

## FRIEDA RIVER PROJECT, PAPUA NEW GUINEA



*In Papua New Guinea (PNG) – through its wholly owned subsidiary Frieda River Limited – PanAust owns the world-class Frieda River Project.*

In December 2018, an updated feasibility study, Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Proposal for Development were completed and lodged with PNG’s Minerals Resources Authority (MRA) and Conservation and Environment Protection Authority (CEPA).

The Frieda River Project is a major greenfield mine development located in the northern foothills of the New Guinea Highlands (Central Range) in Papua New Guinea’s West Sepik Province. The Project lies in a remote area approximately 200 kilometres from PNG’s northern coast. The pronounced topographic expression and equatorial climate have resulted in a deeply incised land surface. Annual rainfall exceeds 8,000 millimetres. The Project’s infrastructure and transport corridors are located in the East and West Sepik Provinces.

The Project was based on the extraction of the Horse-Ivaal-Trukai-Ekwai-Koki (HITEK) porphyry copper-gold deposit which contains an estimated 12 million tonnes (Mt) of copper and 19 million ounces (Moz) of gold. The HITEK deposit represents one of the largest undeveloped copper resources in the world.

The HITEK deposit will be mined using a large-scale open-pit method over an initial 33 year operating life. HITEK ore will be processed using proven, conventional comminution and flotation processes to yield a high-quality copper-gold concentrate free of deleterious elements. Concentrate slurry will be piped to Vanimo where it will be dewatered prior to export in ocean freighters.

Feed rate to the process plant will average 41Mt per annum (Mtpa) for the first seven years (stage one). The comminution circuit will be duplicated to offset increased ore hardness from year eight (stage two). The average feed rate during stage two will be 46Mtpa.

The average annual metal in concentrate production will be 175,000 tonnes copper and 230,000 ounces gold. Mine waste rock and process tailings will be stored subaqueously within an integrated storage facility.

The Project will have an initial operating life of 33 years. The large HITEK Mineral Resource, together with additional known deposits – including the high-grade Nena deposit – are likely to support a mine life extension beyond 45 years.

PanAust’s community development programs aim to make meaningful contributions to building community capacity, thereby empowering people to determine and progress their own development priorities now and beyond the life of the Company’s Operations. In PNG, these programs focus on improved health and education services and capacity building, with an emphasis on the maintenance and establishment of infrastructure to support these services.

PanAust continues to work with PNG’s MRA and CEPA to progress the permitting and approvals process related to the updated Proposal for Development and EIS that were submitted in December 2018.

For more information, visit [www.friedariver.com](http://www.friedariver.com).