

Press Release Archives: 08/31/2009

Itronics Stage 1 Silver Refinery Expansion to Expand Silver Output by Diversifying Silver Raw Material Sources

On Monday August 31, 2009, 5:00 am EDT

RENO, NV--(Marketwire - 08/31/09) - Itronics Inc. (Pinksheets:ITRO - News) (Frankfurt:ITG - News) (Berlin:ITG - News) reported today that its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., has modified the installation plan and reduced the estimated capital cost, significantly improving the outlook for proceeding with its Stage 1 Silver Refinery expansion. The expansion will make it possible for the Company to expand silver sales by diversifying its silver-bearing raw material sources.

In early November 2008 Itronics announced plans for expansion of its silver refining capacity in two stages. The Company also disclosed that silver receipts in photographic liquids were exceeding its capacity to refine the recovered silver on an on-going basis, making the Stage 1 expansion a critical path item for continuing the Company's growth. On March 17, 2009 Itronics announced a new refining process that will significantly enhance the profitability of the planned Stage 1 silver refinery expansion, discussed in a press release issued on February 24, 2009.

Itronics today is announcing that it has revised the Stage 1 installation plan to utilize tanks and pumps that are already owned by the Company. Using this approach reduces the estimated capital cost of the installation from \$500,000 to about \$200,000. Additional benefits include that only about 25 percent of the funding is required before installation and preliminary operation can begin. The time required from start of installation is reduced from 8 months to less than 6 months. The Company is currently seeking the necessary funds as part of a larger funding effort.

Stage 1 will increase the per melt capacity of the refining operation by 10 times with no increase in per melt cost. This produces a 90 percent reduction in the melt cost per ounce of silver produced. The increase in per melt capacity will be more than sufficient to accommodate intermediate term growth, and will also provide the capacity for acquisition of new silver-bearing sources to further expand growth.

The Stage 1 refinery expansion will produce two new fertilizer raw materials as byproducts. These raw materials are expected to improve GOLD'n GRO fertilizer quality and profitability by replacing fertilizer ingredients which are presently purchased from outside suppliers.

The Stage 1 refinery expansion will also make it possible for the Company to diversify its sourcing of silver-bearing raw materials by acquiring a category of silver-bearing solid waste materials generated by the photographic industry.

The new source is steel wool recovery cartridges (called "ion exchange cartridges") that are used for on site silver recovery by photo and X-ray processors. There is a large supply of silver recovery cartridges because they are the main method of photo-liquid de-silvering by operators that use on site treatment of the liquids before discharging them to sewer. The Company estimates that millions of ounces of silver are being recovered by these cartridges and processed annually by other refiners.

The Company plans to begin marketing this processing service as Phase II of its Stage 1 silver refinery expansion which is expected to significantly increase the amount of silver for refining. Itronics previously announced that in the first half of 2009 silver revenues increased 144 percent, with a 243 percent increase in ounces sold.

Itronics, through its subsidiary Itronics Metallurgical, is the inventor and operator of award winning recycling technology that converts spent photographic liquids into pure silver and GOLD'n GRO fertilizers. Commercialization of this technology has created a "Green Consumer Option" for photo and X-ray processors and "Green fertilizers" for horticulture and agriculture. The fertilizers incorporate the "essence" of green because of how they are sourced and because of their excellent performance in the field.

About Itronics

Headquartered in Reno, Nevada, Itronics Inc. is a "Creative Clean Technology" company. Itronics, through its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., is the only company with a fully permitted "Beneficial Use Photochemical, Silver, and Water Recycling" plant in the United States that converts used photoliquids into pure silver and GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizers. The Company is developing environmentally compatible mining technology, provides project planning and technical services to the gold mining industry, and operates the popular InsideMetals.com web site, <http://www.insidemetals.com>. which provides a value-added WORLD VIEW of Gold Producer Stocks, Mineral Producer Stocks, Junior Gold Stocks, and Junior Mineral Stocks.

Itronics has received numerous domestic and international awards that recognize its ability to successfully create and implement

new environmentally clean recycling and fertilizer technologies. The Company's environmentally friendly GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizers, which are extensively used in agriculture, can be used for lawns and houseplants, and are available, along with liquid fertilizer injectors, at the Company's "e-store" catalog at <http://goldngro.com>. The popular Silver Nevada Miner bars are available at the Company's "e-store" catalog at <http://www.itromet.com>.

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: <http://www.itronics.com>

("Safe Harbor" Statement under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995: This press release contains or may contain forward-looking statements such as statements regarding the Company's growth and profitability, growth strategy, liquidity and access to public markets, operating expense reduction, and trends in the industry in which the Company operates. The forward-looking statements contained in this press release are also subject to other risks and uncertainties, including those more fully described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company assumes no obligation to update these forward-looking statements to reflect actual results, changes in risks, uncertainties or assumptions underlying or affecting such statements, or for prospective events that may have a retroactive effect.)

Contact:
Paul Knopick
888-795-6336