-mine C1 cost plus royalties) of A\$16.2/tonne of sinter blend concentrate product;
 - Life-of-mine revenue of A\$847M and EBITDA of A\$556M;
 - Annual average operating cash flows of A\$62M;
 - Pre-production capital estimate (including contingency) of A\$136M; and
 - Capital payback period of 2.25 years.
- Off-take discussions with potential domestic customers progressing, with Jambreiro product gaining acceptance as a longer term source of consistent high-grade, low impurity product.
- Environmental approvals and Mining Lease application well advanced and on schedule. Environmental Impact Assessment approved and the key Preliminary Licence issued with the Installation Licence application now lodged.
- Debt financing discussions advanced with a number of indicative term sheets received and a select group of international banks to review the BFS and provide credit-approved term sheets capable of acceptance.
- Final Investment Decision (FID) on track for Q1 2013, with interim Board approval received for expenditure of A\$4.0M to progress detailed engineering design and order long-lead capital items.
- Project Execution Plan (PEP) sees the Company targeting commencement of on-site construction in April 2013 and commissioning the Jambreiro Project in December 2013 to become a low-cost producer of iron ore into the Brazilian domestic market.
- Opportunities to also sell high-quality Jambreiro product into international export markets are being analysed.
- Existing cash reserves of A\$27M, providing a strong platform to move forward.

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Centaurus Metals (ASX Code: **CTM**) is pleased to announce that it is on track to become a low-cost iron ore producer in Brazil within 15 months after delivering a positive Bankable Feasibility Study (BFS) on its flagship **Jambreiro Iron Ore Project** in south-east Brazil, which outlines a robust 2Mtpa project capable of generating revenues of **A\$847 million** and EBITDA of A**\$556 million** over its initial 9-year life.

The strong economics of the proposed A\$136 million development – including a **A\$140 million** post-tax NPV₈ and **IRR of 33%** for a 2Mtpa operation – provide a strong foundation for the Company to lock down off-take arrangements and debt finance to facilitate a Final Investment Decision by the Board in Q1 2013.

At the heart of the BFS results are exceptionally **low forecast mine gate cash operating costs (C1 + Royalties) of A\$16.2/tonne**, which will position Centaurus at the bottom end of the global cost curve and underpin its ability to generate strong operating margins at all stages of the commodity price cycle.

The work undertaken by Centaurus' engineering team during the BFS has put the Company in a position where it is able to immediately order long-lead time items and commence detailed engineering design and procurement activities for the Jambreiro Project. Interim Board approval for expenditure of A\$4.0 million has been obtained to commence detailed engineering and begin ordering long-lead items.

The Company's Project Execution Plan (PEP) has been built around commencement of on-site construction immediately following receipt of an Installation Licence (LI), anticipated in April 2013. On-site construction is planned to take around eight months – by which time the Company is expected to have its Mining Lease granted, enabling it to commence full-scale production.

Both the environmental and mining approvals processes are well advanced and on schedule, as evidenced by the recent approval of the Environmental Impact Assessment and grant of the key Preliminary Environmental Licence (LP). The Company has also now lodged its Installation Licence application.

Centaurus' Managing Director Mr Darren Gordon, said:

"The completion of the BFS is a major milestone for the Company, particularly considering that we only acquired this Project in mid-2010. The team at Centaurus has done a great job in pulling the BFS together in a timely fashion while maintaining the low capital and operating cost levels demonstrated in the Pre-Feasibility Study last year.

"The BFS clearly shows that Jambreiro is a quality project, with strong technical fundamentals and financial returns from an initial 9-year mine life based on the friable material only. The strong economics are underpinned by the very low operating cash costs forecast of just A\$16 per tonne of final product, which are a function of the low stripping ratio, the free-digging nature of the friable material and the extent of natural liberation of the ore.

"Given the recent volatility seen in global iron ore prices, the Company has positioned itself well with operating costs that should be competitive in any price cycle and still generate strong returns.

"The Centaurus team has worked extremely hard in delivering this result for shareholders and, while there is still much work to be done, they can be very proud of the results achieved to date.

"We look forward to establishing our off-take arrangements in the Brazilian Domestic market and locking down our overall debt and equity finance package for the Project. The Company expects to make a Final Investment Decision in early Q1 2013, putting us on track to start construction shortly thereafter."

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Ore Reserve – Friable

The Company's total Measured, Indicated and Inferred Resource at Jambreiro presently stands at 125Mt grading 26.7% Fe. The Reserve estimation converted 90% of the Measured and Indicated Friable Resource base of 53.7Mt grading 28.4% Fe into Ore Reserves of 48.5Mt grading 28.1% Fe.

