

Robert (BOB) CLOSE



PERSONAL

Principal Residence: 16 Trelawney Street, Woollahra, Sydney. NSW, Australia. 2025.

Home Email: bobclose40@yahoo.com.au **Mob:** +61 0411341711;

Australian citizen with a UK-EEC passport; can relocate and undertake fulltime or contract mineral exploration almost anywhere, previously operating from Oman/UK/Aust to Turkey.

Member of AIG and qualified to sign off on ASX reports.

MSc Geology - Thesis on granitoid metallogenesis Australian National University, 1978.

Publications: Co-authored four papers on VMS deposits in Oman and Australia.

RECENT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Sayona Mining Ltd (ASX) Brisbane based Consultant in Turkey Nov-Dec 2013

Gentor Resources (TSX) - Oman & Turkey based April 2011- July 2013
- Managing Director (2011) / Business Development Manager (2012-13)

Gullewa Limited - Chief Geologist, Sydney based Dec 2009- April 2011
- Allegiance Coal Qld project generation; NSW base metal exploration

Queensland Dept Minerals & Energy- Brisbane June 2009- Dec 2009
- Geoscientist in Technical Assessment of state wide mineral and coal exploration

Queensland Minerals Australia Limited (Canada) Feb 2008 – Jan 2009
- Exploration Manager based in Cairns

Citadel Resources Group Ltd (Bariq Mining) - Saudi Arabia.
- Exploration/Development Manager Jabal Sayid Project Feb 2007 – Jan 2008
EMED Mining Ltd - Cyprus-ME Exploration Manager Feb 2006 - Feb 2007

National Mining Company L.L.C. (Mawarid Mining) Oman
- General Manager/ Exploration Manager July 2000 – Jan 2006

Sirocco Resources NL & Caledonian Pacific Minerals NL
- Consultant Exploration Geologist, Sydney-based Oct 1998-April 2000

Plutonic Resources - Lachlan Resources Ltd
- Regional & District Geologist, Townsville, Sydney and Perth 1990 -1998

Pancontinental Mining Ltd 1983 - 1989
- Senior Regional Exploration Geologist, E Australia (Sydney and Townsville)

SUMMARY

Overall more than 40 years dominantly gold and base metals exploration experience in the Mining industry in Australasia, the Middle East and Europe with particular expertise in discovery. Competent field and offshore operator capable in regional metallogenic consulting programs or managing / mentoring technical assessment of exploration from grassroots to resource/reserve delineation, plus feasibility in development projects. Developed international expertise in VHMS and intrusive-related metal deposits, and since 2014 Bob has been an Australian based independent consultant geologist.

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Bob is a highly experienced versatile and successful economic geologist with proven project generation, discovery, project evaluation, resource assessment, reporting and management skills. He has an excellent technical background in regional exploration through to resource development in Australasia, Arabia-SE Europe with particular expertise in precious and base metal deposits including intrusive-related porphyry-epithermal systems, VHMS and IOCG deposits.

Experience in resource definition, mine development, grade control and QA/QC has been gained in several mines and feasibility-development projects in Australia and the Middle East.

A self-starter, Bob has developed exploration expertise in many ore environments with focus on project field evaluation, geological supervision and providing superior technical advice to corporate management, project presentation to consultants, stakeholders, Governments and preparing stock exchange releases for stakeholders and investors.

Management experience ranges to Regional Exploration Manager in Majors to MD, General Manager & Exploration-Development Manager in juniors with responsibility for up to 50 personnel in multi-disciplinary teams and consultants with annual budgets to \$6M.

In recent years in Europe and the Middle East he has held senior positions reporting directly to the MD or CEO in emerging Mining Groups, initiating discovering and managing brown fields Pre-Feasibility- Development projects with additional project generation and mentoring responsibilities.

From 2000-2006 in Oman, Bob was been directly responsible for discovering a series of high-grade open pit copper-gold VHMS deposits, which he managed through Feasibility and into initial development with the help of reputable Australian consultants. As General Manager he became familiar with multiracial personnel management, Government liaison, the engineering-geological aspects of mine development, resource definition, and optimization, metallurgical aspects, safety culture and environmental-social requirements.

He enjoys technical assessment and hands on field project supervision or mapping where necessary; leads by example in a team environment and revels in the challenge of exploring major resource targets leading to mining development. He can handle management of multiple projects and guide teams in a variety of geological and cultural environments.

