Sukari revise Gold production in Egypt

Modern Mining & processing Technology at Sukari Gold mine



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Sukari Gold mines is located in the eastern desert of Egypt, 800 Km south of Cairo and about 25 Km west of The Red sea town Marsa Alam.

- Sukari gold is well located in relation to sealed roads from the red sea to the Nile.
- There are international Airport about 70 Km north of Sukari between the towns of Marsa Alam and Qusier, and a deep-water port at safaga



History Of Gold at Sukari



Pharaohs 3900-50BCE Romans 31 BCE Egyptian - British 1882-1952

Sukari Hill

- 2.5km long ridge
- 100m wide in the south • 600m wide in the north
 - 4 main zones: Amun, Ra, Gazelle and Pharaoh
- Sukari Porphyry host gold mineralization



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Exploration

Surface exploration drilling program

- Started in 1998,
- Over 600,000 metres drilling completed to date
- Modern hard rock drilling equipment was brought to Egypt for the first time in October 2000

Underground exploration drilling

- Targeting the Sukari ore body along strike at depth
- Drilling from underground is quicker and cheaper
- Drilling increasing with more underground development



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Core Log and Sampling



- Mechanical and geological core logging for all rock core samples produced by drilling must be done before send samples to processing Lab.
- Mining samples analyzed on-site
 - **Exploration samples analyzed in Australia**





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Ore Body Block Model

- Each block contain all information need for Geological and Engineering purpose.

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Underground Mining

The underground development strategy:

- Increase the reserve (extend life at current mining rate)
- Improve flexibility to deliver a consistent head grade
- Reduce sensitivity to equipment down-time



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Underground Mining – Key Figures

- Start development late 2009.
- First ore mined in October 2010.
- End of December 2012:

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- Over 10,000m of drives.
- Depth of 270m from the mine entrance.
- Over 600,000t of ore mined.
- Over 220,000oz of gold mined.
- Over 4,700,000t in reserves.



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• Lifetime of at least 5 more years in the Amun zone, much longer in the Ptah zone.



Underground Mining Activity

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 1- Mapping for current face.
2- Development Blast in declines slop 1:7.
3- Stopping Blast slop 1:100 for water drainage.

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Underground Mining Activity

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4- supporting (fibercrete 50mm, Mish and plot & cable plotting in cross section areas) 5- Load and haul.

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Open Pit

Open pits are excavated in benches, giving their sides the appearance of giant steps.

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- Each flat horizontal slice or bench is about 10m in height.
- The material is excavated and hauled out the pit along the ramps.
 - The pit is designed to safely remove the maximum quantity of ore at the lowest cost



Open pit stages development





- 7 stages of pit design
- Final pit size: 2.5km long by 1.6km wide and 735m on the largest high wall, extracting in total 1800Mt

Mining Activity

Grade Control Drilling



Ore Marking



Blast Hole Drilling



Load & Haul



Blasting

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Crusher Feed



Grade Control

Aim...to properly define grade distribution ahead of blasting/mining

- A regularly-spaced pattern of drill holes in each mining bench
- Samples taken every 1.5m and assayed in site lab
- Ore and Waste are classified and modeled





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Drilling and Blasting

Aim...to fragment the rocks and ensure ease of digging

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- Small blast holes drilled, based on the specific blast design
- Explosives put inside holes and blasting is confined
- As with all areas in the mine, <u>safety comes first</u>
- Full presence of the Ministry of Interior officials

Ore Marking

• After blasting, the grade control team delineates different areas

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- waste goes to waste dump
- Depending on grade, ore is sent to either (1) stock piles or (2) the crusher



Loading and Hauling

- Giant 4 excavators (RH120) with 30T bucket
- Giant 1 face shovel (RH170) with 45T bucket





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Loading and Hauling

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Excavators

- 4 RH120 (with1,375 t\hr digging rate)
- 1 RH170 (with 2,000 t\hr digging rate)
- 1 RH70 (with 965 t\hr digging rate)
- 2 small excavators are used in preparations projects

Trucks

- 18 CAT 785C (with 150 t capacity)
- 5 CAT 775 (with 70 t capacity)
- 3 CAD 740 ADT (with 40 t capacity)
- Ancillaries
 - 3 Wheel Loaders
 - 5 Track Dozers
 - 3 Wheel Dozers
 - 5 Graders
 - 1 Compactor



Process Plant Flow Diagram



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Crushing Process Over View

- The crushing process is the first step in size reduction progressively reducing ore to finer sizes.
- This Circuit consisting of primary crusher(gyratory crusher) screening and Secondary crushers (Sandvik Cone Crushers).
- This size reduction achieved by putting ore through the gyratory crusher The crushed ore is withdrawn from the surge pocket / bin onto conveyor belts to the screening deck, the over size(40-120mm) go through secondary crushers and after it get crushed it gathering with the under size of the screens on conveyor belts and to the Reclaim Stockpile where three apron feeders under the reclaim can feed ore onto the Grinding mill feed conveyor into the Grinding mills for further treatment in the grinding operation.
- Final product size from the crushing circuit is (28-35mm)



Modern Crushing Technology

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Sandvik Cone Crusher:

- Sandvik Cone crushers provide automatic overload protection and is equipped with automatic setting which can optimizes cone crusher efficiency and automatically adapts the crusher to variations in feed conditions.
- Automatically assists in keeping the crusher choke feed. This maximizes rock-on-rock crushing, which helps to optimize the quality of final product.

