The importance of geological mapping, drill-hole logging and 3D geoscientific data integration in the exploration of porphyry copper-(gold) deposits



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Centre for **EXPLORATION**

TARGETING

Geological mapping, core-logging and 3D geoscientific data integration in the exploration of porphyry copper-(gold) deposits

1. Anaconda Method

Observation as a basis for successful exploration that leads to discovery Effective visualization of multi-variant data in geological mapping and core logging

2. Example from the Alpala porphyry copper-gold-silver deposit, Ecuador

Creek mapping through drill-core logging to 3D modelling and resource estimation

3. Conclusions

Basic geology provides a strong foundation for exploration in conjunction with 3D interpretation to enhance understanding of controls to mineralization and location of ore zones

The Anaconda Method – An effective tool to record observations critical to discovery

- Color-coded mapping of key features of alteration/mineralization
- Quantitative estimates of mineral, vein and fracture abundances
- Measurement of attitudes and relative age between features (vein-types or intrusions)
- Mapping to complement numerical mapping designed for computer databases
- A geologist who draws what he sees in the rocks has greater flexibility and freedom of thought than one who is forced to pigeon-hole everything into a numerical category
- Detailed, geological and mineralogical notes compiled on posting sheets ("fact maps"), whose color and textural distinctions allow quick visual correlation of common features between outcrops, mine benches, or drill holes
- The use of standardized colours allows a given exploration team or research group to read and understand each other's maps
- This approach presented is a direct evolution of mapping schemes devised by Anaconda geologists at El Salvador, Chile, and Yerington, Nevada in the 1960's, based on Butte, Montana
- The 'Anaconda method' is drawn from ideas generated from field work and discussions between Marco Einaudi, John Proffett, John Hunt, Bill Atkinson and John Dilles (R. Sales / C. Meyer)

Face / Trench Example

air side







ALPALA (85% OWNED)

SOLGOLD'S MAIDEN PROJECT. THE FIRST OF MANY POTENTIAL WORLD CLASS PROJECTS ACROSS ECUADOR. 1510

SolGold Discovery of Alpala Cu-Au Porphyry Deposit, Northern Ecuador

- Alpala discovery outcrop found May 2012
- World-class intersection achieved in Hole 5 Jan 2014



Reconnaissance mapping located ~80 m wide zone of Cu- and Aubearing, sheeted, porphyry-style quartz veins in Alpala Creek

