

# Thunderbird The Emerging Force in Mineral Sands

Informa Mineral Sands Conference Presentation March 2017 ASX : SFX

sheffieldresources.com.au

## DISCLAIMER

#### **PREVIOUSLY REPORTED INFORMATION**

SheffieldResources

This presentation includes information that relates to Exploration Results, Exploration Targets, Mineral Resources, Ore Reserves, a Pre-feasibility Study and Technical Studies which were prepared and first disclosed under the JORC Code 2012. The information was extracted from the Company's previous ASX announcements as follows:

"THUNDERBIRD ORE RESERVE UPDATE" 16 March 2017
"THUNDERBIRD ILMENITE EXCEEDS PREMIUM SPECIFICATION" 13 March 2017
"OUTSTANDING IMPROVEMENTS IN RECOVERIES AND PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS FROM THUNDERBIRD BFS" 12 October 2016
"SHEFFIELD DOUBLES MEASURED MINERAL RESOURCE AT THUNDERBIRD" 5 July, 2016
"THUNDERBIRD MINERAL SANDS PROJECT - BFS UPDATE" 29 June, 2016
"PREMIUM ZIRCON AT NIGHT TRAIN", 14 April 2016
"SHEFFIELD APPOINTS HATCH TO DELIVER BFS FOR THUNDERBIRD PROJECT", 2 March 2016
"MAIDEN ORE RESERVE - THUNDERBIRD PROJECT", 22 January, 2016
"PRE-FEASIBILITY STUDY UPDATE CONFIRMS THUNDERBIRD AS THE WORLD'S BEST UNDEVELOPED MINERAL SANDS PROJECT", 14 October 2015
"NEW MINERAL SANDS DISCOVERY AT NIGHT TRAIN", 22 September 2015
"CONVENTIAL DOZER TRAP MINING CONFIRMED AS PREFERRED MINING METHOD AT THUNDERBIRD", 17 September 2015
"THUNDERBIRD HIGH GRADE RESOURCE UPDATE", 31 July 2015
"THREE NEW MINERAL SANDS DISCOVERIES IN CANNING BASIN", 25 February 2015

These announcements are available to view on Sheffield Resources Ltd's website: www.sheffieldresources.com.au

The Company confirms that it is not aware of any new information or data that materially affects the information included in the relevant market announcements and, in the case of estimates of Mineral Resources, Ore Reserves, Pre-feasibility Study and Technical Study results, that all material assumptions and technical parameters underpinning the estimates in the relevant market announcement continue to apply and have not materially changed. The Company confirms that the form and context in which the Competent Person's findings are presented have not been materially modified from the original market announcement

#### FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

Some statements in this report regarding estimates or future events are forward-looking statements. They include indications of, and guidance on, future earnings, cash flow, costs and financial performance. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements preceded by words such as "planned", "expected", "projected" "estimated" "may", "scheduled", "intends", "potential", "could" "nominal" "conceptual" and similar expressions. Forward looking statements, opinions and estimates included in this announcement are based on assumptions and contingencies which are subject to change without notice, as are statements about market and industry trends, which are based on interpretations of current market conditions. Forward looking statements are provided as a general guide only and should not be relied on as a guarantee of future performance. Forward looking statements may be affected by a range of variables that could cause actual results to differ from estimated results.

#### MINERAL RESOURCES RELATED TO PFS RESULTS

In this report that part of the Thunderbird Measured and Indicated Mineral Resource, considering the results of pit optimisations, preliminary mine designs and economic factors, that has been evaluated in the October 2015 Pre-feasibility Study is 685Mt at 11.3% HM. These considerations for the PFS were not sufficient to meet the requirements of an Ore Reserve as defined under the 2012 edition of the JORC Code and therefore should not be considered as such. Subsequent to the PFS, on 22 January 2016, Sheffield announced a maiden Ore Reserve for Thunderbird meeting the requirements of the JORC Code (2012), totalling 682.7Mt @ 11.3% HM (Proved and Probable), based on that portion of the July, 2015 Thunderbird deposit Measured and Indicated Mineral Resources within mine designs that may be economically extracted with appropriate consideration of modifying factors, costs, mineral assemblage, process recoveries and product pricing. On 16 March 2017 Sheffield announced an updated Ore Reserve for Thunderbird of 680.5Mt @ 11.3% HM (Proved and Probable) based on an updated Mineral Resources estimate for Thunderbird as at 5 July, 2016. See Appendix 1 for further details.

