

END OF DAY NEWS WRAP

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Proactive news snapshot: Sirius Minerals, Ferrum Crescent, FFI Holdings ...

Sirius Minerals PLC (LON:SXX) is confident production of polyhalite at the York Potash project will start on time and on budget. A quarterly update indicated there had been some delay to excavation of the mine, called Woodsmith, due to the weather in Yorkshire, but Sirius is confident it can make up the time lost.

Ferrum Crescent Limited (LON:FCR), the European lead-zinc explorer, has announced the appointment of Colin Bird as a non-executive chairman, with immediate effect. The AIM listed group said Grant Button, its interim non-executive chairman, will resume his former role as non-executive director.

FFI Holdings Plc (LON:PLC) has broadened the scope of its insurance business with the acquisition of a motorsports events specialist and expects to announce another deal this month. Subsidiary Reel Media, which FFI acquired in December, has bought the business from US broker All Risks for US\$1.83mIn.

Telit Communications Plc (LON:TCM) revealed that the tax case relating to its Italian business has reared up again. Last summer, the industrial Internet of Things specialist won a court battle with the Italian tax authorities when the latter's appeal against the annulling of three VAT assessments for Tallit's Italian business was rejected. Now it has emerged that the country's authorities have submitted appeals to the Italian Supreme Court, after two tiers of lower level court found in Telit's favour.

African Potash Ltd (LON:AFPO) furthered its entry into game-changing blockchain technology - striking a deal on a joint venture with Gibraltar firm TokenCommunities Limited. The group said this will complement the FinComEco joint venture struck in November and will bolster its plans to operate a range of platforms and projects in the agricultural commodity markets sector in sub-Saharan Africa.

Oracle Power PLC (LON:ORCP) is to take full ownership of the company that owns the mining lease for the Thar coal to power project in Pakistan. Anthony Scutt, Oracle's chairman, said: "The move to 100% ownership of SCEL is a material development for Oracle, clearing a significant hurdle as the Company moves to financial close.

Goldplat plc (LON:GDP) has made a breakthrough in its dispute with Rand Refinery - as the pair have agreed a proposed full and final settlement.

Marketing services group The Marketing Group PLC (NASDAQ OMX:TMG) has further trimmed its portfolio of companies. Creative Insurgence, a specialist in marketing for bars, clubs and restaurants, is being sold back to co-founder Aaghir Yadav, who will return 900,000 ordinary shares in the company as part of the deal, the firm said in a statement.

Ortac Resources has changed its name to Arc Minerals Ltd (LON:ARCM) with immediate effect. The company's new ticker will be ARCM.LN and trading under the new name is expected to commence on or around 22 January 2018.

Advanced Oncotherapy (LON: AVO), the developer of next-generation proton therapy systems for cancer treatment, has announced that yesterday Dr Enrico Vanni, a non-executive director of the company purchased 40,000 ordinary shares at a price of 54.5p each. Following this transaction, Dr Vanni now holds 1,263,946 ordinary shares, representing

Share Information

MarketTopic Synopsis:

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