

# Valence Industries High Purity Graphite Program and Graphene Research Centre

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Melbourne, Australia (ABN Newswire) - [Valence Industries Ltd.](#) (ASX:VXL) is continuing its program of bringing its existing graphite manufacturing facilities off care and maintenance and to bring those facilities to full production of 14,000 tonnes per year over the coming months (Phase 1). In addition the program to complete the Phase 2 feasibility study to increase Valence Industries' graphite manufacturing capacity by up to 60,000 tonnes to a total capacity of up to 74,000 tonnes of graphite per year is progressing to schedule. While these programs continue, Valence Industries is building on its program for advanced manufacturing and value adding with the Company's previously indicated high purity program (Phase 3) and new initiatives for the manufacturing of graphene (Phase 4).

## High Purity Graphite Program on Track (Phase 3)

Valence Industries is continuing its focus on developing new markets and value-adding for its graphite. The Company has further developed its existing program for a VXL High Purity Graphite Facility with a targeted capacity of 30,000 tonnes of high purity graphite a year. The proposed VXL High Purity Graphite Facility is in addition to the already announced program for the development of a Phase 2 expansion of the existing manufacturing facilities to up to 74,000 tonnes of graphite a year. From that total 74,000 tonne capacity Valence Industries will allocate a relevant portion to manufacture VXL High Purity Graphite at a volume the Company intends to grow to 30,000 tonnes per year. The VXL High Purity Facility program is 100% owned by the Company.

The VXL High Purity Graphite Facility will take the Company's Uley Graphite and apply new and innovative purification processes. These have been developed and established by Valence Industries metallurgical batch testing. That purification process works with the existing strong qualities of Uley Graphite and manufactures graphite with a purity level above 99.99%.

"The ability to produce High Purity Graphite permits Valence Industries to pursue further high-value markets including to directly manufacture expanded graphite, intercalated graphite and battery-grade graphite" said Christopher Darby, CEO and Managing Director of Valence Industries.

This VXL High Purity Graphite Facility is an important capability for Uley Graphite. The value of that High Purity program to Valence Industries both now and in the future is significant. The price for such high-purity graphite starts at US 5,500 per tonne and lies in a range that can exceed US 10,000 per tonne.

Importantly, as the Company develops its High Purity capabilities, the research and development program led by Valence Industries on its graphite means that sales of highly valued flake graphite from the base manufacturing facilities can continue to be pursued and implemented for use in these high purity applications.

The capital requirements for the VXL High Purity Graphite Facility are currently being defined along with the technical engineering, design and process optimisation program. The Company expects to fund the initial stages of the facility progressively from current cash reserves and from expected cash flows.

The Company anticipates making further announcements around the development of the Phase 3 VXL High Purity Graphite Facility over the coming months.

## Graphene Production & Centre for Graphene Research

Valence Industries is pleased to advise that it has signed a Joint Research, Development & Commercialisation Agreement with the University of Adelaide for the development and commercialisation of all new Graphene Research and for the development of a new Graphene Research Centre to be based in South Australia. The Company is allocating 800,000 over 3.5 years to this research program.

This graphene research program is an initiative that has grown from pioneering work by Professor Dusan Losic and his team at the School of Engineering in the University of Adelaide. Professor Losic will continue to

lead and help grow the research program as Valence Industries pursues the commercialisation of products from that research.

"The program to develop the Graphene Research Centre places Valence Industries, the University of Adelaide and South Australia at the forefront of real global markets and innovation in Graphene" said Christopher Darby, CEO and Managing Director of Valence Industries.

The launch of the program has been welcomed by the University of Adelaide as its Adelaide Research and Innovation (ARI) arm continues to deliver on commercial development of the leading research conducted at the University of Adelaide.

"This is an exciting time for the University of Adelaide and for our team. This strong commitment by Valence Industries to the development of leading graphene research will attract the best minds to South Australia for the creation of new graphene technologies" said Professor Dusan Losic at the University of Adelaide.

The graphene research driven and owned by Valence Industries will permit the development of new and significant applications for graphene products and sales. Those applications range from heavy industrial uses through to new technology and medical uses.

The graphene development programs will be used by Valence Industries to develop commercial graphene applications. This will be an incubator for Valence Industries to own and develop new graphene product manufacturing opportunities both in the medium term and as a future growth and innovation program for the Company.

### **Graphene Products and Graphene Sales**

The original research undertaken by Professor Dusan Losic and his team on the production of graphene from unprocessed raw graphite was performed using the Company's Uley Graphite. That proof of concept has been further developed by the University of Adelaide with the ability to produce very high quality graphene from processed Uley Graphite clearly established.

Processed graphite from the Valence Industries is now being made available to the University of Adelaide. That graphite will be used for ongoing assessment and development of a range of graphene products for commercialisation as well as a program of graphene sales.

As part of the research and development process utilising Uley Graphite, the Company anticipates having commercial quantities of graphene available this year. Valence Industries expects that it will be in a position to commence initial sales of graphene in the first half of 2014.

Further announcements relating to the VXL Graphene Sales Program are expected to be made by the Company in coming months. Inquiries relating to the VXL Graphene Sales Program under the VXL GraffTEX brand can be directed to [sales@valenceindustries.com](mailto:sales@valenceindustries.com).

To view pictures, please visit:

<http://media.abnnewswire.net/media/en/docs/ASX-VXL-790298.pdf>

### **About Valence Industries:**

Valence Industries plans to restart operations at the world-class Uley Graphite Project on the Eyre Peninsula in South Australia.

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