Market Release

Newcrest Mining

17 August 2015

Full Year Financial Results

Today Newcrest Mining Limited released its Financial Results for the twelve months ended 30 June 2015 (ASX Appendix 4E and Annual Financial Report). This market release is a summary document and readers are directed to the full text of the release on the ASX platform, which is also available on the Newcrest website.

Key points[1]

- Stronger cash flow and balance sheet:
  - Free Cash Flow[2] of AUD 1,086 million, an increase of AUD 953 million
  - All of Newcrest's debt is USD-denominated. USD net debt reduced by USD 819 million (or 22%) to USD 2.89 billion (AUD 3.76 billion) as at 30 June 2015
  - Edge program delivering cash benefits (around AUD 390 million to date) and cultural change
  - Net debt to EBITDA[2] of 2.2 times, 15% lower than the corresponding period
  - Gearing of 29.3% at 30 June 2015, compared with 33.8% at 30 June 2014
- Improved operational and financial performance:
  - Statutory profit[3] of AUD 546 million
  - Underlying profit[2] 19% higher to AUD 515 million
  - Gold production[4] 1% higher to 2.423 million ounces
  - Copper production[4] 12% higher to 96.8 thousand tonnes
  - All-In Sustaining Cost[2,5] 12% lower to USD 789 per ounce (4% lower to AUD 941 per ounce)
  - Nine consecutive quarters of meeting or exceeding guidance
- Enhanced asset plans:
  - Telfer Future Options Study confirms value is maximised by Newcrest retaining Telfer and investing in future cutbacks
  - Lihir Pit Optimisation Pre-Feasibility Study showing potential for increased value through lower development costs
  - Cadia East Panel Cave 2 recommenced production in mid-August 2015
  - FY16 Guidance[7] of 2.4 – 2.6 Moz of gold production, 80 - 90 kt of copper production
- Positioned for growth:
  - New Chief Development Officer appointed
  - Golpu a world-class growth option in Stage 1 Feasibility Study
  - Active exploration program and increased project acquisition activity

Tragically, there were two fatalities in the current financial year and a further fatality since the end of the year. On 6 December 2014 an employee of the Hidden Valley Joint Venture was fatally injured after being struck by a reversing loader in the milling area. The second fatality occurred at Telfer on 15 May 2015 when a contractor working in the underground mine was fatally injured while operating an elevated work platform. A further fatality occurred at Hidden Valley on 18 July 2015 when a Hidden Valley employee died in an incident on the site road to the processing plant.

Newcrest's Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Sandeep Biswas, said: "These fatalities sadly overshadow Newcrest's otherwise strong operating and financial performance in FY15. Newcrest's Board and Management remain resolutely focussed on and committed to the safety of Newcrest's workforce and will relentlessly seek to eliminate fatalities and life-altering injuries from our operations."

On the Group's financial results, Mr Biswas said: "The Group's FY15 financial performance was good, with improved profitability, increased free cash flow and substantial reduction in our US dollar denominated debt. Newcrest remains focussed on further strengthening its balance sheet through safely maximising cash flow from operations and capital discipline, driven by our successful Edge program."

"Newcrest's improved financial position provides a platform for future growth. Our studies are highlighting the value in our asset portfolio. Lihir and Cadia provide near term growth, Golpu is an attractive project for the medium term, and our exploration and participation in early stage projects underpin our longer term growth," said Mr Biswas.

Summarised Financial and Operating Results[1]