Full details of the Ore Reserve estimation were released separately earlier today. A summary of the Ore Reserve estimate is provided in Table 1 below:

Friable Ore Reserve Classification	Mt	Fe%	SiO₂%	Al ₂ O ₃ %	Р%	LOI %
Proven	35.4	28.5	49.6	4.3	0.04	1.7
Probable	13.1	27.2	49.0	5.3	0.04	2.4
Total	48.5	28.1	49.4	4.6	0.04	1.9
Global Mineral Resource Classification	(Friable +	Compact)				
Measured	46.7	28.3	51.0	4.2	0.04	1.6
Indicated	35.5	26.5	49.9	4.3	0.05	1.7
Inferred	42.9	25.3	49.5	4.5	0.06	1.3
Total	125.2	26.7	50.2	4.4	0.05	1.5

Table 1 – Friable Ore Reserves and Global Mineral Resources, October 2012

Mineral Resources are inclusive of Ore Reserves

The in-situ Ore Reserve upgrades to a high-grade sinter blend concentrate product with low impurities. The Company has shown during pilot plant test work that it can produce a concentrate product grading up to 67% Fe if required to meet the demand of its proposed customers in the Brazilian domestic market.

The friable Ore Reserve will provide the Company with approximately 18Mt of high-grade Sinter Blend Concentrate, at a metal recovery of 90%, underpinning the initial 9-year mine life at Jambreiro.

The average strip ratio for the first four years of the operation is 0.58:1, with the total life-of-mine strip ratio of only 0.97:1 based on a total material movement of 95.3Mt.

BFS Background and Assumptions

Significant work has been undertaken in the following areas to facilitate the completion of the BFS, including:

- Estimating Measured and Indicated Resources;
- Pit designs and mine sequencing;
- Geotechnical, water and waste management studies;
- Converting Resources into Proven and Probable Ore Reserves;
- Definition of mine fleet requirements and costs over the initial life of the project;
- Detailed beneficiation test work (including pilot plant testing) and process flow sheet design;
- Initial plant design with detailed capital equipment lists and pricing;
- Earthworks and civil estimation and competitive pricing;
- Construction quantity take-offs for concrete, piping & valves, electrical and instrumentation;
- Financial assessment including detailed work on the Brazilian tax regime; and
- Direct market information for the price of iron ore in the domestic market.

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The Study was prepared in conjunction with the leading Brazilian engineering groups Contecmina, WALM and BNA Micromine Consultoria.

Contecmina focused on the pilot plant test work, process flowsheet, the plant design and infrastructure for the Project, including the associated capital and operating costs, while BNA Micromine focused on Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves estimations, mining fleet requirements and mine capital and operating cost estimates.

WALM managed the geotechnical aspects of the Project with particular emphasis on water management and the design of the tailings dam and waste dumps. The Company managed the financial modelling and economic assessment of the Project.

The BFS for Jambreiro is based on annual production of 2Mtpa of high-grade sinter blend concentrate, all sales into the domestic market at FOB mine gate prices and initial Friable Proven and Probable Ore Reserves of 48.5Mt grading 28.1% Fe (90% conversion of the total friable Measured and Indicated Resource base).

The key assumptions used in the BFS are set out in Table 2 below with key financial outcomes set out in Table 3. The Site Layout Map for the Jambreiro Project is shown in Figure 1 below, with the detailed plant layout shown in Appendix A.

Key Assumption	
Ore Reserves	48.5Mt
Grade	28.1% Fe
Metal recovery per dry tonne	90%
Reserve – Final Product	18Mt
Grade	+64.5% Fe
Waste Movement	46.8Mt
Total Material Movement (Including pre strip)	95.3Mt
Waste to Ore Ratio (LOM)	0.97 to 1
Production Rate	2Mtpa
Average LoM Exchange Rate AUD to BRL	1.90
Average LoM Exchange Rate AUD to USD	0.86
Average LoM Exchange Rate USD to BRL	2.21
Average Sales Price – FOB Mine Gate	A\$47/dmt
Discount Rate	8%

Table 2 – Key BFS Assumptions

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Figure 1 – Jambreiro Project Site Layout Map



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Table 3 – Key Financial Outcomes

Key Financial Outcome	Total
Total Revenue	A\$847 million
EBITDA	A\$556 million
Capital Costs	A\$136 million
Annual Average Operating Cash Flow	A\$62 million
Operating Cash Cost (per tonne Product - LoM)	A\$16.2/dmt
NPV ₈ Pre- tax	A\$242 million
NPV ₈ Post- tax	A\$140 million
Pre Tax IRR	47%
Post Tax IRR	33%

Pre-Production Capital Costs

The total pre-production capital costs for the initial Project have been estimated at A\$136.0 million at an AUD: BRL exchange rate of 2.0, which equates to a very attractive A\$68 per tonne of annual production.