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## **CORPORATE SNAPSHOT**





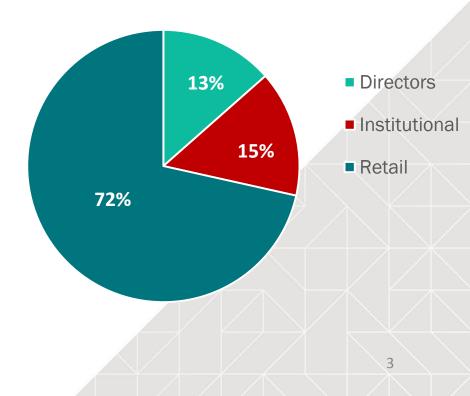
12 Month Share Price



### **Major Shareholders**

BlackRock	9%
Walter Yovich	6%
Sprott	2%
Other Institutions	4%

<sup>1</sup>unaudited as at 28 February 2017 <sup>2</sup>average exercise price A\$0.44c



## **OUR TEAM – EXPERIENCED & SKILLED**





### BOARD

Will Burbury Non-executive Chairman

Bruce McFadzean Managing Director

**David Archer Technical Director** 

**Bruce McQuitty** Non-executive Director MANAGEMENT Bruce McFadzean

> **David Archer Technical Director**

Managing Director

Mark Di Silvio CFO/Company Secretary Mining Engineer with over 35 years experience leading the financing, development and operation of mines in Australia and overseas, including roles with BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto. Previously Managing Director of Catalpa Resources (ASX: CAH) prior to its merger with Evolution Mining and Mawson West (TSX:MWE).

Geologist with over 27 years experience Australian resources sector. Has held senior positions with major Australian mining companies, including RGC Ltd, and as consultant to Atlas Iron Limited and Warwick Resources Limited, was responsible for significant iron ore discoveries.

CPA with over 25 years experience in the resources sector working across Africa and Australia. Has led financing and restructuring initiatives, holding senior finance and executive positions with RGC/Goldfields Limited, Woodside Energy, Centamin Plc and Mawson West Limited.

**Jim Netterfield BFS** Project Manager

**Neil Patten-Williams** Marketing Manager

Mark Teakle **Development Manager** 

**David Boyd** Exploration Manager

Wayne Groeneveld Sustainability Manager Mechanical engineer with a proven track record in successfully managing mineral development projects through to production. Professional career includes roles with BHP Billiton and Rio Tinto, and most recently four years as acting CEO and Operations Director at Oakajee Port & Rail Pty Ltd.

Experienced marketing and operations manager with over 18 years experience in the mineral sands industry, having held a number of management roles with Doral. Solid background in marketing and logistics of both zircon and titanium mineral products.

With a career spanning more than 33 years, a geologist with extensive experience in the mineral sands sector, holding senior management positions with Aberfoyle Resources Ltd, Australian Zircon NL. Involved in the discovery and evaluation of several Australian mineral sands deposits.

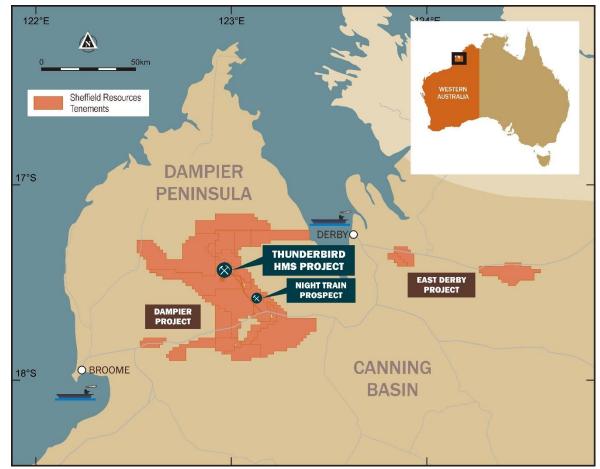
Previously General Manager of Geology at Consolidated Minerals where he managed exploration and resource development across that company's manganese, chromite and iron ore projects. Career includes senior positions with RGC/Goldfields Limited, Placer Dome Limited and Barrick.

Over 30 years' experience in the mining industry, having led negotiation of land access and native title agreements. Experience includes senior positions with RGC/Goldfields Limited, Placer Dome Australia Ltd. St Barbara Ltd and Xstrata Nickel.