			For the 12 months ended 30 June			
Highlights	Footnote		2015	2014	Change	Change%
Revenue		AUDM	4,344	4,040	304	8%
Statutory profit/(loss)	3	AUDM	546	(2,221)	2,767	-
Underlying profit	2	AUDM	515	432	83	19%
EBITDA	2	AUDM	1,673	1,514	159	11%
Cash flow from operating activities		AUDM	1,589	1,037	552	53%
Free cash flow	2	AUDM	1,086	133	953	717%
Net debt		AUDM	3,761	3,935	(174)	(4%)
		USDM	2,888	3,707	(819)	(22%)
Total equity		AUDM	9,059	7,707	1,352	18%
Gearing		%	29.3	33.8	(4.5)	(13%)
EBITDA Margin	2	%	38.5	37.5	1.0	3%
EBIT Margin	2	%	22.6	20.3	2.3	11%
Net debt to EBITDA	2	Times	2.2	2.6	(0.4)	(15%)
ROCE	2	%	8.0	6.4	1.6	25%
Interest coverage ratio	2	Times	10.5	9.7	0.8	8%
Group production - gold	4	Oz	2,422,568	2,396,023	26,545	1%
- copper	4	T	96,816	86,118	10,698	12%
- silver		Oz	2,181,419	2,324,210	(142,791)	(6%)
All-In Sustaining cost	2	AUD/oz sold	941	976	(35)	(4%)
	5	USD/oz sold	789	897	(108)	(12%)
Realised gold price		AUD/oz	1,474	1,408	66	5%
		USD/oz	1,236	1,292	(56)	(4%)
Realised copper price		AUD/lb	3.47	3.46	0.01	0%
		USD/lb	2.91	3.18	(0.27)	(8%)
Realised silver price		AUD/oz	20.03	22.45	(2.42)	(11%)
Average exchange rate		AUD:USD	0.8388	0.9187	(0.0799)	(9%)
Closing exchange rate		AUD:USD	0.7680	0.9420	(0.1740)	(18%)

Full year results

Over the 12 months ended 30 June 2015, Newcrest has been focussed on reducing major hazards and significant injuries, improving operational discipline, cash maximisation and profitable growth.

Newcrest's strong operating and financial performance for the 12 months ended 30 June 2015 was underpinned by Newcrest's comprehensive, company-wide improvement program (called 'Edge') which pursues improvements across all areas of the business and has delivered around AUD 390 million of cash benefits to date.

Statutory profit of AUD 546 million in the current period was AUD 2,767 million higher than the corresponding period. The current period Statutory profit includes significant items with a net benefit of AUD 31 million (comprising a net asset impairment reversal of AUD 55 million and a gain of AUD 19 million on the partial sell-down of shares in Evolution Mining Limited, partially offset by AUD 43 million in inventory write-downs). The corresponding period's Statutory loss included significant items totalling a net loss of AUD 2,653 million (primarily relating to asset impairments of AUD 2,353 million).

Underlying profit in the current period of AUD 515 million was AUD 83 million higher than the corresponding period and primarily reflects increased contribution from the ramp-up of higher margin production at Cadia East together with the positive net impact on AUD revenue of the weakening Australian Dollar against the US Dollar during the current period. The operating costs of Newcrest's operations outside Australia with USD functional currencies were adversely impacted by the weaker Australian dollar.

Newcrest's 2015 financial year gold production of 2.423 million ounces was within the Group guidance range of 2.3-2.5 million ounces. Full year copper production of 96.8 thousand tonnes was also within the guidance range of 95-105 thousand tonnes. Gold production of 2.423 million ounces was 1% higher than the corresponding period primarily due to the ramp-up of the Cadia East underground mine and higher ore feed grades at Gosowong and West Africa, with higher milling rates at Lihir partially offsetting the impact of lower ore feed grades at Lihir in the current period.

Copper production of 96.8 thousand tonnes was 12% higher than the corresponding period, primarily due to increased processing of higher copper grade ore from Cadia East.

All-in Sustaining Cost expenditure of AUD 2,270 million, total capital expenditure of AUD 564 million and exploration expenditure of AUD 46 million were all below their guidance range of AUD 2,300 to 2,500 million, AUD 585 to 625 million and AUD 50 to 60 million, respectively.

Newcrest's All-in Sustaining Cost of AUD 941 per ounce sold in the current period was 4% lower than the corresponding period, reflecting lower levels of production stripping and sustaining capital expenditure, higher by-product revenue associated with higher copper sales volumes, partially offset by the 9% deterioration in the average Australian Dollar against the corresponding period (which increased USD-denominated costs). All-In Sustaining Cost of USD 789 per ounce sold was 12% lower than the corresponding period.

