

SAMEX**S A M E X M I N I N G C O R P .**

TOLL FREE: 1-800-828-1488
E-MAIL: samex@direct.ca
WEB SITE: www.samex.com
TRADING SYMBOLS:
 SXG - CDNX
 SMXMF - NASD OTC:BB

CORPORATE OFFICE
 301 - 32920 Ventura Ave.
 Abbotsford, BC V2S 6J3
 CANADA
 TEL: (604) 870-9920
 FAX: (604) 870-9930

SOUTH AMERICAN OFFICE
 Avenida Fuerza Naval #42
 Esquina Calle 23, Calacoto
 La Paz - BOLIVIA
 TEL: (591) 2-791505
 FAX: (591) 812-5357

NEWS RELEASE - No. 17-01**September 18, 2001****ESKAPA DRILLING BEGINS - COPPER-GOLD-SILVER TARGETS TO BE TESTED**

SAMEX and Intl. Chalice have begun a 600 meter core drilling program to test two of numerous copper-gold targets within the Eskapa property. The 3,700 hectare prospect hosts a large high-sulfidation acid sulfate type, alteration-mineralizing system, positioned within an eroded stratovolcano, related to a porphyry copper intrusion. Similarities to the geologic settings of important gold(-silver/copper) deposits along the Cordillera Occidental of Peru (Yanacocha, Pierina), Chile (La Coipa, El Indio, Choquelimpie), and Argentina (Valadero) have been documented through the Company's ongoing exploration efforts.

First Target - The Copper Zone,

Testing for possible bulk-tonnage, open-pittable copper-gold mineralization concealed under capping volcanic rocks on the North flank of the stratovolcano, the first drill hole is adjacent (250m west) to extensively outcropping, oxide-copper mineralized pebble breccias (8-14% Cu over 1-2m, discontinuous over +1km), commonly associated with porphyry copper systems. The interpretative geologic and IP data, over the target area, suggests the possible presence of a large copper sulfide mineralized/veined intrusive body, whose later alteration activity re-mobilized copper laterally and up into the pebble breccia bodies. This interpretation is supported by the geochemical signature of previously drilled core hole 01-1C, 750 meters east of the current target, which contained anomalous copper, silver, arsenic, antimony, mercury and zinc found in veinletted intervals and altered intrusive breccia.

Second Target - The Core Zone,

The second drill hole will test for high-grade copper-gold (enargite) mineralization within one of several hydrothermally altered, silicified breccia structures, which are up to 2kms long by +20m wide. Old Spanish workings exploited some of these structurally controlled zones of silica-barite breccia for high-grade silver (to +2000g/mt). The shallow, high-grade silver mineralization represents the upper levels of postulated deeper, thick, high-grade, auriferous enargite-bearing (Cu, Au), vein zone- and breccia-hosted mineralization. Core drill hole 99-02 found a substantive five-fold increase in copper content and consistent appearance of elevated gold values in the vuggy silica/breccia zone with depth. The long lateral strike length, prominent thickness, and IP-indicated depth extent of the hydro-thermally altered breccia structures suggest that cumulatively large tonnage's could result from exploration drilling.

The very large Eskapa system (+5sq.kms.) could host multiple high-grade gold-enargite (Cu-Au) ore-bodies, at depth, within numerous steep hydrothermal breccia zones which exist in the prospective, eroded Core Zone area of strongly clay-altered/pyritized rocks. Several other areas of the Eskapa prospect remain to be mapped, sampled and geophysically surveyed as budgets can be financed. It is hoped that the current drill program will advance the Company's geologic understanding of the Eskapa intrusion and fortify the underlying conviction that Eskapa represents a quality exploration prospect capable of hosting world-class ore-bodies of copper, gold and/or silver.

"Jeffrey Dahl"
 President

This News Release includes certain "forward looking statements" within the meaning of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Without limitation, statements regarding potential mineralization and resources, exploration results, and future plans and objectives of the Company are forward-looking statements that involve various risks. Actual results could differ materially from those projected as a result of the following factors, among others: risks inherent in mineral exploration; risks associated with development, construction and mining operations; the uncertainty of future profitability and uncertainty of access to additional capital.

The Canadian Venture Exchange has neither approved nor disapproved of the information contained herein.

S A M E X M I N I N G C O R P .