## **THUNDERBIRD - DISCOVERY TO PRODUCTION**

**Diggers & Dealers** 



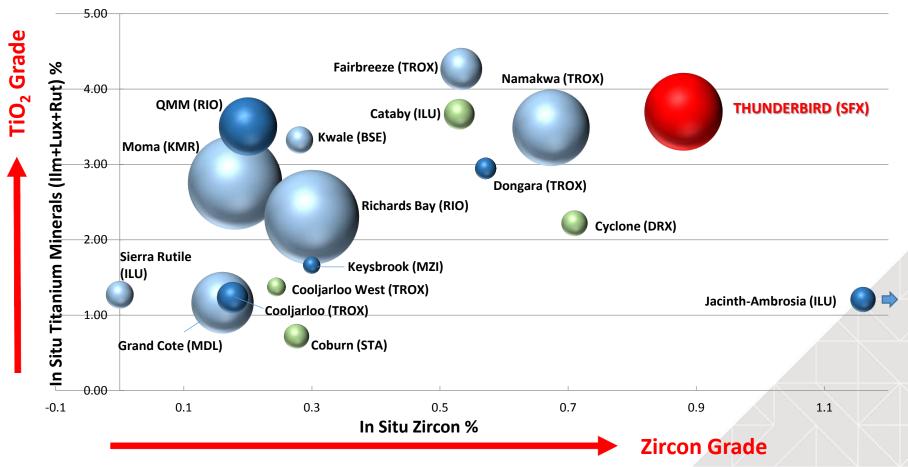


PROSPEC

- Sheffield ASX listed December 2010 (ASX:SFX)
- Initial drill hole to BFS in 4 Years
- Lead Agency status with Department of Mines and Petroleum
- Targeting first production from Thunderbird early 2019
- Potential multi-decade (+40 year) operation
- First mover status in the Canning Basin mineral sands province
- 2013 Explorer of the year and 2013 Diggers and Dealers Best Emerging Company Award

## **THUNDERBIRD TIER 1 PROJECT**





- Amongst the world's largest and highest grade zircon and ilmenite rich Ore Reserves
- Australia, one of the best mining jurisdictions in the world
- Most of the world's minerals sands Ore Reserves are in high risk jurisdictions

Thunderbird Ore Reserves ranked against Ore Reserves of current mineral sands operations and projects under investigation globally

Blue bubbles are operating mines, green bubbles are Ore Reserves reported but project is not operating. Blue hatch bubbles represent operating African mines' Ore Reserves

Bubble size proportional to tonnes of contained VHM. Only Ore Reserves > 1Mt contained VHM shown.

Data compiled by Sheffield from public sources

This analysis does not illustrate the variance in product value between rutile, leucoxene and ilmenite products

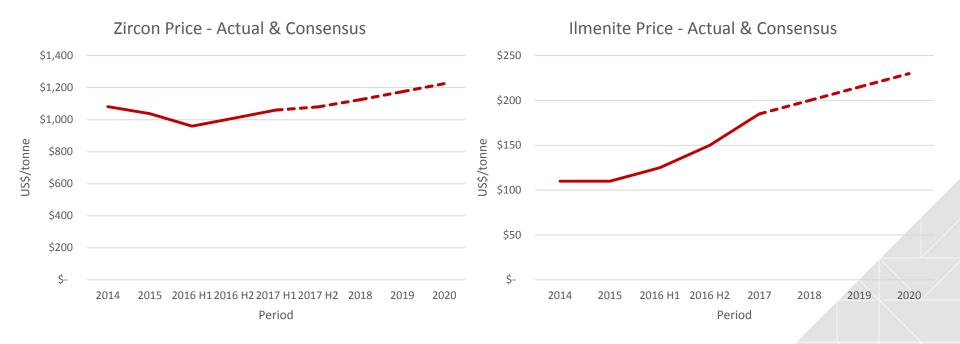
## **TIER 1 ASSET - HIGH GRADES + 40 YEAR LIFE**



- The largest zircon rich deposits to be discovered in the last 30 years
  - Significantly higher grades than its peers (Richards Bay, Namakwa, Moma, Cataby)
  - $_{\odot}$  3-4 times larger than Iluka's Jacinth-Ambrosia discovery in 2004<sup>1</sup>
  - Targeted 40+ year operation ensures continuity of supply
- BFS targeting high margins and revenue to cost ratio
  - Designed to ride global commodity price cycles
- In Western Australia, the world's most attractive mining jurisdiction<sup>2</sup>
  - Majority of the world's mineral sand ore reserves are in geopolitically risky areas
- Easy access to port infrastructure and markets
  - 140km by road to ports in Derby or Broome
  - Port capacity available in Derby and Broome
  - Close to Asian markets