Free cash flow, being cash from operating activities less cash from investing activities, was an inflow of AUD 1,086 million, which was AUD 953 million higher than the corresponding period. All operations (excluding Hidden Valley) improved free cash flow generation in the current period, and were free cash flow positive.

The strong free cash flow performance enabled USD 760 million of debt to be repaid and cash on hand to increase by USD 65 million in the current period. All of Newcrest's debt is USD-denominated.

The Australian dollar weakened in the current period such that the reduction in Newcrest's USD-denominated net debt of USD 819 million was, on translation to AUD at 30 June 2015, a reduction of AUD 174 million. The weaker Australian dollar also increased the AUD value of Newcrest's USD-denominated assets, with the translation benefit of this combining with Newcrest's profit after tax for the year to increase shareholders equity by AUD 1,352 million. The reduction in USD net debt, net profit for the year and the net effect of AUD translation combined to reduce Newcrest's gearing ratio from 33.8% in the corresponding period to 29.3% at 30 June 2015.

Capital structure

As at 30 June 2015 Newcrest had net debt of USD 2,888 million (AUD 3,761 million) with USD 2,423 million of cash and committed undrawn bank facilities, comprising USD 198 million (AUD 258 million) in cash and USD 2,225 million[6] (AUD 2,897 million) in committed undrawn bank facilities with terms extending from September 2016 to January 2020.

Under current market and operating conditions, the Newcrest Board remains comfortable with this level of debt given the near term cash flow outlook of the Group and has no present intention to raise equity. Newcrest will continue to prioritise application of free cash flow to the reduction of debt.

Newcrest's financial objectives are to meet all financial obligations, maintain a strong balance sheet so as to withstand cash flow volatility, be able to invest capital in value-creating opportunities, and be able to return excess cash generated to shareholders. As an unhedged gold producer, Newcrest looks to maintain a conservative level of balance sheet leverage.

From a financial policy perspective, Newcrest looks to:

- Target an investment grade credit rating throughout the cycle;
- Maintain a leverage ratio (Net Debt to EBITDA) of less than 2.0 times;
- Maintain a gearing ratio of below 25%; and
- Maintain diverse funding sources, sizeable committed undrawn bank facilities and USD debt with an appropriate tenor having regard to the life of the Group's assets.

Newcrest's dividend policy continues to balance financial performance and capital commitments with a prudent leverage and gearing level for the Company. Newcrest looks to pay ordinary dividends that are sustainable over time having regard to its financial policy, profitability, balance sheet strength and reinvestment options in the business.

The Newcrest Board has determined that there will be no dividend for the 12 months ended 30 June 2015. The Board will consider returning to paying a dividend as debt is further reduced and taking market and operating conditions into consideration.

Guidance[7]

All sites achieved production guidance for the current period, with Cadia exceeding its production guidance range. Looking ahead, Newcrest is firmly focused on realising the full potential of each of the Company's assets, with an emphasis on the following:

- Operational discipline (including safety);
- Cash; and
- Profitable growth

Subject to marketing and operating conditions, the Company provides the following guidance for financial year 2016:

- Group gold production is expected to be in the range of 2.4 to 2.6 million ounces
- Group copper production is expected to be in the range of 80 to 90 thousand tonnes
- Group All-In Sustaining Cost expenditure is expected to be in the range of AUD 2,650 to AUD 2,950 million
- Total capital expenditure is expected to be in the range of AUD 700 to AUD 825 million
- Total exploration expenditure is expected to be in the range of AUD 60 to AUD 70 million
- Depreciation and amortisation is expected to be in the range of AUD 880 to AUD 950 million

