



Alpha HPA

The Manager Companies - ASX Limited
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ALPHA AND ORICA TO EXPAND STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP WITH EQUITY STAKE AND NORTH AMERICAN GROWTH MOU

- **Orica to acquire a 5% equity interest in Alpha HPA.**
- **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to explore technical and commercial feasibility of establishing a new manufacturing facility in North America to produce high-purity aluminium products for future-facing industries.**

The Board of Alpha HPA Limited ('Alpha' or 'the Company') is pleased to announce the expansion of its strategic relationship with Orica ('Orica'), the key chemical counterparty to its HPA First Project currently under development in Gladstone, Queensland.

STRATEGIC EQUITY PLACEMENT

Alpha and Orica have executed a Subscription Agreement whereby Orica will acquire a 5% equity interest in the Company.

The funds will be used to accelerate final engineering and product marketing for the full-scale HPA First Project at Gladstone, and to advance feasibility studies on the potential of an additional HPA manufacturing facility in North America, with the remaining funds used for general working capital. Under the Subscription Agreement Orica will subscribe for 44,982,980 ordinary shares at \$0.44 per share to raise ~\$19.8M.

NORTH AMERICAN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

In addition, Alpha has signed a non-binding Memorandum of Understanding ('MoU') with Orica to mutually investigate the technical and commercial feasibility of establishing a new manufacturing facility in North America to produce high-purity aluminium products for the rapidly expanding future-facing industries in the region.

The facility would seek to leverage and replicate the chemical process synergies that have been successfully established between Orica and Alpha in the development of the HPA First Project at Gladstone, Queensland. This would include the supply of process reagents and the offtake of process by-products to/from Alpha's and Orica's manufacturing facility, supporting circularity between the two parties.

The rationale for exploring an operational footprint in North America for Alpha is to provide a local production source to supply and capitalise on the rapidly expanding manufacturing capacity across future-facing industries in the region, including the lithium-ion battery sector, and re-shoring of supply chains into the semiconductor sector. Both sectors are key markets for Alpha's high-purity aluminium products, and both are being stimulated by key legislative initiatives including the US Inflation Reduction Act and the US CHIPS Act.

Alpha and Orica will initially focus on the technical and commercial feasibility through 2023 of a new manufacturing facility to produce high-purity aluminium products near Orica's Carseland manufacturing centre in Alberta, Canada.

Commenting on the Company's expanding relationship with Orica, Managing Director Rimas Kairaitis said:

"We are delighted to now be taking our partnership with Orica to the next level. Having established a strong working relationship in developing our HPA First Project, the mutual ambition to expand our relationship into North America and establish Orica as a strategic shareholder in our Company is a welcome progression of our relationship. Importantly, we see these initiatives as a strong endorsement of the ongoing development of our business. Orica has a detailed understanding of our process technology, the advanced nature of our marketing activities, and a strong appreciation of our commitment to building a sustainable business to help decarbonise critical future-facing industries. We welcome Orica as a new shareholder in our Company and look forward to taking this exciting next step in our development together."

Commenting on its deepening partnership and equity investment in Alpha HPA, Orica Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Sanjeev Gandhi said:

"Building on our successful partnership with Alpha HPA in Australia, we are thrilled to further expand our relationship and explore opportunities for growth and circularity in North America. The Alpha HPA First project in Queensland has demonstrated how industrial partnerships can optimise resource use, simultaneously creating value and reducing waste."

"Orica's strategic investment in Alpha HPA reinforces our desire to grow our exposure in future-facing industries, including eMobility, while leveraging our strong global manufacturing asset base and supporting the broader transition to a lower-carbon future, together."

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About the HPA First Project

The Company's HPA First Project represents the commercialisation of the production of high purity alumina (HPA) and related high purity precursor products using the Company's proprietary licenced solvent extraction and HPA refining technology. The disruptive, low-carbon process technology provides for the extraction and purification of aluminium from an industrial feedstock to produce 4N (>99.99% purity) alumina and 5N (>99.999% purity) for sale into the lithium-ion battery and LED lighting industry.

Alpha completed a Definitive Feasibility Study in March 2020 following a successful pilot plant campaign in 2019. Alpha has since upscaled its Brisbane facility to demonstration scale and has now recorded over 8,000 operating hours and delivered an expanded range of over 100 high purity product orders to end-users globally.

Alpha is fully funded to the commercial production at its Stage 1, Precursor Production Facility which has now commenced commissioning ahead of commercial production of the Company's high purity Aluminium Precursors in the December quarter 2022.

The Company is now in the mature phases of market outreach and project financing with respect to the full scale HPA First Project, with the expectation of positioning the HPA First Project to Final investment Decision.

About Orica

Orica (ASX: ORI) is one of the world's leading mining and infrastructure solutions providers. From the production and supply of explosives, blasting systems, mining chemicals and geotechnical monitoring to our cutting-edge digital solutions and comprehensive range of services, we sustainably mobilise the earth's resources.

Operating for nearly 150 years, today our 12,000+ global workforce supports customers across surface and underground mines, quarry, construction, and oil and gas operations.

Sustainability is integral to our operations. We have set an ambition to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and are committed to playing our part in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement.

For more information about Orica, visit: www.orica.com