

Media Release

AMEC FORMS STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH AUSTRALIAN BASED AUSENCO

Strengthening AMEC's mining & metals presence in Southeast Asia while providing Ausenco with access to global engineering & construction resources.

9 March 2001 (Vancouver, British Columbia) – AMEC, the international engineering and services company together with Ausenco, an Australian based engineering group, today announced their strategic alliance. This alliance represents the formalization of an ongoing working relationship and strengthens the geographical and process aspects of both organizations.

The AMEC and Ausenco alliance is based on a four-year-old working relationship, shared corporate values, complementary skills, and aligned goals. AMEC provides Ausenco with the personnel and financial resources of one of the world's largest engineering and construction companies, and recognized process expertise including hydrometallurgical and diamond plants. Ausenco, in turn, offers AMEC a strong presence in the Australian and Southeast Asian mining and metals sector, and a proven track record in cost-effective gold and base metal plants, and mineral sands developments.

Currently, AMEC offers services for mining & metals clients from offices in Canada, Chile, Peru, England, Zambia, the United States and New Zealand (through Beca Simons) with more than 600 staff worldwide. In addition, AMEC has been present in Australia for over 60 years providing services on large infrastructure and resource projects, and currently employs over 700 people. Ausenco has offices in Brisbane and Perth Australia with approximately 130 personnel dedicated to mineral processing and metal extraction activities.

Bob Pendreigh, Senior Vice President & General Manager of AMEC Simons Mining & Metals said: "This alliance will allow us to provide additional value to our respective clients through improved geographic presence, and enhanced technology and project execution capability. It's not everyday that we get to form an alliance with an organization with such a strong reputation in their market and with compatible corporate values."

AMEC plc is a provider of services and engineering solutions to the world's infrastructure, manufacturing and process industries. The company creates value for clients through the application of technologies, alliances and innovative partnerships. AMEC plc (LSE: AMEC) is headquartered in the United Kingdom. www.amec.com

Ausenco Limited provides a comprehensive range of services to the mining and mineral processing industry. www.ausenco.com.au



Zimi Meka, Managing Director of Ausenco and Bob Pendreigh, Senior VP & General Manager of AMEC Simons Mining & Metals.