Production guidance FY16 [7]			For the 12 months ended 30 June 2016
Cadia	- gold	koz	650 – 700
	- copper	kt	~65
Telfer	- gold	koz	470 – 520
	- copper	kt	~20
Lihir	- gold	koz	770 – 850
Gosowong	- gold	koz	300 – 350
Hidden Valley (50%)	- gold	koz	80 – 100
West Africa	- gold	koz	110 – 130
Group production	- gold	Moz	2.4 – 2.6
	- copper	kt	~80 – 90
	- silver	Moz	2.0 – 2.4

Cost and Capital Guidance FY16 [7, 8]	Cadia	Telfer	Lihir	Gosowong (100%)	Hidden Valley (50%)	West Africa (100%)	Other	Group
	AUDM	AUDM	AUDM	AUDM	AUDM	AUDM	AUDM	AUDM
All-In Sustaining Cost	240-290	680-730	1,050-1,150	290-330	120-140	190-210	90-100	2,650-2,950
Capital expenditure								
- Production stripping	-	30-40	30-40	-	-	25-35	-	85-115
- Sustaining capital	70-80	85-95	115-125	50-60	5-10	30-35	10-15	365-420
- Major projects (non-sustaining)	160-190	-	20-25	-	-	-	65-75	245-290
Total Capital expenditure	230-270	115-135	165-190	50-60	5-10	55-70	75-90	700-825
Exploration expenditure								60-70
Depreciation and amortisation (including production stripping)								880-950

Non-IFRS Financial Information

Underlying profit, EBIT, EBITDA, Free Cash Flow, All-In Sustaining Cost, Return on Capital Employed and Interest Coverage Ratio are non-IFRS financial measures which Newcrest employs in managing the business. They have been included in this market release to provide additional insight and understanding of business performance for users of this financial information. When reviewing business performance this non-IFRS information should be used in addition to, and not as a replacement of, measures prepared in accordance with IFRS.

These measures do not have any standard definition under IFRS and may be calculated differently by other companies. The tables below reconcile these non-IFRS measures to the most appropriate IFRS measure.

Reconciliation of Statutory profit to Underlying profit

Underlying profit is reported by Newcrest to provide greater understanding of the underlying business performance of its operations. Underlying profit excludes significant items of income or expense which are, either individually or in aggregate, material to Newcrest or to the relevant business segment and are either outside the ordinary course of business or are part of the ordinary activities of the business but unusual due to their size and nature. Examples include gains/losses and other costs incurred for acquisitions and disposals of mining interests and asset impairment and write-down charges. Underlying profit and Statutory profit both represent amounts attributable to Newcrest shareholders.

Profit after tax attributable to Newcrest shareholders	For the 12 months ended 30 June 2015			
AUDM	Before Tax	Tax	Non-controlling interest	After tax and Non-controlling interest
Statutory profit	974	(414)	(14)	546
Asset impairment reversal	(538)	162	-	(376)
Asset impairment loss	330	-	(9)	321
Inventory write-down	44	-	(1)	43
Gain on disposal of associate	(19)	-	-	(19)
Total of significant items	(183)	162	(10)	(31)
Underlying profit	791	(252)	(24)	515

Profit after tax attributable to Newcrest shareholders	For the 12 months ended 30 June 2014			
AUDM	Before Tax	Tax	Non-controlling interest	After tax and Non-controlling interest
Statutory profit	(2,725)	510	(6)	(2,221)
Research and development tax claim amendment	-	120	-	120
Impairment loss	3,128	(747)	(17)	2,364
Asset write-downs	174	(52)	-	122
Inventory write-downs	35	(11)	-	24
Investment in Evolution – investment impairment reversal	(11)	-	-	(11)
Restructure costs	46	(12)	-	34
Total of significant items	3,372	(702)	(17)	2,653
Underlying profit	647	(192)	(23)	432

Reconciliation of Underlying profit to EBITDA

	For the 12 months ended 30 June	
AUDM	2015	2014
Underlying profit	515	432
less non-controlling interest in controlled entities	(24)	(23)
less income tax expense	(252)	(192)
less net finance costs	(189)	(174)
EBIT	980	821
less depreciation and amortisation	(693)	(693)
EBITDA	1,673	1,514

Reconciliation of All-In Sustaining Cost and All-In Cost to cost of sales

"All-In Sustaining Cost" and "All-In Cost" are non-IFRS measures which Newcrest has adopted from 2013. These non-IFRS measures follow the guidance released by the World Gold Council in June 2013.