Alpala Deposit Stream Exposure

Rock-saw channel sampling in Alpala Creek



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Dom	Oneveter	Property	Location	Interval	terval Cu Au Cu.Eq m%			m%	
Ran	Operator		Location	(m)	(%)	(g/t)	(%)	CuEq	
1	Anglo American	Los Sulphatos	Central Chile	717.0	3.60	0.00	3.60	2581	A CARLER IN THE AND A CARLER AND A
2	Codelco	Chilean Giants	Northern Chile	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	2500	
3	Kennecott	Bingham Canyon	Utah, USA	unknown	unknown	unknown	unknown	2500	
4	Newcrest Mining	Wafi-Golpu	Papua New Guinea	1421.5	1.14	0.64	1.54	2195	
5	Newcrest Mining	Wafi-Golpu	Papua New Guinea	943.5	1.44	1.28	2.25	2122	
6	Imperial Metals	Red Chris	BC, Canada	1024.0	1.01	1.26	1.81	1850	E COMPANY & PORT
7	Anglo Gold Ashanti	Nuevo Chaquiri	Colombia	810.0	1.65	0.78	2.14	1736	
8	Freeport McMoran	Grasberg	Irian Jaya	591.0	1.70	1.80	2.84	1677	
9	Ivanhoe Mines	Oyu Tolgoi	Southern Mongolia	326.0	3.77	1.23	4.55	1482	TYPICAL MINERALISATION
10	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 12	Ecuador	1560.0	0.59	0.54	0.93	1455	CSD-15-012: 898.1m
11	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 9	Ecuador	1197.4	0.63	0.83	1.16	1385	
12	Exeter Resources	Caspiche	Northern Chile	1214.0	0.90	0.33	1.11	1346	1.23 % Cu, 0.71 g/t Au
13	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 5	Ecuador	1358.0	0.61	0.53	0.94	1279	1
14	Metallica	El Morro, La Fortuna	Chile	780.0	0.84	1.24	1.62	1266	
15	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 16	Ecuador	936.0	0.75	0.95	1.35	1266	
16	Anglo American	Los Sulphatos	Central Chile	990.0	1.26	0.00	1.26	1247	
17	/ Ivanhoe Mines	Oyu Tolgoi	Southern Mongolia	476.0	2.16	0.67	2.58	1230	
18	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 23R	Ecuador	1030.0	0.59	0.90	1.16	1195	
19	Metallica	El Morro, La Fortuna	Chile	758.0	0.93	0.99	1.56	1179	
20	Newcrest	Cadia Ridgeway	NSW, Australia	341.0	0.93	3.86	3.37	1149	AL CONTRACTOR
21	Ivanhoe Mines	Hugo Dummet	Southern Mongolia	302.0	3.11	0.98	3.73	1126	and the second s
22	Ivanhoe Mines	Oyu Tolgoi	Southern Mongolia	422.0	2.48	0.21	2.61	1103	and the second sec
23	Imperial Metals	Red Chris	Canada	1135.0	0.50	0.59	0.87	991	the second second line
24	Exeter Resources	Caspiche	Northern Chile	1058.0	0.70	0.35	0.92	975	
25	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 15R2	Ecuador	1402.0	0.48	0.34	0.69	974	the second s
26	Exeter Resources	Caspiche	Northern Chile	792.5	0.96	0.40	1.21	961	
27	Imperial Metals	Red Chris	BC, Canada	716.3	0.79	0.74	1.26	901	
28	Nevsun	Timok	Serbia	798.0	0.80	0.22	1.11	886	
29	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 17	Ecuador	954.0	0.60	0.52	0.93	884	
30	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 21	Ecuador	946.0	0.67	0.39	0.92	872	
31	Metallica	El Morro, La Fortuna	Chile	820.0	0.59	0.73	1.05	862	SAN NE LE RIVER AND SAN
32	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 19	Ecuador	1344.0	0.44	0.28	0.62	829	
33	SolGold Plc	Cascabel - Hole 18	Ecuador	864.0	0.57	0.61	0.96	825	
34	Seabridge Gold Inc.	KSM	Canada	1023.4	0.24	0.77	0.73	744	Service and the service of the servi
NOT	ES: *Gold Conversion Facto	r of 0.63 calculated from a covimately 25% to 50%	copper price of US\$3.00/II	o and a gold pri	ice US\$1300/o	oz. True widt & broker repo	hs of downho	e interval	

Alpala Central Geology and B-Vein Abundance (2014)

The geometry of the vein zones indicate northwesterly, northeasterly and subordinate northerly-trends, which are consistent with the strike-directions of the "B"-type quartz veins measured in the field. These three vein sets typically dip steeply towards the northeast, northwest and east, respectively.



Alpala Central Chalcopyrite-Pyrite Ratio (2014)

The mapped zone of chalcopyrite / pyrite > 1 trends north-northwest, parallel to the Alpala structural zone, and coincides with an increased abundance of "B"-type quartz veins.





Alpala - Cascabel Vein Types

Photographs of drill-core from the Alpala deposit. **a)** Prismatic quartz showing unidirectional solidification texture (UST), cut by a chalcopyrite-rich C-vein; **b)** intrusive contact between late quartz diorite dike (QD20) and early diorite intrusion (D10), showing truncation of early porphyry-style quartz-veins (B) and a late CD-vein that cross-cuts the contact; **c)** Chalcopyrite vein and late-stage bornite along fracture surface; **d)** Magnetite-bearing B1 quartz vein stockwork with clots of chalcopyrite (cp); **e)** late-stage pyritic D-vein with selvedge of quartz-sericite.



