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Itronics Begins Stage I Silver Refinery Expansion to Increase Silver Refining Capacity by 10 Times

Itronics Green Recycling Technology to Expand Revenues, Growth Opportunities

RENO, NV--(Marketwire - 10/15/09) - Itronics Inc. (Pinksheets:ITRO - News) (Frankfurt:ITG - News) (Berlin:ITG - News) reported today that its subsidiary, Itronics Metallurgical, Inc., has obtained the funding needed to begin installation of its Stage I Silver Refinery expansion to increase silver refining capacity by a factor of ten. The expansion provides numerous benefits, including that the company will be able to expand sales of silver extracted from spent photoliquids.

In a press release dated [November 11, 2008](#), Itronics announced plans for expansion of its silver refining capacity in two stages from 24,000 ounces per year to 2.4 million ounces per year. The Stage I expansion will increase nominal silver refining capacity to 240,000 ounces per year by increasing the per melt capacity of the refining operation by 10 times with no increase in per melt cost. This produces a 90 percent decrease of the per melt cost of each ounce of silver produced.

Production at the new capacity, with a price of \$15.00 per troy ounce of silver, would increase refined silver sales from \$360,000 per year to \$3.6 million per year.

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 I refinery expansion incorporates two new environmentally beneficial leaching processes, Itromet FeLix Process and Itromet Sulix Process, which were described in a press release dated [November 6, 2007](#). The Itromet FeLix and SuLix Processes provide the ability to separate nutrient metals and minerals (iron, zinc, and sulfur) from silver- and gold-bearing solids. The solids are produced by the spent photoliquid demetallization process that Itronics Metallurgical uses to remove the silver from spent photographic liquids. The nutrient metals are put into liquid solution for use in the GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizers, and the silver- and gold-bearing solids are sent to the refinery for recovery of the precious metals from the residual non-nutrient impurities.

The Itromet FeLix and SuLix Processes produce two new fertilizer raw materials as byproducts. These raw materials are expected to improve GOLD'n GRO fertilizer quality and profitability, and to stabilize ingredient costs by replacing fertilizer ingredients which are presently purchased from outside suppliers.

The Stage I refinery expansion will make it possible for the Company to diversify and expand its sourcing of silver-bearing raw materials for processing by acquiring a new category of silver-bearing solid materials, steel wool recovery cartridges (sometimes called "ion exchange cartridges") generated by the photographic industry. The Company estimates that millions of ounces of silver are being recovered annually by the steel wool recovery cartridges in the United States.

Iron contained in the steel wool recovery cartridges will be recovered for use in the GOLD'n GRO liquid fertilizers. The contained silver will be refined and sold. Currently the iron in these cartridges is thrown away. Itronics Metallurgical believes that Itromet FeLix and Itromet SuLix technologies may also be adaptable to process certain types of silver/gold-bearing mineral concentrates produced by mines.

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>

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