## **MARKET CONDITIONS HAVE TURNED<sup>1</sup>**



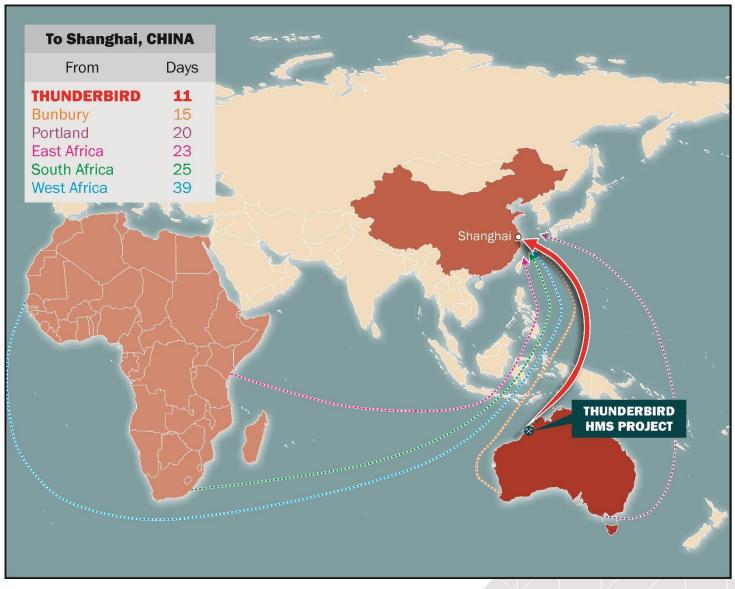


- Zircon sand prices have stabilised and showing moderate price recovery
- Longer term supply constraints appear from 2020
- Sulfate ilmenite prices continued to rise through the first part of 2017
- Long term view on under supply very positive

<sup>1</sup> sourced from TZMI, Ruidow, Ferro Alloynet and Sheffield Resources Limited

## **TRANSPORT ADVANTAGE TO ASIAN MARKETS**





## **BFS STATUS – 97% COMPLETE**





- BFS Completion Q1 2017
- 7.5-10.0 Mt phase 1 capacity with doubling of capacity in phase 2
- ~780t/hr constant feed rate at rougher spiral
- Metallurgical test work complete
- Confirmation of flow sheet utilising full scale and scalable equipment
- Increased recoveries for zircon and ilmenite
- Outstanding gains for LTR ilmenite in grade, FeO:Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> ratio and acid solubility
- Simplification of product process flow sheet
- Capital efficient design
- New Ore Reserve<sup>1</sup>



