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2026 ISSUE 2

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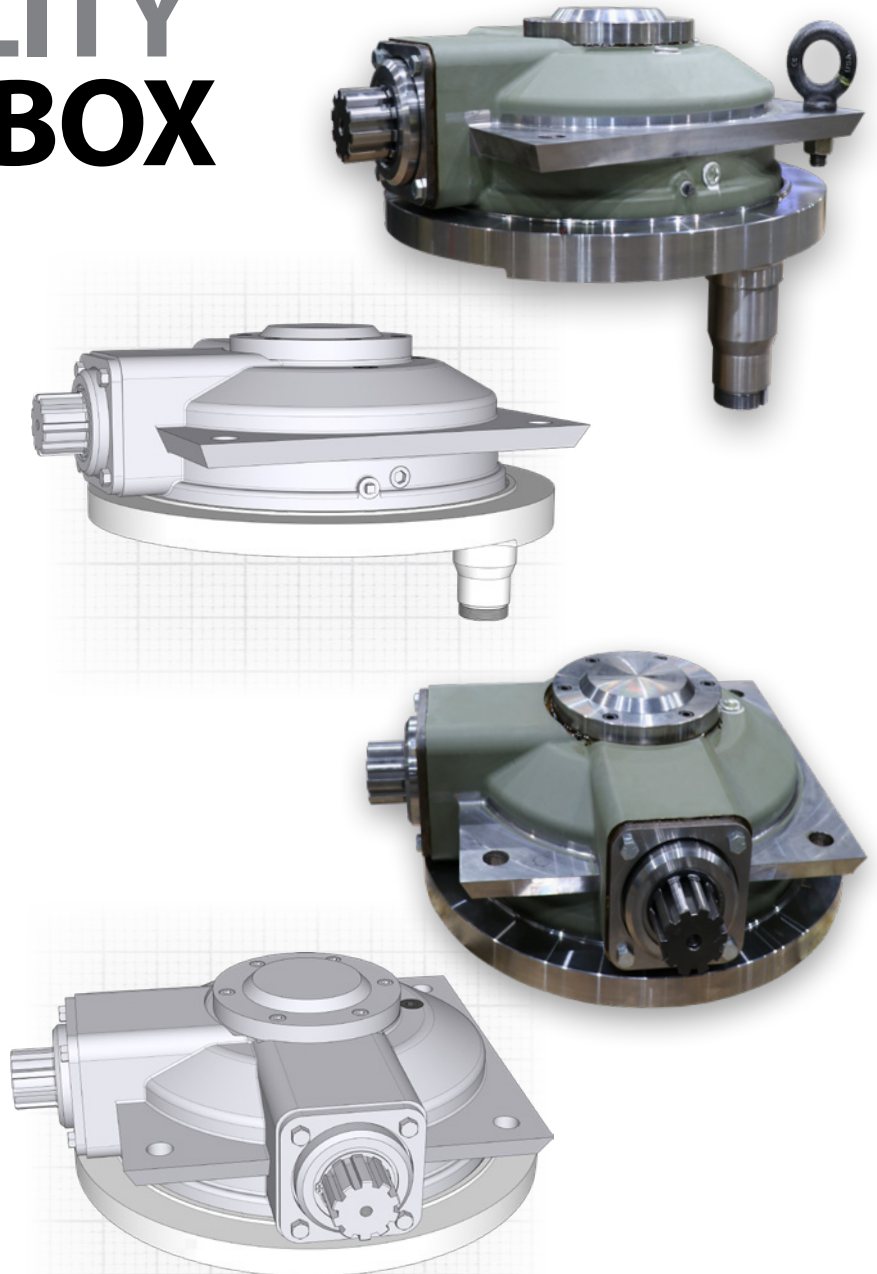
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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

SHAYNA WIWIERSKI

Welcome to Issue 2 of *The Potash Producer* digital magazine.