	For the 12 months ended 30 June			
	2015		2014	
	AUDM	AUD/oz sold	AUDM	AUD/oz sold
Gold sales (koz)	2,412	-	2,386	-
Cost of sales	3,275	1,358	3,059	1,282
less Depreciation	(663)	(275)	(664)	(278)
plus By-product revenue	(789)	(327)	(681)	(285)
plus Corporate costs	87	36	105	44
plus Sustaining exploration	21	9	7	3
plus Capitalised stripping and underground mine development	77	32	197	82
plus Sustaining capital expenditure	245	101	298	125
plus other	17	7	8	3
All-In Sustaining Costs	2,270	941	2,329	976
plus non-sustaining capital expenditure	246	102	354	148
plus non-sustaining exploration and other	25	11	55	23
All-In Cost	2,541	1,054	2,738	1,147

Reconciliation of Return on Capital Employed (ROCE)

ROCE is "Return on Capital Employed" and is reported by Newcrest to provide greater understanding of the underlying business performance of its operations. ROCE is calculated as EBIT before significant items expressed as a percentage of average total capital employed (net debt and total equity).

	As at 30 June	
AUDM	2015	2014
EBIT	980	821
Total capital (net debt and total equity) – as at 30 June 2013		14,144
Total capital (net debt and total equity) – as at 30 June 2014	11,642	11,642
Total capital (net debt and total equity) – as at 30 June 2015	12,820	
Average total capital employed	12,231	12,893
Return on Capital Employed (EBIT/average total capital employed)	8.0%	6.4%

Reconciliation of Interest Coverage Ratio

Interest Coverage Ratio is reported by Newcrest to provide greater understanding of the underlying business performance of its operations. Interest Coverage Ratio is calculated as EBITDA adjusted for facility fees and discount unwind on provisions, divided by net interest payable (interest expense adjusted for facility fees, discount unwind on provisions and interest capitalised).

	As at 30 June	
AUDM	2015	2014
EBITDA	1,673	1,514
Less facility fees and other costs	(27)	(18)
Less discount unwind on provisions	(12)	(10)
Adjusted EBITDA	1,634	1,486
Net interest expense	189	174
Less facility fees and other costs	(27)	(18)
Less discount unwind on provisions	(12)	(10)
Add interest capitalised	6	7
Net interest payable	156	153
Interest Coverage Ratio	10.5	9.7

Notes

1. All figures in this Report relate to businesses of the Newcrest Mining Limited Group ('Newcrest' or 'the Group') for the 12 months ended 30 June 2015 ('current period') compared with the 12 months ended 30 June 2014 ('corresponding period'), except where otherwise stated. All references to 'the Company' are to Newcrest Mining Limited. All references to $ are a reference to Australian dollars unless otherwise stated.
2. Newcrest's results are reported under International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). This report also includes certain non-IFRS financial information, including the following:
   - 'Underlying profit (loss)' is profit or loss after tax before significant items attributable to owners of the Company.
   - 'EBITDA is 'Earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation, and significant items'. EBIT is 'Earnings before interest, tax and significant items'.
   - 'EBITDA margin' is EBITDA expressed as a percentage of revenue. 'EBIT margin' is EBIT expressed as a percentage of revenue.
   - 'Operating unit cost' is cost of sales less depreciation divided by gold sales.
   - 'AISC' is All-In Sustaining Cost and 'AIC' is All-In Cost as per World Gold Council Guidance Note on Non-GAAP Metrics released June 2013. AISC will vary from period to period as a result of various factors including production performance, timing of sales, and the level of sustaining capital and the relative contribution of each asset.
   - Net debt to EBITDA is calculated as net debt divided by EBITDA.
   - ROCE is 'Return on Capital Employed' and is calculated as EBIT expressed as a percentage of average total capital employed (net debt and total equity).
   - 'Interest Coverage Ratio' is calculated as EBITDA divided by the interest payable for the relevant period. Interest payable is interest paid or payable, less any interest received or receivable and is inclusive of capitalised interest.
   - 'Free Cash Flow' is calculated as cash flow from operating activities less cash flow related to investing activities.