Mineral Sands Processing Specialist

**TIER 1 STUDY** 



ΗΔΤCΗ



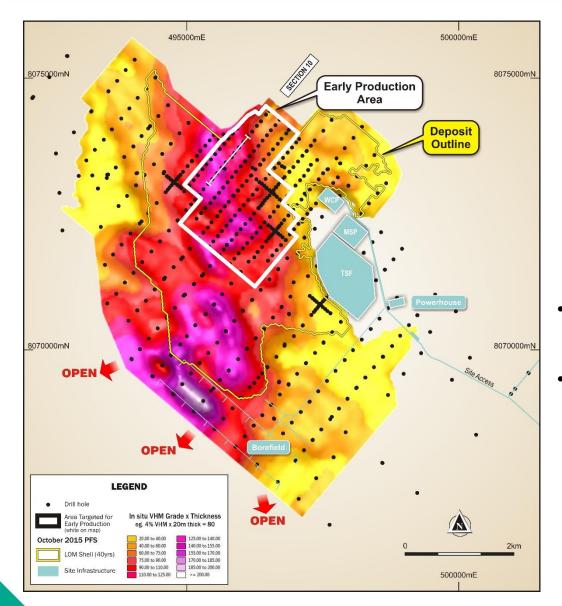
MG12 Cleaner Spiral



**Pilot Scale RERMS** 

## **VHM & DEPOSIT THICKNESS = VALUE**

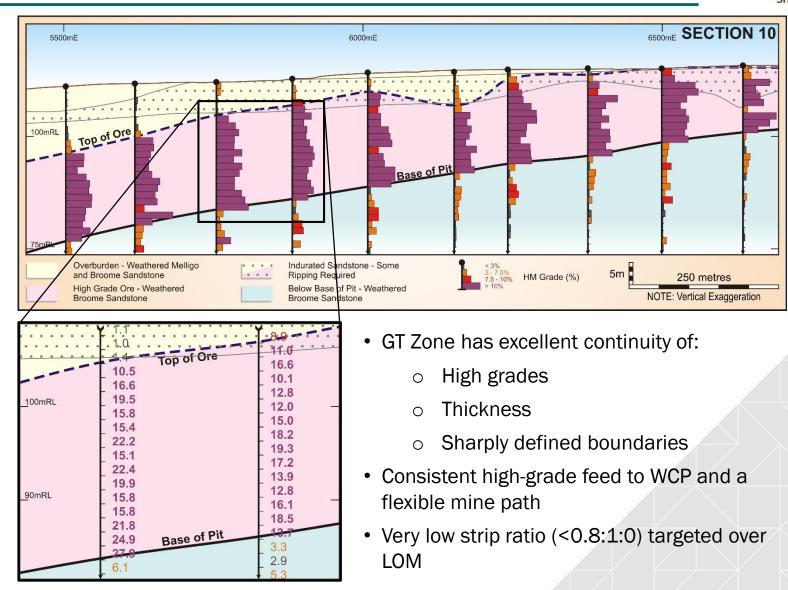




- Thunderbird has a continuous High Grade Zone of up to 46m thickness: the "GT Zone"
- Deposit economics are based on GT Zone's strong continuity and very high Valuable HM grades
- Near-surface, high value areas targeted in early years of production
- GT Zone remains open: ongoing expansion potential
- Every tonne of final product contains approximately 20% zircon, 75% Ilmenite and 5% HiTi88

## **EXCEPTIONAL GRADE, CONTINUITY & LOW STRIP**





NB - See previous slide for section location and extent, note these are zoomed in to a 1km wide (down-dip) area of the deposit to show detail of HM grade and continuity. PFS Ore and Pit boundaries shown.

## **TEST PITS SUPPORT DOZER TRAP MINING**



- Three trenches excavated in up-dip region of the deposit confirmed dozer-trap mining as preferred mining method
- D10 dozer achieved sound productivity rates.
- Ore performed well through screening plant
- Exposed orebody comprised highly weathered sandstone, compacted sands and minor discontinuous iron cemented bands.
- Distribution of indurated layers throughout the deposit is well understood
- Large oversize limited to near-surface high grade area, results in processing beneficiation

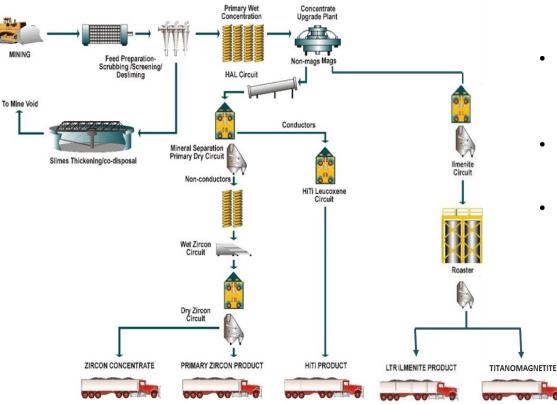




## **CONVENTIONAL PROCESSING**



## **DELIVERS FIVE QUALITY PRODUCTS**



- Conventional heavy mineral sands processing circuit<sup>1</sup>
- Includes an ilmenite upgrade step using a low temperature roast ("LTR")
- LTR upgrades the primary ilmenite to 56.1% TiO<sub>2</sub> sulphate ilmenite with ability to control to higher grades
- LTR ilmenite is low in chrome and alkalis
   with market-leading acid solubility
- BFS illustrates premium zircon product and a secondary zircon concentrate

Recoveries <sup>3</sup>	BFS Test work
LTR Ilmenite	71.0%
Zircon Premium	56.1%
Zircon Concentrate	33.0%
HiTi Leucoxene	35.3%

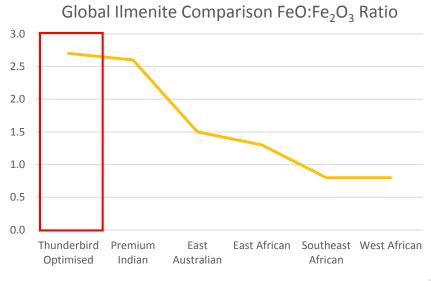
Total recovery to products from BFS metallurgical test work<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> Process design by Hatch and Robbins Engineering, based on metallurgical testwork carried out on a 40t bulk sample using full scale & scalable equipment <sup>2</sup> Estimated from preliminary modelling to be finalised at BFS completion in early 2017