Garwin et al., 2017

Alpala Vein Paragenesis



- Classified on descriptive criteria: morphology, mineralogy, texture and orientation
- Grouped by interpreted age and from higher to lower temperatures



- NOTES:
- Anhydrite occurs over wide temperature range
- Later vein-stages re-open earlier vein stages
- EDM veins are re-opened by later chalcopyrite



Alpala Geological Units and Intrusive Phases











Cu-equivalent grade (wt.%) = Cu (wt.%) + $0.63 \times Au (g/t)$, assuming US\$ 3.00 per pound Cu and US\$ 1300 per troy ounce Au.

Quartz Vein Abundance by Geological Unit





Alpala Diamond Drilling



Alpala drill plan

(January 2019), showing key grade shell outlines and the location of sections in the following figures, which also include the 500 m level-plan.

As of June 2022 (PFS), > 250,000 m of drilling.

At 0.2% Cu eq. cut-off:

- > 2,000 m strike-extent
- Steeply NE-dipping
- > 1,900 m vertical interval from surface to below -250 m asl
- > 1000 m wide
- Open in several directions

Cu-equivalent grade (wt.%) = Cu (wt.%) + $0.63 \times Au (g/t)$, assuming US\$ 3.00 per pound Cu and US\$ 1300 per troy ounce Au.

Cross-section 82950 m N, showing geological interpretations, copper-equivalent shells of 0.9 wt.% and 0.3 wt.% and molybdenum in drill-core (window <u>+</u> 50 m) June 2018



Cross-section 82950 m N, showing abundance of Cu-Au-bearing porphyry-type quartz veins, chalcopyrite-pyrite ratio and bornite concentration in drill-core



Cross-section 82950 m N, showing geological interpretation and visually estimated abundance of pyrite

SW



NE

Cross-section 82950 m N, showing early- and late-stage hydrothermal alteration (based on visual logging and SWIR analyses of coarse rejects for drill-core)





Longitudinal cross-section, showing geological interpretation, copper-equivalent shells of 0.9 and 0.3 wt.% and molybdenum in drill-core (dip-direction of -85 degrees towards N39E – window <u>+</u> 50m),



Longitudinal cross-section, showing the geological interpretation, copper-equivalent shells of 0.9% and 0.3% and the abundance of Cu-Au-bearing, porphyry-style quartz veins



Longitudinal cross-section, showing the geological interpretation, copper-equivalent shells of 0.9% and 0.3%, chalcopyrite-pyrite ratio and bornite abundance



500m level-plan for the Alpala deposit, showing geology interpretations and Cu-equiv. shells of 0.9 and 0.3 wt.% (window <u>+</u> 25m)



500m level-plan for the Alpala deposit, showing geological interpretation, Cu-equiv. shells of 0.9% and 0.3 wt.% and molybdenum



500m level-plan for the Alpala deposit, showing geological interpretation, Cu-equiv. shells of 0.9 and 0.3 wt.% and porphyry-style quartz vein abundance



500m level-plan for the Alpala deposit, showing geological interpretation, Cu-equiv. shells of 0.9 and 0.3 wt.%, chalcopyrite-pyrite ratio and bornite abundance