If our debut issue was about introductions, this one is about momentum. Across the potash space, projects that spent years on paper are starting to take physical shape, and nowhere is that clearer than in this issue's lead story on Buffalo Potash Corporation.

Buffalo has laid out a detailed roadmap to first commercial output, unveiling its first production module at the Disley Project: 125,000 tonnes per year of soluble-grade potash, targeted for first production in Q1 2027. It's the first of three planned facilities at Disley, roughly 50 kilometres northwest of Regina, in the heart of one of the most productive potash regions on Earth.

The real story is the neighbourhood. Disley borders K+S's Bethune mine and Mosaic's Belle Plaine operation, two of the largest producing potash solution mines in the world, and Buffalo has pointed to their success as validation of its own geology. When your property line touches two proven performers, that's a strong case to make to investors, regulators, and future offtake partners alike. We'll be watching as Buffalo works to turn this first module into the foundation of something bigger.

Buffalo isn't the only company giving us reason to pay closer attention this issue. On the other side of the country, Atlantic Potash Millstream Corporation (APMC) is quietly building the case for its Millstream Potash Project in Kings County, New Brunswick, 10 kilometres southwest of Sussex. The property sits within the Moncton sub-basin, geology that has proven productive for decades, and APMC has been at it for a while: the company was awarded the mineral lease in 2011 and has since invested

more than \$17 million advancing the project through systematic exploration, independent technical review, and early environmental work.

Between Buffalo's staged path to first production on the Prairies and Atlantic's methodical resource-building on the east coast, this issue captures something we think is genuinely interesting about Canadian potash right now: it isn't a one-region story anymore.

Stories like this one are exactly why we produce *The Potash Producer*. Three times a year, we bring you the developments happening between the big annual moments, the permits filed, the modules unveiled, the timelines that shift, and the ground that gets broken. It's a different rhythm than our flagship publication, *PotashWorks*, which is released at the start of the year and gives you the deeper, longer-form look back at the state of the industry. Together, the two publications are meant to give you both the pulse and the full picture.

As always, if you have a project update, a milestone, or a story you think deserves wider attention, we want to hear about it. And if you haven't already, head over to potashworks.com, where you'll find our full archive, extended coverage, and a few extras that don't make it into these pages.

Thank you for reading, and thank you for being part of this still-young publication as it finds its footing. Issue 2 is bigger and sharper than Issue 1, and if the projects we're tracking are any indication, Issue 3 will have even more ground to cover.

Here's to watching this industry build.

Shayna Wiwierski

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MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF SASKATCHEWAN

The Honourable Scott Moe



As one of Saskatchewan's most abundant and strategically important resources, potash continues to power our economy and shape our province's future.

Saskatchewan is a potash production powerhouse and home to some of the most respected and innovative mining companies in the world. Thanks to rising prices and production continuing at the record levels set in 2024, our potash industry partners increased the value of potash sales by 18 per cent last year to \$9.3 billion.

These strong results were made possible by the significant investment these companies have made in our province.

Over the past two decades, Saskatchewan potash companies have committed over \$40 billion on new mines or expanding capacity at existing facilities. These investments reach far beyond the mine sites themselves, creating jobs and economic opportunities for Saskatchewan people.

Thousands of people are employed both directly and indirectly in the potash sector, contributing their expertise across a wide range of disciplines, including engineering, trades, environmental stewardship, research, and emerging technologies. These are meaningful, long-term careers providing employment that benefit workers and their families alike.

The sector also creates significant opportunities for Saskatchewan businesses in the mining sector supply chain. Last year, Saskatchewan potash producers procured \$2.2 billion in goods and services from Saskatchewan businesses, and \$733 million in goods and services from Indigenous-owned businesses.

Potash has long been fundamental to Saskatchewan's identity, with the industry's influence extending deeply into local economies. Rural communities, in particular, experience considerable benefits through partnerships with potash

companies, which often invest in initiatives that enhance quality of life. These investments support recreational and health-care facilities, educational programs, cultural initiatives, and non-profit organizations, helping to create vibrant, welcoming communities where people can build their lives and raise their families with confidence.

