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Mercenary Alert: The Prospect Generators on My Prospect List

A Special Alert Musing from Mickey the Mercenary Geologist

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It's no secret that I like prospect generators in the junior resource sector. I currently cover three companies: **[Strathmore Minerals Corp \(STM.V\)](#)** beginning in July 2007; **[Eurasian Minerals Inc \(EMX.V\)](#)** commencing in May 2009; and **[Almaden Minerals \(AMM.T; AAU.AMEX\)](#)** starting in July 2010. I reviewed the general business model and their individual progress last month (**[Mercenary Musings: December 13, 2010; December 20, 2010](#)**).

Today I offer subscribers three other prospect generators that I have been accumulating for some time and may consider for sponsorship in the near-term. They all meet my criteria of share structure, people, and projects and currently have low market capitalizations when compared to their peers. I think all have a very strong chance of doubling within a short period of time given the following caveat: If commodities markets continue to prosper, these companies should too. Here is my short list in alphabetical order:

[Avrupa Minerals Ltd \(AVU.V\)](#) is a little known junior operating in little known countries. "Avrupa" means "Europe" in several eastern European languages reflecting the company's operational base. It is a new company with seven base, strategic, and precious metals exploration projects in Portugal and Kosovo. With exception of a back-office in Vancouver, Avrupa has little presence in the Americas and is likely on few investors' radar screens. I have known CEO Paul Kuhn 25 years and think very highly of his geological ability and widespread experience in southern and eastern Europe and western Asia. I expect a steady stream of projects to be acquired and available for joint venture in the coming months.

[Estrella Gold Corp \(EST.V\)](#) is a junior explorer that I first invested in after a roll back and change of business model in late 2009. The company currently has 10 Peruvian projects, one in Chile, and is active in the Dominican Republic. In my opinion, its most valuable asset is CEO Keith Laskowski, who developed Eurasian Minerals' exploration program and joint ventures with Newmont in Haiti before moving on to Estrella. The company previously acquired a proprietary southern Peru exploration database developed by Keith and other top notch expatriate geologists for a private company. This database should generate a steady pipeline of prospects for joint venture to other exploration and mining companies. Estrella recently completed its first joint venture and strategic alliance with integrated steel giant Cliffs Natural Resources in southern Peru.

[Tarsis Resources Ltd \(TCC.V\)](#) is a company that's been on my radar screen since early 2009 when I was introduced to CEO, mining engineer, and prospector Marc Blythe by mutual business associates. Management and share structure were quite right, but at the time the company's Yukon polymetallic

projects did not interest me. Last spring, the company changed focus and became a prospect generator concentrating on staking gold and copper targets in the hot Yukon area plays. It currently has 14 projects in the Yukon and is drilling on its highly prospective Erika epithermal precious metals project in southwestern Mexico. Tarsis is a sister company of Almaden Minerals, one of my better successes over the past year, so I am familiar with management, major shareholders, and its operational methodology.

I am issuing this Mercenary Alert because I want you as a subscriber to be aware of some prospect generators with currently low market caps that are on my short list for coverage. There is no guarantee that I will ever choose to cover any of them or that management will desire to become a sponsor of my website. Note that I own shares of all three at a lower cost basis than recent trading ranges.

It is incumbent on you to do your own due diligence and careful research and decide if any of these companies meet your specific speculating criteria. Beware that I opine that a significant market correction in gold, silver, and copper is overdue and junior share prices will certainly go down if or when commodity prices correct. That scenario may present buying opportunities.

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Ciao for now,

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The [Mercenary Geologist Michael S. “Mickey” Fulp](#) is a Certified Professional Geologist with a B.Sc. Earth Sciences with honor from the University of Tulsa, and M.Sc. Geology from the University of New Mexico. Mickey has 30 years experience as an exploration geologist searching for economic deposits of base and precious metals, industrial minerals, uranium, coal, oil and gas, and water in North and South America, Europe, and Asia.

Mickey has worked for junior explorers, major mining companies, private companies, and investors as a consulting economic geologist for the past 22 years, specializing in geological mapping, property evaluation, and business development. In addition to Mickey’s professional credentials and experience, he is high-altitude proficient, and is bilingual in English and Spanish. From 2003 to 2006, he made four outcrop ore discoveries in Peru, Nevada, Chile, and British Columbia.

Mickey is well-known throughout the mining and exploration community due to his ongoing work as an analyst, writer, and speaker.

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