<sup>3</sup> Refer ASX announcement 12 October 2016

## THUNDERBIRD LTR ILMENITE – PREMIUM PRODUCT

- Exceptional Grade
- 56 58% TiO<sub>2</sub>
- Outstanding FeO:Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- Low Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (<13%)
- Low Levels of Cr<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- Low Alkalis
- High Acid Solubility
- Good reactivity rate
- Market Leading quality



FeO:Fe2O3

Composition (%)	Thunderbird Optimise 3 ilmenite	Premium Indian ilmenite	East Australian ilmenite	East African ilmenite	Southeast African ilmenite	West African ilmenite
TiO <sub>2</sub>	57.9	51.5	50.7	48.2	52.4	53.2
FeO	28.1	33.5	25-29	25.5	21.4	18.9
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	10.3	13.0	16-19	20.0	27.9	23.3
FeO:Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	2.7	2.6	1.5	1.3	0.8	0.8
Cr <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	0.05	0.04	0.30	0.09	0.09	0.16

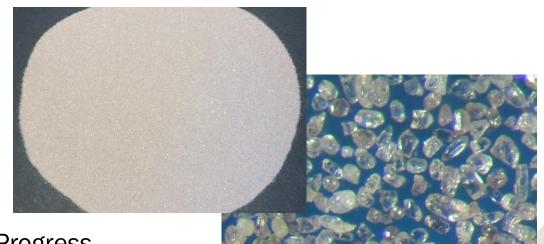
**Sheffield**Resource

LIMITER

### **THUNDERBIRD ZIRCON – PREMIUM PRODUCT**

- Ceramic Grade Zircon
- >  $66\% \text{ ZrO}_2$
- Low  $Fe_2O_3$
- Low  $TiO_2$
- Very Low Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>
- Moderate U+Th
- Good Opacity
- Off-take Discussions in Progress

Composition (%)		Premium Zircon	Typical <sup>1</sup>
ZrO <sub>2</sub> +HfO <sub>2</sub>	%	66.2 - 66.6	66.30
TiO <sub>2</sub>	%	0.09 - 0.18	0.14
Fe <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	%	0.06 - 0.08	0.08
SiO <sub>2</sub>	%	32.5 – 33.5	32.5
Al <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	%	0.10 - 0.15	0.15



## LOGISTICS – SIMPLE & CLOSE TO MARKET

- Products trucked 140km from mine to ports at Derby and Broome, including 110km on major National Highway
- Road haulage fleet and marine barging based in Derby
- Access agreement in place for port storage, wharf and bulk handling facility at Derby
- Option for packaged products through Port of Broome
- Barging & transhipment of bulk products
- Close proximity to potential markets











Train prospect, e.g. 7.5m @ 8.23% HM<sup>1</sup>
Night Train has a high value mineral assemblage: 92% VHM, including 15% zircon, 61% leucoxene + HiTi

**NEW PROVINCE – MULTIPLE DISCOVERIES** 

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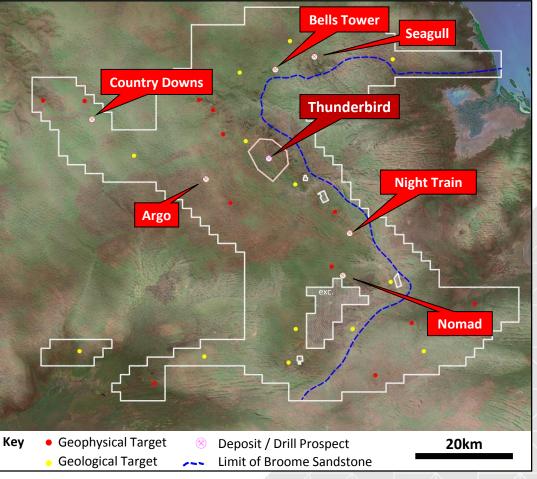
- High quality zircon produced from metallurgical test sample<sup>2</sup>
- Large number of prospects and geophysical targets identified and yet to be drilled
- First mover has enabled a large, strategic tenement holding over the most prospective formations
- New fertile province = high rate of discovery
- Further drilling planned during 2017





