

WESTERN CANADIAN INVESTMENTS

NO. 207 (2000)
OCTOBER 30, 2000

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TECK CORPORATION

[TEK-T.B] 107,358,693 SHS.

THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2000			1999
REVENUES	\$182,989,000		\$154,900,000
EXPENSES	180,845,000		154,708,000
EQUITY IN EARNINGS			
OF COMINCO LTD.	22,856,000		11,425,000
NET EARNINGS	24,602,000		12,126,000
EARNINGS PER SHARE	22¢		11¢
WTD. AV. SHARES OUT.	107,517,356		107,144,344

NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2000			1999
REVENUES	\$509,363,000		\$468,606,000
EXPENSES	498,596,000		467,895,000
EQUITY IN EARNINGS			
OF COMINCO LTD.	37,228,000		8,912,000
NET EARNINGS	42,616,000		11,536,000
EARNINGS PER SHARE	38¢		10¢

THIRD QUARTER REPORT - Dr. Norman Keevil, president, Teck Corp., reports financial and production results for the three and nine months ended 30Sept2000. The higher earnings were due mainly to higher earnings from COMINCO LTD. [CLT-T] and improved profitability from coal operations. Teck's holding in Cominco is 42,600,000 shares representing a 50% interest.

Net earnings from operations were \$2,000,000 compared with \$701,000 in the third quarter of 1999, with improved earnings from coal and copper operations offsetting lower profits from gold operations. Cash flow from operations, before working capital adjustments, was \$21,000,000 in the third quarter, the same as a year ago. For the nine months ended September 30, cash flow from operations was \$75,000,000, up from \$70,000,000 in the same period last year.

At September 30, cash was \$129,000,000. Net working capital was \$65,000,000 compared with \$196,000,000 at the end of the previous quarter. The reduction was due primarily to the purchase of 4,000,000 Cominco shares in August for \$100,000,000. This acquisition was substantially financed by bank advances of \$95,000,000 which were repaid shortly after the quarter-end. Cash and working capital are expected to increase in November when the sale of the company's 29.25% interest in Quebrada Blanca, Chile to AUR RESOURCES INC. [AUR-T], is scheduled to close. Cash proceeds of the sale will be about \$190,000,000.

Gold production in the third quarter was 116,601 ounces compared with 133,382 ounces in the same period in 1999. The company's 50% share of gold production from the David Bell and Williams mines at Hemlo, Ontario was 74,945 ounces in the third quarter, compared with 75,727 ounces a year ago. Production from the 100% owned Tarmoola Mine, Australia, decreased from 56,418 ounces to 30,300 ounces in the third quarter, as the mine is undergoing a planned waste-stripping phase necessitating the mining of lower than average grade ore and the processing of low-grade stockpile ore.

In the third quarter, the average realized gold price including hedging gains was US \$300/oz compared with US \$309/oz in 1999. The average cash operating cost was US \$185/oz, up from US \$181/oz in 1999 due in part to the lower gold production. Operating profit (after depreciation) of \$11,500,000 was 22% lower than operating profit of \$14,700,000 a year ago due to lower production and lower realized gold prices.

Copper production was 30,000,000 pounds in the third quarter compared with 20,000,000 pounds a year ago, due mainly to the restart of Highland Valley Copper, BC, which was shut down from May to October of 1999. Copper sales were 35,000,000 pounds compared with 27,000,000 pounds a year ago. The average realized copper price in the third quarter was US 81¢/lb compared with US 82¢/lb in 1999. Operating profit (after depreciation) of \$3,400,000 in the third quarter was higher than \$2,500,000 a year ago due to

higher sales volume.

Zinc sales in the third quarter were 7% lower from last year due to delays in shipping, while niobium production was down 9% due to lower ore grades and recoveries. Zinc and niobium operations contributed an operating profit of \$2,000,000 after depreciation.

Metallurgical coal production in the third quarter was 1,345,396 tonnes, up significantly from 914,829 tonnes in 1999, with the Elkview Mine, BC, producing 1,115,800 tonnes. Coal sales were 1,352,294 tonnes compared with 951,275 tonnes a year ago. Operating profit (after depreciation) from coal operations was \$4,000,000 in the third quarter. This is a significant improvement over 1999, when there was an operating loss (after depreciation) of \$4,000,000. The higher operating profit was due mainly to lower unit operating costs from economies of scale related to higher production and sales volumes, and lower transportation charges.

Elkview is undergoing a planned production expansion from 2,800,000 tonnes in 1999 to 4,000,000 tonnes in 2000 and 5,000,000 tonnes in 2001. The higher output will significantly enhance the mine's operating efficiency and competitiveness. The higher sales volume is expected to be achieved as a result of higher sales demand and the recent establishment of new coal markets.

Cominco reported net earnings of \$48,000,000 in the third quarter and \$89,000,000 for the nine months ended 30Sept2000, compared with \$17,000,000 and \$28,000,000 respectively in 1999. (SEE GCNL NO.206, 27Oct2000, P.2 FOR MORE COMINCO DETAILS)

The significant increase in earnings in the third quarter was due to a higher zinc price, which averaged US 53¢/lb in the third quarter compared with US 51¢/lb in 1999, improved profitability from the Highland Valley Copper operation and significant profits from the sale of surplus power by the Trail, BC, division. In the third quarter, refined zinc output from Trail and Cajamarquilla was 99,000 tonnes compared with 103,600 tonnes a year ago. Zinc concentrate output was 339,800 tonnes from the zinc mines compared with 326,700 tonnes a year ago, with Red Dog producing a record 256,000 tonnes.

In September Teck filed with the TSE a notice to extend its current normal course issuer bid for its Class B Subordinate Voting Shares to 14Sept2001. This share buy-back program entitles Teck to buy up to 5,000,000 of its outstanding Class B Shares representing about 4.9% of its outstanding shares. During the past 12 months of the normal course issuer bid, Teck has bought and cancelled 1,647,100 Class B Shares at an average price of \$10.14 per share.

Construction of the Antamina project (Teck-22.5%) in Peru is on budget and on schedule. Detailed engineering was essentially complete and overall construction of permanent facilities was 64% complete at the end of September. Construction of the concentrator facility is progressing well with the placing of more than 95% of the concrete, installation of the SAG mill and three ball mill units, and the erection of over 60% of the steel. The pipeline contractor has installed more than 180 km of pipe, or 60% of the total required. At the port, the construction of on-shore and off-shore facilities is also about 60% complete. At September 30, the company's investment in the Antamina project totalled US \$145,000,000.

The feasibility study of the San Nicolas project, 55%, in Mexico is progressing according to plan. WESTERN COPPER HOLDING LTD. [WTC-T] owns 45%. Infill and geotechnical drilling was completed and a revised resource is being calculated. Pilot plant test-work began in October. Engineering contracts have been awarded and work has started on the environmental impact study and plant design. A meeting was held with the state government authorities of Zacatecas, at which the government authorities expressed their strong support for the project. (SEE GCNL NO.181, 21Sept2000, P.2 FOR QUEBRADA PROJECT INFORMATION)