   Underlying profit, EBIT, EBITDA, EBITDA Margin, Free Cash Flow, All-In Sustaining Cost, All-In Cost, Operating unit cost, Sustaining capital, Major projects (non-sustaining), ROCE and Interest Coverage Ratio are non-IFRS financial measures which Newcrest employs in managing the business. They are used by management to assess the performance of the business and make decisions on the allocation of resources and have been included in this report to provide greater understanding of the underlying financial performance of Newcrest's operations. When reviewing business performance this non-IFRS information should be used in addition to, and not as a replacement of, measures prepared in accordance with IFRS. These measures have not been subject to audit by Newcrest's external auditor. These measures do not have any standard definition under IFRS and may be calculated differently by other companies.
3. Statutory profit/(loss) is profit after tax attributable to owners of the Company.
4. Production and sales for the 12 months ended 30 June 2015 includes 21,060 pre-commissioning and development gold ounces and 2,102 tonnes of copper for the Cadia East project. For the 12 months ended 30 June 2014 production and sales includes 18,675 gold ounces and 1,770 tonnes of copper related to the pre-commissioning and development of the Cadia East project. Expenditure associated with this production and revenue from the sales are capitalised and not included in the operating profit calculations.
5. All-In Sustaining Costs in USD terms are converted to USD at an average AUD:USD exchange rate for the 12 months ended 30 June 2015 of $0.8388.
6. Comprises undrawn bilateral loan facilities of USD 2,175 million and an additional unutilised USD 50 million loan facility at a closing foreign exchange rate of AUD:USD$0.7680.
7. Disclaimer: These materials include forward looking statements. Often, but not always, forward looking statements can generally be identified by the use of forward looking words such as "may", "will", "expect", "intend", "plan", "estimate", "anticipate", "continue", and "guidance", or other similar words and may include, without limitation, statements regarding plans, strategies and objectives of management, anticipated production or construction commencement dates and expected costs or production outputs. Forward looking statements inherently involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause Newcrest's actual results, performance and achievements to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements. Relevant factors may include, but are not limited to, changes in commodity prices, foreign exchange fluctuations and general economic conditions, increased costs and demand for production inputs, the speculative nature of exploration and project development, including the risks of obtaining necessary licenses and permits and diminishing quantities or grades of reserves, political and social risks, changes to the regulatory framework within which Newcrest operates or may in the future operate, environmental conditions including extreme weather conditions, recruitment and retention of personnel, industrial relations issues and litigation.

   Forward looking statements are based on Newcrest and its management's good faith assumptions relating to the financial, market, regulatory and other relevant environments that will exist and affect Newcrest's business and operations in the future. Newcrest does not give any assurance that the assumptions on which forward looking statements are based will prove to be correct, or that Newcrest's business or operations will not be affected in any material manner by these or other factors not foreseen or foreseeable by Newcrest or management or beyond Newcrest's control.

   Although Newcrest attempts and has attempted to identify factors that would cause actual actions, events or results to differ materially from those disclosed in forward looking statements, there may be other factors that could cause actual results, performance, achievements or events not to be as anticipated, estimated or intended, and many events are beyond the reasonable control of Newcrest. Accordingly, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward looking statements. Forward looking statements in these materials speak only at the date of issue. Subject to any continuing obligations under applicable law or any relevant stock exchange listing rules, in providing this information Newcrest does not undertake any obligation to publicly update or revise any of the forward looking statements or to advise of any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.
8. Assumes weighted average gold price of USD 1,100 per ounce, copper price of USD 2.40 per pound, silver price of USD 15 per ounce and AUD/USD exchange rate of 0.74 for the 2016 financial year.

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