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### **SOCIAL LICENCE - A PROJECT FOR THE COMMUNITY**

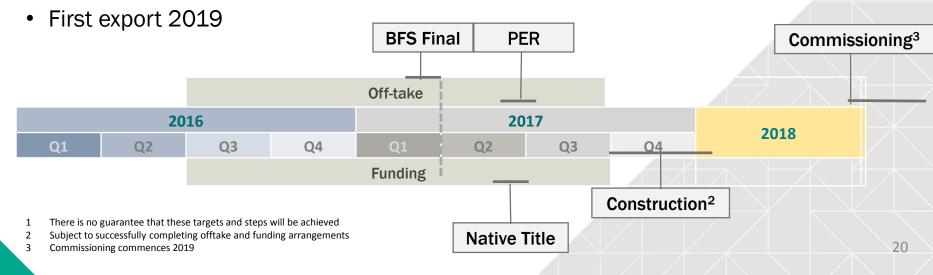
- Lead Agency status promotes state and regional project support
- In excess of 140 direct full time jobs from the regional community. Substantially more employment via indirect support for the operations
- All employees living locally
- Significant business opportunities with a key focus on Aboriginal participation
- Minimal environmental impact
- Extensive stakeholder engagement has been undertaken generating overwhelming community support
- Intergenerational job and training opportunities from a mine with a very long life





## THUNDERBIRD KEY TARGETS & NEXT STEPS<sup>1</sup>

- BFS announce Q1 2017
- Native Title Agreement H1 2017
- Environmental permitting Mid 2017
- Off-take discussions 2017
- Funding process 2017
- Exploration drilling 2017
- Funding partner discussions 2017
- Preliminary construction commences 2017
- Commissioning 2019





## **KEY INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS**



- Tier 1, high grade, large scale mineral sands project
- Stable mining jurisdiction
- High grades and quality products
- Zircon and ilmenite rich
- Well advanced asset BFS 97% complete
- Utilises conventional mining and processing methods
- Technically straightforward
- Strong cash flows over multi-decade (+40 year) mine life
- Existing logistics and export infrastructure
- Close to markets
- Favourable mineral sands market dynamics

### **APPENDIX 1**



### THUNDERBIRD DEPOSIT ORE RESERVES<sup>1,2</sup>

#### Valuable Heavy Mineral (VHM) in-situ grade

	Ore Tonnes	In-situ HM Tonnes (millions)	HM Grade (%)		Valuable HM G	Slimes	Osize		
	(millions)			Zircon %	HiTi Leuc %	Leuc %	Ilmenite %	(%)	(%)
Proved	235.8	31.4	13.3	1.00	0.29	0.26	3.55	16.5	13.7
Probable	444.8	45.4	10.2	0.80	0.26	0.26	2.85	15.2	11.0
Total	680.5	76.8	11.3	0.87	0.27	0.26	3.10	15.7	12.0

#### Mineral assemblage as percentage of HM grade

Ore Reserve Category	Ore Tonnes (millions)	In-situ HM Tonnes (millions)	HM Grade –		Mineral Ass	Slimes	Osize		
			(%)	Zircon (%)	HiTi Leuc (%)	Leuc (%)	Ilmenite (%)	(%)	(%)
Proved	235.8	31.4	13.3	7.5	2.2	1.9	26.7	16.5	13.7
Probable	444.8	45.4	10.2	7.8	2.5	2.6	28.0	15.2	11.0
Total	680.5	76.8	11.3	7.7	2.4	2.3	27.4	15.7	12.0

<sup>1</sup> Calculations have been rounded to the nearest 100,000 t, 0.1 % grade. Differences may occur due to rounding. Ore Reserves are based upon the published July 2015 Mineral Resource, reported by economic cut-off with appropriate consideration of modifying factors, costs, mineral assemblage, process recoveries and product pricing. <sup>2</sup>The in-situ grade is determined by multiplying the HM Grade by the percentage of each valuable heavy mineral within the heavy mineral assemblage. <sup>3</sup> Mineral Assemblage is reported as a percentage of HM Grade, it is derived by dividing the in-situ grade for each mineral by the HM grade.

