

## 7/19/2011 Magellan Minerals considering acquisitions, JVs, CEO says

**Magellan Minerals** (TSX.V: MNM), a Vancouver, British Columbia-based gold miner, is looking at acquisition and joint venture opportunities, said CEO Alan Carter.

While the company, with a market capitalization of CAD 87.5m (USD 92m), has no shortage of acquisition targets in South America, any new potential acquisition target would have to compete with its Cuiu Cuiu and Coringa advanced stage gold projects, he explained. "We found very few [potential targets] that are as good as what we have in our current portfolio," he added.

The most attractive targets would be gold mining companies or assets in Brazil, said Carter, while not ruling out targeting projects in other parts of South America as well.

Magellan is focused on advancing its gold projects located in the Tapajos region in the state of Para in Brazil. Its two 100%-owned advanced stage gold projects – Cuiu Cuiu and Coringa – have a total of about 1.7m oz of gold resources, according to its company website.

The company is also considering bringing on joint venture partners on one or two of its assets in its current portfolio and could also look at partnering with other companies on their assets as well, Carter said. "The projects we are currently considering bringing on partners for are in the Tapajos region," he added. However, he emphasized that Magellan's current focus is on further developing its Cuiu Cuiu and Coringa assets.

Magellan's other gold projects include Mato Velho, Uniao, Porquinho and Maranhense assets in Brazil, according to the company website. It also has a JV partnership with ECI Mining and Exploration and Brasil Central Engenharia on the Mato Grosso project in western Brazil. Magellan holds a 35% interest in this project.

When asked if Magellan could be an attractive target for minor shareholders **Kinross** and **Newmont Mining**, Carter said, "Anything is possible" and explained that Magellan does have good relationships with both companies. Both Kinross and Newmont are major gold producers that are looking for large gold deposits but don't typically invest in many gold junior explorers, he said. He added that **Eldorado** is completing a feasibility study on the Tocantinzinho project.

The company does have confidentially agreements signed with several companies but is focused on building value for the company by adding ounces to its current resource base.

Magellan would like to have a "much larger resource base" in a couple of years with other discoveries at Coringa and Cuiu Cuiu, Carter said.

According to the company website, its auditor is PricewaterhouseCoopers and its corporate legal counsel is Morton & Company.

by Divya Balji in Toronto