He is capable of building a dedicated team, using his personal skills to motivate and mentor associates, improve their operational capability to meet required goals/reporting standards as well as providing cost-efficient field evaluation and critical analysis of projects.

This expertise has led to significant gold and VMS base metal discoveries in Eastern Australia and offshore (Cu in Oman / Turkey) as well as increased resources in development projects (Jabil Sayid) by well planned drilling (Au in WA & Cu in Oman & Saudi) plus coal in SE Qld. He also has evaluated and initiated quality corporate acquisitions that have contributed to company expansion and profitability.

In summary, Bob is a competent explorationist and hands on discovery geologist who can use the latest technology to realize the potential of a good project, and recommend the requirements to bring it to feasibility for development. He can also design/conduct efficient resource drillouts, identify critical geological resource factors and recognize weak or non performing projects to enable corporate focus on its best projects for generating economic success.

Major capabilities include:

- Competent economic geologist, able to manage and mentor multi disciplinary teams.
- Specialized in gold-base metal discovery and exploration to reserve delineation.
- Strong analytical skills in data integration, project evaluation and resource definition.
- Excellent communication, team leadership, reporting and presentation skills.
- Technical QC and budget and tenement expertise to support corporate management goals.
- Wide knowledge of gold-base metal-iron ore types, coal and application of exploration models.

RELEVANT INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

Gentor Resources Ltd - MD Oman / Bus Dev Manager Turkey April 2011-July 2013

- Managed **VMS** exploration and **PFS of Mahab 4 Cu deposit** and new acquisitions in Oman
- Initiated regional VMS exploration in Turkey resulting in **discovery of a large MS deposit at Karaburun**, and enhanced Cu resources at **Hacimeter** in new Ophiolite-related terrains.

Gullewa Limited - Chief Geologist, Sydney based Dec 2009- April 2011

- Supervised coal exploration and new acquisitions for **Allegiance Coal** throughout Queensland
- Conducted new project generation and project submittal reviews in Eastern Australia for gold, base metals and coal resulting in the grant of twelve licences in Northern NSW.
- Gold exploration concepts and regional geochemical assessment in Ballarat region Victoria.

Queensland Minerals Ltd - Exploration Manager -Cairns based Feb 2008 - Jan 2009

- Refined Nth Qld epithermal gold concepts and determined the value in priority projects.
- Managing exploration of the emerging **Dingo Peak Cu-Au porphyry** project - Chillagoe.

Bariq Mining Ltd (Citadel RG) - Expl-Dev Manager -Saudi Arabia Feb 2007- Jan 2008

- Responsible for **PFS resource upgrade** of the giant **Cu-rich Jabal Sayid VHMS** Deposit.
- Increased drill based resources in all lodes and defined additional resource potential.
- Conducted International – Nth African project generation and exploration project review.

EMED Mining Ltd- Eastern Europe- Cyprus-ME Manager Feb 2006- Feb 2007

- Responsible for technical review and evaluation of all **Cyprus Cu-Au** projects.
- Increased drilled resources in **Klirou PFS**, defined additional Au-Zn resource potential.
- Conducted Europe & Turkey project generation and acquisition project review.

National Mining Company L.L.C. Oman - General Manager July 2000 – Jan 2006

- Discovered the **Shinas** group **Ophiolitic VMS copper deposits** with gold-rich gossans.
- Organised advanced exploration, resource definition and positive Feasibility within 3 Yrs.
- Achieved strategic growth by securing **15Mt Cu resource projects** for integrated development.
- Built a new corporate team to manage ongoing mine-process development in 2004-05.
- Evaluated Pan African and regional Tethyan Eurasian resource acquisition projects.

Sirocco Resources NL Sydney-based Consultant, June1999 -April 2000

- Generated and managed exploration of Firetower a **stockwork gold project** in Tasmania,
- Reviewed Central Victorian alluvial and **bonanza vein style gold** acquisition projects.

Caledonian Pacific Minerals NL Sydney-based Consultant Oct 1998 – June 1999

- Evaluation, refinement of exploration concepts leading to drill definition of resource targets for VMS/sediment-hosted deposits and **intrusive-related gold** prospects in New Caledonia.
- Researched and visited major **Ni laterite-saprolite deposits** in the Ophiolite massifs.

