

Minco appoints Ian Smith aged 61 to its Board of Directors

Minco plc, the AIM listed precious and base metals exploration company is delighted to announce the appointment of Ian Smith, President, CEO and COO of bcMetals Corporation, as a non-executive director of the company.

Mr Smith is a mining engineer with almost 40 years experience in corporate, operations and project management and consulting experience within the international base, precious metals and coal industries. His appointment brings a wealth of technical and international business expertise, including the management of grass-roots start-up projects as well as specific insight into the Mexican mining industry.

Ian's career includes operating management positions as the mine superintendent of the Bougainville copper mine in Papua New Guinea and General Mine Superintendent of the La Caridad mine in Mexico. He was also President and Founding Partner of the well-respected international consulting engineering company, Mineral Resources Development Inc., which was responsible for projects including the technical aspects of restructuring Zambian Consolidated Copper Mines, and the Competent Person's Report on the London market sale of the Ghana Government's shareholding in Ashanti Goldfields.

More recently, as Chairman, President and CEO of Rea Gold Corporation, he was responsible for bringing the 70,000 oz/year San Gregorio open pit gold mine in Uruguay into production.

In welcoming Ian Smith to the Board, Minco's Chairman, Roger Turner, said "Ian's long-standing involvement with mining in Mexico allied to his proven track-record in mine start-up projects adds further depth to the Board as we move towards achieving the transition from exploration to production. I am delighted that Ian will be working alongside us as we build Minco into a fully fledged mining company."

Ian Smith's current directorships are:

BC Metals Corporation

Crosshair Exploration and Mining Corporation

Andreas Limited

There are no further disclosures required under schedule 2 paragraph (g) of the AIM rules. Mr Smith has held no other directorships during the last five years.

For further information, please contact:

Roger Turner, Executive Chairman	+44 (0) 20 7397 8155
Simon Beardsmore, Commercial Manager	+44 (0) 20 7397 8159
Chris Rollason, Collins Stewart Europe Limited	+44 (0) 20 7523 8350
Tom McCormack, ConneXions	+353 (0) 1230 3015
Nick Bias, BuckBias	+44 (0) 788 792 0530

Minco Plc Registered Office 1
65-68 St Stephens Green
Dublin 2, Ireland