On the global stage, Saskatchewan potash plays an indispensable role in supporting agriculture and feeding the world. As an essential component in fertilizer, it enables farmers to increase productivity and crop yields, and sustain the health of agricultural land over time.

In an era where the global demand for agricultural products continues to increase, Saskatchewan's contribution to world food systems is both significant and meaningful. The province takes pride in helping to advance food security worldwide, ensuring that agricultural producers have access to the resources they need to succeed.

Recognizing the importance of this sector both at home and abroad, our government remains dedicated to fostering an environment where the potash industry can continue to thrive. This includes maintaining, and where possible, enhancing our already strong regulatory framework that encourages investment and promotes innovation.

Our approach to the responsible development of our potash resources prioritizes working with our industry and community partners. We believe this is essential to ensure the citizens of our province benefit from our potash resources both now and in the generations ahead.

With the continued growth of our world-class potash sector, we are building a future defined by economic strength, opportunity, and lasting prosperity.

Scott Moe

Premier ●

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CANADA NEEDS TO THINK STRATEGICALLY ABOUT POTASH AS A FOOD SECURITY ASSET

Mosaic alone operates some of the world's largest potash mines in Saskatchewan, making the province a cornerstone of the global fertilizer system. Photo courtesy of The Mosaic Company and Greg Huszar.



By Marnel Jones, Director, Government and Public Affairs, The Mosaic Company; and Ryan Workman, Policy Analyst, Canada West Foundation

Patterns of international trade are changing rapidly. We are moving from an era of relatively unimpeded free trade to one where powerful nations increasingly use control over resources, technologies, and market access as levers to achieve political, economic, and security objectives.

For middle powers, such as Canada, resource development becomes both a matter of economic importance and part of protecting our sovereignty. When other countries depend on us for crucial inputs and products, they are incentivised to maintain positive relationships with us.

As the leading global potash producer, Canada opens itself to strategic opportunities in a world where food security is an ever-evolving concern. This sits at the core of what companies like Mosaic do: helping the world grow the food it

needs. Every potash shipment connects Canadian resources to farmers around the world who depend on reliable fertilizer to sustain crop yields. Without potash, global agricultural productivity would decline significantly, reducing the world's ability to feed a growing population.

Canada is a potash superpower, with one-third of the world's production coming from Saskatchewan, supplying more than 40 countries. Mosaic alone operates some of the world's largest potash mines in Saskatchewan, making the province a cornerstone of the global fertilizer system. Canada's primary competitors in this space include Russia (19 per cent), Belarus (15 per cent), and China (13 per cent). Without Canada, autocratic states would dominate the potash industry. Canada's role extends beyond supply. We provide a stable, rules-based alternative in a market where reliability

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Canada is a potash superpower, with one-third of the world's production coming from Saskatchewan, supplying more than 40 countries. Photo courtesy of The Mosaic Company.



Canada's potash industry is growing, but like many other Canadian industries, it faces significant hurdles. Photo courtesy of The Mosaic Company.

is increasingly tied to geopolitics. As demand for food continues to increase, reliable potash producers, such as Canada, are essential for global food security.

Canada's potash industry is growing, but like many other Canadian industries, it faces significant hurdles. For exporters, reputation is everything. If a supplier cannot deliver goods

quickly and reliably, the market will turn to other sources. When Canadians order products online, we expect timely delivery on our doorstep. Without this convenience, companies such as Amazon and others would struggle to remain in business. This is also the case for delivering potash. However, the systems meant to enable the trade and movement of natural resources stymie that reality in Canada.

Canada is facing a trade infrastructure deficit estimated between \$110 and \$270 billion, which impacts the network of roads, railways, and ports that enable Canadian producers to ship goods to buyers. One example is the Second Narrows Rail Bridge in Vancouver. Built in the 1960s, the single-track bridge provides the only rail access to North Shore terminals and remains a critical link in Canada's export supply chain. As trade volumes continue to grow, infrastructure throughout the corridor must keep pace. Additional staging capacity, longer rail sidings and targeted investments in key bottlenecks such as Second Narrows would help improve overall system fluidity and support the efficient movement of Canadian exports.