### **APPENDIX 1**



### THUNDERBIRD DEPOSIT MINERAL RESOURCE<sup>1,2</sup>

Cut-off	Mineral	Material	In-situ HM	HM Grade -		Valuable HM G	Slimes	Osize		
(HM%)	Resource	Tonnes	Tonnes	(%)	Zircon	HiTi Leuc	Leuc	Ilmenite	(%)	(%)
(,	Category	(millions)	(millions)		(%)	(%)	(%)	(%)		
> 3% HM	Measured	510	45	8.9	0.71	0.20	0.19	2.4	18	12
	Indicated	2,120	140	6.6	0.55	0.18	0.20	1.8	16	9
	Inferred	600	38	6.3	0.53	0.17	0.20	1.7	15	8
	Total	3,230	223	6.9	0.57	0.18	0.20	1.9	16	9
>7.5% HM	Measured	220	32	14.5	1.07	0.31	0.27	3.9	16	15
	Indicated	640	76	11.8	0.90	0.28	0.25	3.3	14	11
	Inferred	180	20	10.8	0.87	0.27	0.26	3.0	13	9
	Total	1,050	127	12.2	0.93	0.28	0.26	3.3	15	11
0	Mineral	Material	In-situ HM	Mineral Assemblage <sup>4</sup>				01.00		
Cut-off (HM%)	Resource Category	Tonnes (millions)	Tonnes (millions)	HM Grade - (%)	Zircon (%)	HiTi Leuc (%)	Leuc (%)	Ilmenite (%)	Slimes (%)	Osize (%)
	Measured	510	45	8.9	8.0	2.3	2.2	27	18	12
00/ 100	Indicated	2,120	140	6.6	8.4	2.7	3.1	28	16	9
> 3% HM	Inferred	600	38	6.3	8.4	2.6	3.2	28	15	8
	Total	3,230	223	6.9	8.3	2.6	2.9	28	16	9
	Measured	220	32	14.5	7.4	2.1	1.9	27	16	15
	Indicated	640	76	11.8	7.6	2.4	2.1	28	14	11
>7.5% HM	Inferred	180	20	10.8	8.0	2.5	2.4	28	13	9
	Total	1,050	127	12.2	7.6	2.3	2.1	27	15	11
THUNDERBIRD DEPOSIT CONTAINED VALUABLE HM (VHM) IN MINERAL RESOURCES <sup>1,2,5</sup>										

Cut-off (HM%)	Mineral Resource Category	Zircon Tonnes (thousands)	HiTi Leucoxene Tonnes (thousands)	Leucoxene Tonnes (thousands)	llmenite Tonnes (thousands)	Total VHM Tonnes (thousands)
	Measured	3,600	1,000	1,000	12,000	17,700
- 20/ LIM	Indicated	11,800	3,800	4,300	39,100	59,000
>3% HM	Inferred	3,200	1,000	1,200	10,500	15,900
	Total	18,600	5,900	6,500	61,700	92,600
	Measured	2,300	700	600	8,400	12,000
>7.5% HM	Indicated	5,800	1,800	1,600	21,000	30,200
>7.5% ⊡M	Inferred	1,600	500	500	5,600	8,200
	Total	9,700	3,000	2,700	35,000	50,400

<sup>1</sup>The Thunderbird Mineral Resources are reported inclusive of (not additional to) Ore Reserves. The Mineral Resource reported above 3% HM cut-off is inclusive of (not additional to) the Mineral Resource reported above 7.5% HM cut-off. Mineral Resources for the Dampier Project were prepared and first disclosed under the JORC Code 2012. <sup>2</sup>All tonnages and grades have been rounded to reflect the relative accuracy and confidence level of each estimate and to maintain consistency throughout the table, therefore the sum of columns may not equal. <sup>3</sup>The in-situ grade is determined by multiplying the HM Grade by the percentage of each valuable heavy mineral assemblage. <sup>4</sup>The Mineral Assemblage is represented as the percentage of HM grade. For Dampier the mineral assemblage was determined by screening and magnetic separation. Magnetic fractions were analysed by QEMSCAN for mineral determination as follows: >90% liberation and; Ilmenite 40-70% TiO<sub>2</sub>; Leucoxene 70-94% TiO<sub>2</sub>; High Titanium Leucoxene (HiTi Leucoxene) >94% TiO<sub>2</sub> and Zircon 66.7% ZirO<sub>2</sub>+HfO<sub>2</sub>. The non-magnetic fraction was analysed by XRF and minerals determined as follows: Zircon ZrO<sub>2</sub>+HfO<sub>2</sub>/0.667 and HiTi Leucoxene TiO<sub>2</sub>/0.94. <sup>5</sup>The VHM resource inventory is derived from information in the Mineral Resource table.