Grinding process Overview

• The grinding process is the second step in size reduction, progressively reducing ore to finer sizes.

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- The grinding circuit reduces the size of the crushed ore from the Crusher in preparation for the separation of valuable minerals in the flotation circuit .
- A grinding mill is essentially a motor-driven rotating cylindrical shell containing the charge (the charge being a combination of ore, water and the grinding media).



Purpose of Grinding process

- The grinding circuit uses a conventional SAG and Ball Milling circuit with crushing of the more competent rocks (pebbles) to produce a product with a P80 of 150 microns.
- The general purpose of grinding is to liberate the gold particles so that they freely available for chemical dissolution by cyanide.



Non-liberated Au Before Grinding Liberated Au After Grinding

This circuit is designed to grind 650 tph.



Flotation Process Overview

Why Flotation??

- Sukari gold particles are predominantly contained within the sulphide minerals and are extremely small at around 10μm in size.
- Grinding process reduces the size to be 80% less than 150 µm and only a low percentage of gold would be recovered if it was to report directly to leaching.
- The use of ultra-fine grinding is therefore required to break down the ore particles to 10µm so that they are liberated to be available for cyanide
- Ultra-fine grinding technology (Vertimill's and SMD's) are high cost units to operate and to grind the entire ore throughput (650tph) to 10µm would be uneconomical.
- Fortunately for Sukari, sulphide minerals can be separated from the remainder of the ore by the flotation process. The concentrate that is produced is approximately 5% of the total ore but contains approximately 95% of the total Au.



Flotation Mechanism

- Bubbles of air are made to rise through the mineralised slurry and form froth on the surface of the flotation cell
- There are two sets of conditions that can describe the flotation environment

Chemical conditions:

- The interaction of chemical reagents with the mineral particles to make the valuable minerals selectively attaches to the air bubbles, making minerals hydrophobic.
- If the particle is hydrophilic, water loving, the water will cover the particle. If the particle is HYDROPHOBIC, water hating, the particle will prefer the air and reject the water.

Physical-mechanical conditions:

- Which are determined by the flotation, machine.
- The flotation cell consists of an agitator/impellor which creates bubble by injecting air , mixes the slurry and bubble/particle contact

33 SUKARI MINES GOLD Air bubbles float to the surface carrying as many particles as the bubble can Rising A. Bubbles Collector Coated Minerals Flotation Cell Agitator **Froth Zone** Pulp Zone

Ultra-fine Grinding Technology

- The use of ultra-fine grinding for gold extraction is a relatively modern practice for which it has only been typically applied within the industry within the past 12 years.
- The regrind circuit consists of a tower mill and two SMD mills operating in series.
- The final product, with a P80 of 12 microns, from the regrind circuit is leached in a CIL (carbon-in-leach) circuit.

Tower Mill (VERTIMILL):

- The Vertimill is typically arranged in closed circuit and fed by the cyclone underflow.
- The motor power turns the Vertimill screw at constant speed to stir the

grinding balls and slurry.

- As the particles are ground, they rise to the top of the mill and overflows into the a hopper(small tank)
- And the product from the Vertimill get pumped to the cyclone again.
- The over flow from the cyclone pumped to other cyclone which split the particles to over flow(12micron) which combined with the products from the SMDs.



Ultra-fine Grinding Technology

Stirred Media Detritor (SMD)

- The feed slurry(the under flow from the second cyclone) enters through a feed spout in the top cover which directs the feed into the bottom of the vortex (bottom of the mill)without any inlet head.
- Grinding media is added either by the automatic Media Addition System through one of the unused feed ports or manually through the media feed chute.
- Final product leaves the SMD through the media retention screens, situated around the top of the body and is collected in an external launder and is then pumped to feed another SMD and then reported directly to the leaching process.



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Gold Leaching & Recovery

Gold is leached using cyanide and adsorbed onto activated carbon particles advanced counter-currently through the tanks.

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 $4Au + 8 CN' + O_2 + 2 H_2O = 4 Au(CN)_2 + 4 OH'$

- Carbon loaded with gold is removed from the tanks on a batch-by-batch basis and the gold is stripped off the carbon using a conventional pressure Zadra elution circuit, with the gold plating onto stainless steel wool cathodes.
- The gold sludge is washed from the cathodes, dried and smelted into bullion.