While some cost escalation in Brazil has been experienced since the time of the Pre-Feasibility Study, the strengthening Australian Dollar has offset the impact of this escalation, enabling the Company to maintain its pre-production capital expenditure in line with the capital estimate completed at the time of the Pre-Feasibility Study.

The CAPEX estimate for the BFS now includes the cost of pre-strip mining and the mining fleet required to commence operations. Previously the mining fleet costs had been considered under a lease arrangement and recorded as an operating cost. Additional capital expenditure, particularly replacement of mining fleet items, will be required as the Project progresses but these costs have been considered as part of the overall project cash flows.

The low capital costs are predominantly a function of the ore type at Jambreiro. Because the ore is highly friable and naturally liberated, the plant only requires limited comminution to break up the small amount of loosely agglomerated material. A low ball charge grinding mill is used to control product silica levels to suit various customer requirements. The BFS has also seen the Company effectively introduce a Jig into the front of the processing plant to allow a relatively coarse product to be extracted direct to final product, thereby reducing the size and operating cost of downstream milling and magnetic separation equipment.

The major silica separation task is performed in wet high intensity magnetic separators (WHIMS) after removal of a small amount of remnant magnetite direct to final product.

A little under half of the direct capital investment is for the physical equipment items with the balance of investment required for earthworks, supply and placement of reinforced concrete foundations, fabricated steel and piping and electrical energy transmission and distribution within the beneficiation plant.

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Table 4 – Jambreiro Project Capital Cost Schedule

Capital Equipment	Total (A\$ m)
DIRECT COSTS	
Pre Strip & Mine Preparation	2.1
Mobile Equipment	5.9
Crushing & Screening	12.9
Jig	10.8
Ball Mill	14.8
Magnetic Separation	13.9
Filtration & Thickening	12.3
Product Handling	4.4
Tails Management & Water Recovery	6.8
Water Supply	2.2
Power Supply	17.3
Industrial Support Facilities	3.4
Administrative Support Facilities	3.1
Commissioning , Spares + First Fill	0.6
TOTAL DIRECT CAPEX	110.5
INDIRECT COSTS	
Detailed Engineering & EPCM	8.3
Owner Costs	3.6
Other indirect	4.1
TOTAL INDIRECT CAPEX	16.0
CONTINGENCY (7.5% of Direct & Indirect Capex)	9.5
TOTAL CAPEX	136.0

Operating Cash Costs

The C1 operating cash costs plus royalties over the life-of-mine (LoM) at the mine gate are a very attractive A\$16.2 per tonne of sinter blend concentrate product. A breakdown of the operating cash costs is provided in Table 5 below:

Table 5 – Jambreiro Project Life of Mine Operating Cash Costs

Operating Costs	A\$ per Tonne Product
Mining	4.1
Processing & Beneficiation	8.1
Administration	2.3
SITE OPERATING CASH COST (C1)	14.5
Royalties – Government and Landowner	1.7
TOTAL OPERATING CASH COSTS (C1 + Royalties)	16.2

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The mine operation costs are low due to the friable nature of the ore, which does not require drill and blast for the first four years of production and the short haulage distances to the ROM and waste dumps arising from enhanced mine planning and design.

The larger components of the operating costs comprise diesel fuel, labour and power. Power has been estimated at BRL\$247 (A\$130) per Megawatt hour, fuel has been costed at BRL\$2.00 (A\$1.05) per litre and labour assumes a full-time on-site workforce of 286 people, which is typical of a project of Jambreiro's size in Brazil, utilising smaller, locally sourced plant and equipment under a company operated mining fleet.

In addition to the operating cash costs, the BFS has allowed for a Federal Government (CFEM) Royalty of 2% and Landowner royalty of 1.85% on the value of iron ore sales revenue, less certain allowable deductions for taxes charged in Brazil.

For the purposes of the BFS, the financial modelling assumes that product will be sold FOB mine gate and, as such, transport costs have not been directly considered in the operating costs. The transport costs have, however, been extensively studied during the BFS process. Transport costs are approximately A\$0.12 per tonne kilometre for a transport cost of A\$21 per wet tonne of sinter blend concentrate to the target customer base.