Alpala Deposit Geometry

- Hand-drawn and LF-assisted models show relationships between CuEq grades, geology, mineralization and alteration
 - Examples include 0.9 wt.% and 0.3 wt.% CuEq grade shells, molybdenum, quartz vein abundance, chalcopyrite-pyrite ratio, bornite abundance and early- and late-stage hydrothermal alteration
- High-grade (> 0.9 wt.% CuEq) associated with pre-mineralization D10 and early-mineralization QD10 intrusions
 - Intra-mineralization D15 contributes lower grades to the deposit (e.g., 0.3 to 0.9 wt.% CuEq); late-mineralization intrusions and hydrothermal breccia are low-grade (< 0.3 wt.% CuEq)
 - Gentle northwesterly plunge to the base of the deposit generally follows the plunging apex of the D15 intrusions
- Molybdenum (in molybdenite) forms a halo to the high-grade core of the deposit
 - Mo < 10 ppm in high-grade core; Mo ranges from 10 to > 40 ppm in lower grade periphery
- Porphyry-type quartz vein abundance shows a strong positive spatial correlation to CuEq grades and intrusive stages
 - Quartz veins > 5 vol.% characterize > 0.9 wt.% CuEq; Vein abundance of about one-percent coincides with 0.3 wt.% CuEq shell
- Sulfide mineral distribution provides vectors towards high-grade ore zones
 - Chalcopyrite-pyrite ratios exceed one (cp/py > 1) in high-grade core and approximate 0.5 (cp/py = ½) for 0.3 wt.% CuEq periphery
 - Cpy is transitional-stage and occurs with mt, py and locally hm; early-stage metal deposition is characterized by mt + (bn)
 - Bn > 0.3% occurs locally in the upper parts of the deposit majority of bornite is late-stage and occurs with pyrite+chalcopyrite
 - Pyrite in high-grade core ~1.0 to 2.5 vol.%; In the lower-grade, upper portion of deposit, pyrite ranges from about 2.5 to 5 vol.%
- Spatial and temporal relationships between hydrothermal alteration and copper-gold mineralization
 - Transition zone between early-stage potassic- and propylitic-alteration, which contains actinolite, coincides with high-grade core
 - Cu+Au and cpy deposition are related to transitional-stage chlorite-sericite overprint of potassic- and propylitic-alteration
 - Late-stage quartz-sericite, pyrophyllite-dickite and kaolinitic alteration types characterize the upper portions of the deposit

MRE3 Jan 2021 ALPALA MINERAL RESOURCE ESTIMATE (21.7 Moz Au, 9.9Mt Cu, 92.2Moz Ag)

Cut-off	Pesource	Mt	Grade				Contained Metal			
Grade	Category		CuEq (%)	Cu (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (ppm)	CuEq (Mt)	Cu (Mt)	Au (Moz)	Ag (Moz)
	Measured	1,192	0.72	0.48	0.39	1.87	8.6	5.7	15	52.4
	Indicated	1,470	0.37	0.28	0.14	0.84	5.5	4.2	6.6	39.8
0.21	Measured + Indicated	2,663	0.53	0.37	0.25	1.08	14.0	9.9	21.7	92.2
	Inferred	544	0.31	0.24	0.11	0.61	1.7	1.3	1.9	10.6
	Planned dilution	5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

High Grade Core: Measured plus Indicated Categories											
Cut-off grade	Mt		Gr	ade		Contained metal					
		CuEq (%)	C∪ (%)	Au (g/t)	Ag (ppm)	CuEq (Mt)	Cu (M†)	Au (Moz)	Ag (Moz)		
0.80%	442	1.40	0.87	0.86	2.34	6.2	3.8	12.3	33.3		

1. Mrs. Cecilia Artica, SME Registered Member, Principal Geology Consultant of Mining Plus, is responsible for this Mineral Resource statement and is an "independent Qualified Person" as such term is defined in NI 43-101.

2. The Mineral Resource is reported using a cut-off grade of 0.21% copper equivalent calculated using [copper grade (%)] + [gold grade (g/t) x 0.613] as discussed above. Metal prices used were US\$3.40/lb for copper and US\$1,400/oz for gold.

3. The Mineral Resource is considered to have reasonable prospects for eventual economic extraction by underground mass mining such as block caving.

4. Mineral Resources are not Mineral Reserves and do not have demonstrated economic viability.

5. The statement uses the terminology, definitions and guidelines given in the CIM Standards on Mineral Resources and Mineral Reserves (May 2014) as required by NI 43-101.

6. MRE is reported on 100 percent basis within an optimised shape as described below.

7. Figures may not compute due to rounding.

Cu-equivalent grade (wt.%) = Cu (wt.%) + 0.613 x Au (g/t), assuming US\$ 3.40 per pound Cu and US\$ 1400 per troy ounce Au.



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Conclusions

- The collection of accurate geological data is critical in minerals exploration, or any scientific endeavour
- The successful visualization, integration and interpretation of relevant data facilitates the path to discovery
- The field-based methods presented here have proven useful in exploration and mining programs for decades
- These approaches have become less main-stream recently
- Geologists who have yet to apply the Anaconda method will benefit from this old-school form of technology transfer

Acknowledgements



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THANK YOU