



Mitsui Mining & Smelting Co., Ltd. Itochu Corporation

Zinc/Lead Joint Exploration Project in Canada

Mitsui Mining & Smelting Co., Ltd. (hereinafter "Mitsui") and Itochu Corporation (hereinafter "Itochu") have formally agreed with Selkirk Metals Corp. (hereinafter "Selkirk"), a 100% owned subsidiary of Imperial Metals Corporation, regarding the Ruddock Creek zinc/lead joint exploration project in Canada, and have concluded a Joint Venture Agreement on December 30, 2010.

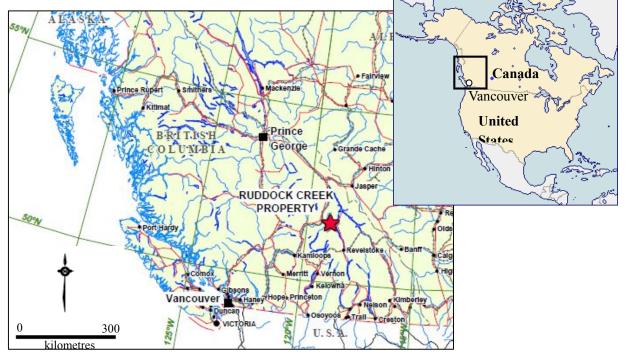
Under the terms of the agreement, Mitsui and Itochu shall bear all exploration expenditures to a maximum of CA\$20 million (approximately 1.6 Billion Yen) up until March 31, 2013, and shall thereby acquire a 50% interest in the Ruddock Creek Project. A mineral resource in excess of 3 million tonnes has been identified at Ruddock Creek, and with acceleration and high efficiency of the exploratory operations, the joint venture between Selkirk, Mitsui, and Itochu shall be aimed at increasing the mineral resource to an economic level and continue towards the goal of development and operation of the Ruddock Creek Project.

Mitsui and Itochu have utilized the exploration expenditures subsidy system provided by Japan Oil, Gas and Metals National Corporation (JOGMEC).

Project Name	Ruddock Creek Zinc/Lead Joint Exploration Project
Location	British Columbia, Canada. Approximately 500 km north east of Vancouver.
Mineral Title Holder	Selkirk Metals Corp./ Mount Polley Mining Corp.
Project Area	Approximately 105km ²

[Possible Production Plan]	
Targeted Resource	Minimum 9 million tonnes
Production	2,000 tonnes/day x 350 days = 700,000 tonnes/year
Mine Life	13 years
Target Grade	Zn 7.2%, Pb 1.5%

[Location Map]



[Outline of Imperial Metals	s Corporation]
Principal Address	Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Listing	Listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX-III)
Establishment	1959
Business Activities	Mining company that owns and operates the Huckleberry Mine and
	Mount Polley Mine.
	In addition to zinc, production and exploration for copper, gold and
	molybdenum.