Plutonic Resources - Lachlan Resources Ltd - District Geologist–Sydney 1994 – 1998

- Led **Australia-wide base metal–gold VMS exploration** project generation, implementation and evaluation plus reporting on specialist research–fieldwork studies of corporate polymetallic projects.
- Designed, and monitored grassroots to advanced exploration programs & budgets of AUD\$2-4M.
 - Increased resources or defined the resource potential in significant VMS projects i.e. **Balcooma** in Qld, and the **Orange-Lewis Ponds** and **Woodlawn** projects NSW.
 - Conducted resource evaluations in several key **advanced Sedex & VMS projects** (**Walford Ck-Qld, Koongie Park WA**) and contributed to feasibility studies.
 - Supervised Mt Goode (**South Cosmos**) **laterite-disseminated Ni sulphide** project WA.

- Recognized and drilled Thomas Ck a **porphyry style** Cu-Au prospect in SW Tasmania.
- Supervised in house and external **exploration research in Eastern Australia**, which included the NW Qld-Mt Isa-McArthur River and Mt Read VMS AMIRA projects.

Regional Geologist-District Geologist (Townsville and Perth) 1990-1994

- Led regional base metal-gold exploration in the **Mt Windsor Province**, discovered the **Ermine VMS** deposit and defined potential new resources at **Balcooma**.
- Conducted regional project generation and gold property evaluation in North Queensland including **Yandan**, Esmeralda; then
- Rationalized corporate and joint venture **minesite gold exploration at Peak Hill**, WA.
- Initiated gold-base metal exploration in selected **Eastern Goldfields** Greenstone belts.

North Queensland Resources- Exploration Manager (Charters Towers) 1989 - 1990

Acquired advanced projects to provide mill-feed for 0.7Mtpa **Disraeli-Rishton gold plant**.

- Conducted a positive PFS of the **Far Fanning Au** Orogenic vein deposit.
- Gained **open pit mining and grade reconciliation experience at Disraeli and Highway**.
- Reviewed lode potential of the intrusive related **Charters Towers vein system**.

PanContinental Mining Ltd 1983 - 1989

Senior Regional Geologist – E Australia (Sydney and North Queensland)

Responsible for **gold project generation** and regional metallogenic studies, leading Industry research projects and development of resource targets in Eastern Australia and the South West Pacific.

- **Discovered** the mined **1.7 M tonnes @ 3 g/t Au intrusive-hosted resources at Croydon Qld**
- Led Eastern Australian gold exploration and then **polymetallic base metal research** for the Pancontinental-Outokumpu (Panfin) JV mainly in Western Tasmania and Qld.
- Involved in corporate reviews of significant resource projects, **Macraes Flat**, Ballarat E.
- **Initiated acquisition of the 8M tonne @ 12% Cu-Pb-Zn VMS Thalanga project** Nth Qld for the Panfin JV, and managed regional exploration of the surrounding Mt Windsor project.
- **Database development on SW Pacific Epithermal-Porphyry gold-copper properties**, leading to key offshore project evaluations and JV's in Fiji, PNG and Indonesia.
- Helped implement and monitor gold exploration projects in NSW, Qld, PNG and Fiji.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE PRIOR TO 1984

Newmont Holdings Pty Ltd; Contract Geologist in Queensland: 1982-1983

- Rediscovered the resource potential of the **Disraeli gold system**, Charters Towers.
- Explored for **gold porphyry breccia-hosted Mt Leyshon & Mt Morgan** deposits.

E Z Co of Australasia Ltd; Senior Regional Geologist – Queensland: 1980-1982

- Conducted **porphyry, skarn and Carlin-style gold exploration** in Central Qld.

AMDEX Mining Ltd - Triako Mines; Sydney based Senior Geologist: 1978-1980

- Supervised JV polymetallic projects (**Mineral Hill**), **Cobar-Nymagee** in NSW **Extended IRG gold resources at Dargue's Reef-Majors Ck**. NSW.
- Explored and reviewed **granite related Sn-W-Mo projects** in Eastern Australia

B.H.P. Co Ltd; Melbourne-based Junior -Project Geologist: 1968- 1975

- Australia/PNG wide regional exploration for base metals, tin, iron, nickel and uranium.
- Resource drilling Asbestos-Hibbs UM prospect (TAS), **Iron ore, Hamersley's**, Koolan Is.
- Discovered a small high-grade polymetallic **VMS deposit at Halls Peak** NSW.