

2018 IPOs

Moho shrugs off market malaise

Gold and nickel explorer Moho Resources Ltd was faced with a tricky dilemma as it prepared to complete an IPO during the latter stages of 2018.

Two of the three projects in Moho's prospectus – Silver Swan North (Western Australia) and Empress Springs (Queensland) – had expenditure commitments due before the listing was to be finalised, potentially putting the IPO in jeopardy.

With market conditions for new floats already somewhat unfavourable, Moho had to decide between shelving the IPO for a better time or pushing ahead with whatever seed capital the company had collected to that point.

History will show Moho successfully chose the latter, with nickel bull Terry Streeter and his loyal band of followers proving integral to the company meeting its expenditure commitments and raising \$5.3 million to finally go public after many years operating as a private vehicle.

Streeter has taken on the non-executive chairman duties at Moho, with managing director Shane Sadleir and commercial director Ralph Winter overseeing the day-to-day running of the company and its projects.

Sadleir – a founding director of Scotgold Resources and Bannerman Resources Ltd – has no doubt Streeter's influence played a big part in Moho eventually debuting on the ASX in early November.

"I think one of the factors that helped us get away and perhaps separated us from the rest was having Terry Streeter's involvement," Sadleir told **Paydirt**.

"He came on board, put in quite a lot of seed capital and I think the investors out there could see his track record being perhaps an indicator of where we're headed ourselves.

"The market was getting pretty hard towards September/October, but people stayed with us and now we just have to return the favour by producing the goods."

Moho completed a 2,000m drilling programme at Silver Swan North – part of its initial farm-in agreement with Odin Metals Ltd – three days before the deadline in late September. The company has since met its second stage expenditure obligations to earn 51% of two tenements adjoining Poseidon Nickel Ltd's 2.2 mtpa Black Swan processing plant.

Assays from individual 1m drilling samples returned a number of encouraging intercepts, including 1m @ 42.6 g/t gold



Initial RC drilling at Empress Springs returned encouraging results

from 100m, 1m @ 34.8 g/t from 61m and 1m @ 29.9 g/t from 73m, all from the East Samson Dam prospect.

Moho will resume drilling at Silver Swan North in the coming months following a review of the potential scale of the deposit, with a long-term view to potentially providing third party feed for Poseidon's mothballed plant once it is back up and running.

"We understand that Poseidon is looking to put on another circuit parallel to the nickel circuit to treat gold and become a hub for the small gold miners in the area,"



Moho completed an airborne EM survey over its Burracoppin project late last year

Sadleir said.

"It looks like a nice, juicy high-grade deposit, so it could become feed for Poseidon's plant."

Moho's pursuit of a breakthrough discovery at Silver Swan North has also been aided by a \$150,000 drilling grant from the WA Government.

Nickel exploration is also on the agenda for Silver Swan North, with a recent high-sensitivity SQUID EM survey identifying three new conductors near a historic hole with reported high nickel sulphide potential.

"You can go over old EM anomalies or areas that have been surveyed by the old EM technology and the new ones pop up and the old ones disappear," Sadleir said. "It actually discriminates between the wheat and the chaff. It's a great technology that we're looking to make the most of."

Drilling for nickel sulphides has been slated for later this month, pending approvals and rig availability.

Moho also has the Burracoppin project, about 10km from Ramelius Resources Ltd's Edna May mine, on its books and is currently reviewing its tenements for both gold and base metals potential following some recent encouraging results from neighbour and fellow ASX-listed explorer Cygnus Gold Ltd.

Shallow auger drilling could begin at Burracoppin as early as the end of this month, with the company keen to take advantage of a window to access the pad-docks post the summer harvest.

At Empress Springs, Moho was encouraged by its initial RC programme prior to the Christmas break. Results were pending at the time of print and Sadleir expected both Moho shareholders and JV partner Independence Group NL would be pleased with the findings.

With a major discovery the main game for Moho, Sadleir said he hoped to reward shareholders with a find which would deliver the share price uplift similar to the ones enjoyed by those who unearthed Tropicana, Nova and DeGrussa.

"Shareholders can rely on us putting a lot of money and effort into exploring these projects and doing it on a very rigorous scientific basis," he said. "Basically if it's there we'll find it. All the signs are there, but we've got to do the work and spend the money to find out if something is there."