The Company has been working closely with local truck builders, Pastre, and fleet management group, LM Transport to optimise the haulage fleet design to maximise payload and minimise cost.

Pricing Assumptions & Domestic Sales Market

Centaurus has undertaken extensive analysis of the current pricing regime in the domestic market with input from leading international market authority, CRU Strategies. The Company's analysis indicates that iron ore is sold to both domestic steel mills and established large Brazilian iron ore mining companies. Steel mill pricing is a function of the prevailing international export markets less logistic charges back to the mill's location.

Consequently, an analysis of the domestic market pricing is in essence an analysis of the international iron ore pricing environment. In this regard, the Company has examined the iron ore price forecasts by the major international investment banks as well as independent authorities such as CRU Strategies.

The domestic steel mills have indicated that they are impressed by the high-grade low impurity sinter blend concentrate to be produced from the Jambreiro Project and the ability of Centaurus to deliver this product on a long-term consistent basis.

For the purpose of the BFS, Centaurus has estimated an FOB mine gate price curve over the life of the Project, starting at a price of US\$55/dmt in CY 2014. This price is referenced against an international landed China price forecast (adjusted for iron grade) of US\$130/dmt, and then declining over the 9-year mine life in a similar profile to forecasts for seaborne traded iron ore prices. The curve results in a conservative annual average real price of US\$40.4/dmt (A\$47/dmt) FOB mine gate being utilised to assess the economics of the Project.

The Company believes that this pricing profile reflects current and future market forecasts and makes sufficient allowance for the cost of internal logistics to land ore at the various domestic steel mills. The price will also ensure that Centaurus can facilitate early market penetration for Jambreiro products.

Concurrently with establishing a strong domestic market for the Jambreiro sinter blend concentrate, the Company is analysing opportunities to sell the high quality Jambreiro product to international export markets.

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Sensitivity analysis indicates that the Project is most sensitive to iron ore prices followed by exchange rates, discount rates, operating expenditure and capital expenditure. The degree of sensitivity is represented in the Tornado chart in Figure 2 below. The values used for each variable under each case and the impact on post-tax NPV is summarised in Table 6 below:

2 Mtpa	Case				Post Tax – NPV (A\$M)					
Variable	-20%	-10%	Base	+10%	+20%	-20%	-10%	Base	+10%	+20%
Average LoM Price (FOB Mine) A\$/dmt	38	42	47	52	56	73.9	106.8	139.6	172.4	205.2
Capital Expenditure (A\$M)	163	150	136	122	109	119.6	129.6	139.6	149.6	159.6
Direct Operating Expenditure (A\$M/dmt)	17.4	16.0	14.5	13.1	11.6	117.4	128.5	139.6	150.7	161.9
Foreign Exchange Rate R\$/A\$	2.28	2.09	1.90	1.71	1.52	116.3	126.9	139.6	155.1	174.5
Discount Rate %	10	9	8	7	6	119.1	129.0	139.6	151.0	163.1

Table 6 – Values used for Sensitivity Analysis of 2Mtpa Concentrate Production Scenario





Financing of the Project

It is expected that the Jambreiro Project's capital costs will be financed through a combination of debt and equity. The Company has received a number of indicative term sheets from project financiers and a select group of leading international banks will be invited to undertake detailed due diligence of the BFS results and provide credit approved terms capable of acceptance by the Company.

Concurrently with this process, the Company will consider the best avenue to source the equity funding required to develop the Project such that the Project Execution Plan is not compromised. The ability to participate in funding quality project development opportunities such as Jambreiro is one of the reasons the Company has attracted 19.6% strategic shareholder, Atlas Iron Ltd, to its Share Register.

Project Implementation Plan

The project site implementation will start upon the approval of the Installation Licence (LI) expected in April 2013. Plant construction and pre-strip mining will be carried out from April to November 2013. Plant commissioning is planned for November 2013, and the production ramp-up should occur from December 2013 to April 2014.

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In order to allow for the tight time constraints of construction, the BFS has defined long-lead time items, has considered manufactured equipment procurement and plans for the use of off-site fabrication of buildings and metallic support structures for process equipment and instead of conventional concrete. This is aimed at reducing the site execution time, minimising the peak execution work force and reducing the risks of weather and other delays.

Interim Board approval for an expenditure of A\$4.0 million, has been provided for the immediate commencement of detailed engineering and the procurement processes for the long-lead capital items.

