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- Continued weakness in the market for manganese ore resulting in record low product prices in January 2016
- Market pricing outlook remains uncertain despite global supply cuts as these are not permanent and can be reversed if supplier discipline erodes
- Consmin's balance of net cash and cash equivalents reduced from US\$75.9 million^[1] at 31 December 2015 to US\$41.2^[1] million as at 29 February 2016
- Anticipated discussions with holders of the 8.000% Senior Secured Notes due May 15, 2020 (collectively, the "Notes")

Market update

Mirroring the recent collapse in pricing seen in other commodities, the price for manganese lump (CRU, 44%Mn CIF China) decreased from US\$4.35/dmtu at the start of 2015 to US\$1.85/dmtu in January 2016, a reduction of 57%.

The slowdown in the Chinese economy continues to exert significant downward pressure on its domestic steel and alloy industries which results in reduced manganese ore demand and consequently lower prices for manganese ore. As a result of these historically low prices, only mines representing approximately 20% of the cost curve were expected to be cash positive, according to CRU. Production cuts have begun across the industry, including at Consmin's Woodie Woodie mine in Australia and currently representing over 6 million tonnes annualised globally, and some recent supply tightness has led to very early signs of a recovery in pricing. However, continued supply rationalisation will be required in order to restore market balance and stabilise ore prices.

Business update

Further to the Company's announcement dated 22 January 2016, the Company continues to implement cost-cutting and intensify marketing efforts to remain competitive. The Company's Woodie Woodie operations in Australia have now ceased and the assets are on care and maintenance. Benefitting from an optimized cost structure, the Company's Nsuta operations in Ghana continue to produce manganese ore for sale on the seaborne market.

As at 29 February 2016, the Company's net cash and cash equivalents^[2] totalled US\$41.2 million^[1], a decrease of US\$34.7 million from the US\$75.9 million^[1] balance as at 31 December 2015 and a decrease of US\$60.9 million from the balance of US\$102.1 million^[1] as at 30 September 2015.

Anticipated discussions

In light of the current trading environment and the level and speed of depletion of its cash balances, Consmin announces to the holders of the Notes (the "Noteholders") that it wishes to discuss options with the Noteholders in Q2 of 2016.

To streamline the process, the Company requests its Noteholders to consult together with a view to forming a committee to represent the interests of the wider Noteholder group. Enquiries related to upcoming discussions with the Noteholders should be addressed to Cleary Gottlieb and Rothschild, the Company's advisers, using the contact details below. In order to facilitate the dialogue with its Noteholders, the Company is launching a noteholder identification process through Orient/DF King.

About Consolidated Minerals Limited

Consmin is a leading manganese ore producer with mining assets in Australia and Ghana. The principal activities of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") are the exploration, mining, processing and sale of manganese products. The Group's operations are primarily conducted through four major operating/trading subsidiaries: Consolidated Minerals Pty Limited (Australia), Ghana Manganese Company Limited (Ghana), Manganese Trading Limited (Jersey) and Pilbara Trading Limited (Jersey).

[Consolidated Minerals Ltd.](#) is headquartered in Jersey and the address of its office is Commercial House, 3 Commercial Street, St Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands, JE2 3RU.

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These materials may contain forward-looking statements regarding future events or the future financial performance of

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1. Unaudited

2. Net cash and cash equivalents does not include any amounts under the Group's overdraft facility

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