– Michael Washbourne



Koppar has a suite of exploration projects throughout Norway

Mako Gold Ltd (ASX: MKG)

Comment:

Husband-and-wife geology duo Peter and Ann Ledwidge are back in West Africa with other members of the successful Orbis Gold team and primed to repeat the trick. Peter Ledwidge told **Paydirt's** sister publication **GMJ** in December he could not have been happier with the results from the first holes drilled into Mako's Napie project in Cote d'Ivoire, including an intercept of 1m @ 215.13 g/t gold from 65m at the Tchaga prospect. However, it was a series of wider hits such as 25m @ 3.43 g/t from 53m and 10m @ 1.54 g/t which had the Ledwidges eagerly awaiting the end of the wet season to get back out on the ground. With Resolute Mining Ltd on



Mako is waiting for the end of the wet season in Cote d'Ivoire to follow up on some promising wide intercepts at its Napie gold project

board as its major shareholder, Mako also has two projects in Burkina Faso and was preparing to drill at Niou at the time of print.

Listing date: April 16

IPO amount: \$6 million

Share price range since listing: 9.6c-24c
Address: Suite 2, Level 17, 300 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, QLD 4000; **Tel:** (07) 3076 0727; **Email:** info@makogold.com.au; **Web:** www.makogold.com.au

Key personnel: Mark Elliott (chairman), Peter Ledwidge (managing director), Ann Ledwidge (general manager, exploration)

Moho Resources Ltd (ASX: MOH)

Comment:

See story on page 47.

Listing date: November 7

IPO amount: \$5.3 million

Share price range since listing: 11c-18c
Address: Suite 1/22 Railway Rd, Subiaco, WA 6008; **Tel:** (08) 9481 0389; **Email:** admin@mohoresources.com.au; **Web:** www.mohoresources.com.au

Key personnel: Terry Streeter (chairman), Shane Sadleir (managing director), Ralph Winter (commercial director)

Nickel Mines Ltd (ASX: NIC)

Comment:

Despite being in Indonesia for 11 years, Nickel Mines' biggest move in the country came in 2018 via a \$200 million IPO. Only Brian Gilbertson's Jupiter Mines Ltd can attest to having a bigger IPO in recent times. The company is in partnership with China's Tsingshan Group, which controls 14% of world nickel production and 25% of the global stainless steel market, to construct a two-line rotary kiln electric furnace plant to produce nickel pig

iron. Commissioning of Nickel Mines' 60%-owned RKEF is expected to start before the end of June. Production of 150,000 tpa NPI for a total of 15,000 tpa nickel metal is the aim, with Nickel Mines holding 12-month call option from the date of first production to move to 100% ownership of the RKEF plant for an additional \$US120 million. It has already committed \$US70 million for its current 60% stake.

Listing date: August 20

IPO amount: \$200 million

Share price range since listing: 24c-36c
Address: Level 2, 66 Hunter Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000; **Tel:** (02) 9300 3311; **Email:** info@nickelmines.com.au;

Web: www.nickelmines.com.au
Key personnel: Rob Neale (chairman); Justin Werner (managing director)

Norwest Minerals Ltd (ASX: NWM)

Comment:

see page 44.

Listing date: November 29

IPO amount: \$6.6 million

Share price range since listing: 18c-20c
Address: L6, 66 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA, 6000; **Tel:** (08) 6166 5814; **Email:** charles@norwestminerals.com.au; **Web:** www.norwestminerals.com.au
Key personnel: Michael Tilley (chairman), Charles Schaus (chief executive), Ben Bell (non-executive director)

Podium Minerals Ltd (ASX: POD)

Comment:

With granted mining leases of 77sq km in the Weld Range Complex (WRC) in Western Australia's Mid West, Podium is looking to make a statement in the challenging PGM space. Exploration efforts culminated in the release of a maiden resource estimate of 340,000oz of combined platinum, palladium and gold, plus 14,300t of copper and 11,400t of nickel, at the Parks Reef project during October. The resource extends over 2.2km of the identified 15km strike length of Parks Reef and mineralisation remains open and depth and along strike to the east. A subsequent resource drilling programme completed in the central zone of Parks Reef confirmed the continuation of a thick horizon with base metal and gold enrichment in the hanging wall above – and overlapping – the PGM horizon seen in the western zone. Those results are to be incorporated into an upgraded resource estimate in early 2019.