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ASX/MEDIA RELEASE

***Ausenco awarded Sepon Copper Expansion Project in Laos***

Global mining and mineral process engineering and project management service provider Ausenco Limited (ASX: AAX) today announced that it has been notified by Oxiana Limited (ASX: OXR) that the joint venture with Bateman Engineering known as the KDG JV is the preferred contractor for the planned expansion of the US\$178 million Sepon Copper Project to 80,000t/a. Ausenco's interest in the KDG JV is 70%, an increase from the previous 50%.

Ausenco Managing Director Zimi Meka commented "We are delighted to have had the opportunity to continue to work with Oxiana on the successful Sepon Copper Project. The announcement as preferred contractor continues to solidify our position for EPCM work in Laos and the region, where other project activities are continuing as planned. Following the completion of the Sepon expansion feasibility study work, the strengthening of our interest in the KDG JV this award extends our order book well into 2009 continues to underpin Ausenco's market position in the mineral processing sector."

The KDG joint venture was the recipient of an engineering design award in 2006 having completed the engineering and design of the original US\$240 million Sepon Copper operation. The main additions to the Sepon Copper project under the approved expansion will be a larger new primary crusher, an additional 8 CCD tank train, commensurate leaching capacity additions and 24 new electro-winning cells.

The Sepon Copper project in the Lao PDR commenced production in 2005, and in 2007 will produce 60,000t to 63,000t of copper metal cathodes. The operation is based on mining from the high grade Khanong deposit, with the nature of the ore allowing processing - via whole-of-ore leach, solvent-extraction and electrowinning - to final copper cathode metal on site. By the end of 2007 more than 150,000t of copper cathodes will have been produced since commissioning.

Zimi Meka  
Managing Director

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**About Ausenco Limited**

Diversified minerals processing engineering and project management services provider Ausenco Limited currently working on projects with an installed capital value of US\$2.8 billion.

Ausenco is internationally recognised for its expertise in the provision of engineering and project management services to the global mining and mineral processing industries. Its clients include the world's foremost mining organisations including BHP Billiton, Rio Tinto, Oxiana, Barrick Gold, Newmont Mining, Sino Gold, and Equinox Minerals.