



Catalpa Resources

▶ **ABC Central Australia (Alice Springs)**
Outback NT Rural Report - 9/03/2010 6:26 AM
Stewart Brash

Brash discusses the Australian gold output which he says has rise by 13% last quarter with new mines coming on stream and increased throughput by existing mines all helped by the steady Australian gold prices all aiding the rise. He says the increase cements Australia firmly in second place behind China in the World Gold Production rankings. Dr Sandra Close, Surbiton says this is good news and discusses the total gold output by Australia in relation to other countries such as America and South Africa. She discusses the output of mines including Focus Minerals, Sarasin, Bronze Wing and Catalpa. She also says that there is anew mine called A1 MInerals at BRight Star and that there are two more to come on line mid year, Integral's Randalls Project and one by Regis Resources.

Interviewees: Dr Sandra Close, Surbiton

Duration: 3.27

Summary ID: W00038142332

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Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

▶ **ABC Goldfields WA (Perth)**
Rural & Resources Report - 8/03/2010 6:40 AM
Tara De Landgraft

Demographics

Demographics are not available as the media outlet has not commissioned audience research into this timeslot.

Australian gold output has risen by 13% in the last quarter, cementing Australia firmly behind China in 2nd place on the world's gold production rankings. She plays an interview with Dr Sandra Close from mining consultant Surbiton, who says that the increase is good news for the industry. Close says that they have been anticipating the reopening of the Boddington gold mine, and that several of the large operations, including the Super Pit and Newcrest's Cadia Hill in NSW. She says that Ramelius Resources produced 21000 ounces, which also added to the high total. Close says that there has been a small rise in grade, but that the throughput is what has increased the gold output, leading Australia to 2nd place in the world gold production rankings, and that Australia's total gold production for 2009 was 227 tonnes. They discuss the reopening of operations such as Focus Minerals at Three Mile Hill, Saracen at Carosue Dam, Navigator at Bronzewing, and says that Catalpa should start in the mid-year. Close says that A1 Minerals' BrightStar project is brand new, and that other new projects starting soon are Integra's Randalls project and Regis Resources' Moolart Well project. They discuss the stable Australian dollar and gold price, which is helping to spur the redevelopment of old gold sites, Close says that exploration is still very low in terms of what it has been in the past.

Interviewees: Dr Sandra Close, Director, Surbiton & Associates

Duration: 5.05

Summary ID: W00038131233

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SUPER PIT IS TOPS

Goldfields boasts four of nation's top five producers

KALGOORLIE-BOULDER'S Super Pit topped the nation's gold production in 2009, accounting for 688,000 ounces of Australia's 7.3 million ounces produced for the year.

Four of Australia's top five producers are Goldfields operations: Telfer (Pilbara) (674,445oz), Lefroy (414,590oz), Jundee (411,000oz) and Sunrise Dam (401,112oz).

Australian gold production rose strongly in the December 2009 quarter, Melbourne-based industry consultants Surbiton Associates said in releasing its latest overview of the Australian gold sector.

Gold output rose by seven tonnes or 13 per cent to 62 tonnes (2.0 million ounces), compared with the September quarter 2009 and by 14 per cent compared with the December quarter 2008. For the full 2009 calendar year

Australia produced 227 tonnes (7.3 million ounces) of gold, an increase of three per cent on the 2008 year.

"The increase in production to 227 tonnes cemented Australia's position as the world's second-largest gold-producing country," Sandra Close, a director of Surbiton Associates, said. "China was the largest producer in 2009 at 314 tonnes, with preliminary figures putting the US third at about 216 tonnes and South Africa fourth at about 210 tonnes."

At the current Australian gold price of about \$1250/oz, the 227 tonnes produced in 2009 is worth more than \$9 billion, making gold a significant contributor to Australian export earnings. "The increase in Australian gold output in the December quarter was assisted by the long-awaited opening of the giant, redeveloped Boddington

operation," Dr Close said. "As well, several other operations increased production substantially, taking advantage of the attractive gold price and attractive operating margins."

The Boddington mine, owned by Newmont Mining Corp, is still in the ramp-up phase and produced 118,000oz or about 3.7 tonnes of gold in the December quarter.

It was redeveloped at a total cost of more than \$3 billion and is expected to produce at a rate of more than 200,000oz of gold per quarter this year.

Several of the larger producers increased output in the December quarter.

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Production set to increase

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THESE included the Super Pit in Kalgoorlie-Boulder (Newmont/Barrick) with production up 28,000oz and Cadia Hill (Newcrest) with production up 23,000oz, both because of higher-grade ore. Also, output at Yilgarn South operations (Barrick) rose 23,000oz because of a large increase in ore throughput.

Among the smaller producers, Ramelius Resources' new high-grade underground mine at Wattle Dam added 21,000oz to the total.

"Gold production should increase in the near term, with the continued ramp up of Boddington plus output from additional producers in WA," Dr Close said.

"Despite the low level of exploration, which is still a real cause for concern in the longer term, the current attractive gold price and margins are fostering the redevelopment of old operations and there are even a few new developments as well."

Focus Minerals recently recommissioned its Three Mile Hill treatment plant near Coolgardie and will no longer need to rely on scarce toll-milling capacity in the area. Saracen poured the first gold from its redeveloped Carosue Dam

mine near Leonora at the end of January, while Navigator Resources is expected to restart its Bronzewing operation in the next few weeks. Catalpa Resources should begin producing in June from the rejuvenated Edna May project at Westonia.

A1 Minerals' BrightStar project north of Laverton is a new operation, which poured its first gold a few days ago, while Integra Mining's Randalls project and Regis Resources' Moolart Well project are both new developments that are expected to produce their first gold in September.

The only operation expected to close shortly is Intrepid Resources' Paulsens mine which produced about 16,000oz in the December quarter.

Dr Close said many of the recently developed gold projects were owned by Australian companies, so the level of foreign control in the industry had fallen since the major takeover activity in the late 1990s and early 2000s.

"From around 20 per cent in 1997, overseas control of Australia's gold mining industry peaked at over 70 per cent in 2003," she said. "It then trended down slowly and was just under 60 per cent by the end of 2009."