Where possible, off-site fabrication will be undertaken before the approval of the LI. On-site construction fronts will then occur simultaneously to enable the commissioning in November 2013.

To ensure that the project implementation timeline is met, Centaurus will establish a project team from the commencement of detailed design through to ramp-up. Contracting of construction and erection works in an EPC contract will be then managed by this team and supported by a dedicated management company. Turnkey supply and installation packages will be used for some major installations.

Simultaneously, Centaurus will start contracting the operational staff to supervise and monitor the prestripping contractor and to recruit and train the rest of mining operations team.

The ramp-up of operations is scheduled to begin in December 2013, aiming to achieve 100% plant design capacity before the end of April 2014.

Environmental Approvals and Project Development Timetable

The Company received its Preliminary Licence (LP) on 20 October 2012 and has now lodged its Installation Licence Application. The application of the LP was approved in seven months, reflecting the quality of the work undertaken to prepare the application, and the fact that the area of the mine development is predominantly covered by eucalypt trees and is already considered disturbed land.

Furthermore, the strong social and economic benefits that will flow to the region from the development of the Jambreiro Project have also helped create a very positive relationship with local communities and stakeholders.

The Company expects to be able to secure its Installation Licence in April 2013 and immediately commence on-site construction of the Jambreiro processing plant. The Mining Lease is expected to be formally granted in Q3 2013 after all other key approvals have been obtained.

Project and Mine Life Upside Beyond Friable Jambreiro Project

The JORC Mineral Resource base at Jambreiro now stands at 125.2Mt grading 26.7% Fe and remains open at depth. The total Friable component of the resource, including Inferred, is 65.8Mt grading 27.7% Fe with a further 59.4Mt grading 25.6% Fe forming the Compact component.

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Pit optimisation work using similar technical and economical parameters as the Ore Reserve study, with cost adjustment for the compact ore, indicates that the following JORC Resources lie within a larger conceptual open pit, provided Inferred Resources are able to be converted to higher Resource categories with additional drilling:

In Pit Resource	- 102.6Mt at 26.7% Fe (82% of the Global Resource base – 125.4Mt)
Strip ratio	- 1.05:1
Potential Product	- 36.3Mt of +64% Fe sinter blend concentrate for an 18.2 year mine life

This conceptual in-pit Resource includes the current JORC Ore Reserve of 48.5Mt, which accounts for 90% of the friable resources. The remaining 54.1Mt includes 33.8Mt of Measured and Indicated Resources and a further 20.3 Mt of Inferred Resources¹. These resources which are almost exclusively compact ore, represent a strong opportunity to continue mining beyond the initial friable project by up to a further 9 years.

It is the Company's intention to pursue cash flow in the first instance from the friable ore reserves and then undertake additional drilling to convert the remaining JORC Inferred resources (within the larger conceptual open pit limit) to Indicated status once profitable operations have commenced.

Outside of the currently defined resources at Jambreiro, the Company is confident that it will define friable ore resources from within trucking distance of the Jambreiro Processing Facility and allow the Company to continue operations beyond the initial 9-year mine life or lift production of friable material beyond the 2Mtpa currently planned.

-ENDS-

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Competent Person's Statement

The information in this report that relates to Exploration Results and Mineral Resources is based on information compiled by Roger Fitzhardinge who is a Member of the Australasia Institute of Mining and Metallurgy and Volodymyr Myadzel who is a Member of Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Roger Fitzhardinge is a permanent employee of Centaurus Metals Limited and Volodymyr Myadzel is the Senior Resource Geologist of BNA Consultoria e Sistemas Limited, independent resource consultants engaged by Centaurus Metals.

Roger Fitzhardinge and Volodymyr Myadzel have sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralization and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which they are undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserve'. Roger Fitzhardinge and Volodymyr Myadzel consent to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.

The information in this report that relates to Ore Reserves is based on information compiled by Beck Nader who is a professional Mining Engineer and a Member of the Member of Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Beck Nader is the Managing Director of BNA Consultoria e Sistemas Ltda and is a consultant to Centaurus. Beck Nader has sufficient experience, which is relevant to the style of mineralization and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity, which they are undertaking to qualify as a Competent Person as defined in the 2004 Edition of the 'Australasian Code for Reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserve'. Beck Nader consents to the inclusion in the report of the matters based on their information in the form and context in which it appears.

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¹ These Inferred Resources, by definition, are of insufficient confidence to have economic considerations applied that would enable them to be categorised as mineral reserves.



Appendix A – Jambreiro Plant and Facilities Layout



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