Between 2022 and 2024 alone, six major labour disruptions impacted approximately two-million tonnes of potash exports valued at roughly \$1 billion. Canada's infrastructure deficit compounds the impact of these disruptions. When so much trade moves through a limited number of critical rail and port corridors, labour-related interruptions can quickly ripple throughout the supply chain, affecting



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exporters, customers, and Canada's reputation as a reliable trading partner.

Maintaining Canada's reputation requires a supply chain that reliably connects mines to ports and performs consistently across rail networks, ports, and supporting infrastructure. As a solution, Mosaic has asked the federal government to include potash under existing Canada Labour Code rules that ensure shipments, such as grain, keep moving during labour disruptions. In the longer term, however, Canada needs to develop new and better policy instruments to facilitate labour negotiations that minimize disruptions to Canadian supply chains.

Some changes that were consulted on by the Government of Canada show promise, such as revising cooling off, conciliation and bargaining timelines, and creating a special mediator role to mitigate or avoid labour disruptions. Bold action is needed to prevent frequent work stoppages that paralyze customers' ability to ship products.

Fertilizer supply is highly time sensitive, making infrastructure and labour disruptions a particularly acute issue. Farmers have as few as 10 to 12 days to apply fertilizer, and missed shipments cannot be recovered within the same growing season. Supply interruptions in key markets, such as Southeast Asia, have led to lost market share for Canadian producers, opening opportunities for competitors to capture demand. Lost contracts can take years or decades to rebuild, weakening Canada's position in global markets and long-term trade relationships.

Canada needs to think strategically about its role as a reliable producer and provider of potash and other commodities. This is important both economically and as a crucial strategic

Supply interruptions in key markets, such as Southeast Asia, have led to lost market share for Canadian producers, opening opportunities for competitors to capture demand. Lost contracts can take years or decades to rebuild, weakening Canada's position in global markets and long-term trade relationships.



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“OUR GREATEST ASSET IS OUR PEOPLE”



Canadian potash delivers value throughout its supply chain: from local jobs and economic opportunities at home to food security worldwide. Photo courtesy of The Mosaic Company.

move to help secure our sovereignty in a world increasingly defined by leverage rather than alliances. To

do this, Canada needs to recognize potash as a strategic commodity that enables our nation to be an

exporting powerhouse. This requires meaningful action to build the needed infrastructure and materially fix the labour issues that too often paralyze industries reliant on rail and port networks.

It's unlikely most Canadians think about how families in Southeast Asia rely on Canada's rail network and a mine in Esterhazy, Sask., for their daily meals. But that's the reality of the potash supply chain and a tangible representation of its global importance.

Canadian potash delivers value throughout its supply chain: from local jobs and economic opportunities at home to food security worldwide. It's time for the country to get behind this asset, safeguard its potential, and build Canadian potash strong for the next generation. ●

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BUFFALO POTASH CHARTS PATH TO FIRST PRODUCTION, BETTING ON A NOVEL DRILLING METHOD IN SASKATCHEWAN



Buffalo Potash Corporation has laid out a detailed roadmap toward its first commercial output, unveiling plans for an initial production module at its Disley property that the company hopes will mark the opening act of a much larger potash operation in one of the world's most productive mining regions.

The junior developer said the module, designed to produce 125,000 tonnes per year of soluble-grade potash, is targeting first production in the first quarter of 2027. It represents the first of three planned facilities at the Disley Project, which sits roughly 50 kilometres northwest of Regina and

borders two of the largest producing potash solution mines on the planet, K+S's Bethune mine and Mosaic's Belle Plaine operation. Buffalo has cited the success of those neighbouring projects as evidence of the site's promise.

The plan reflects a deliberate strategy of starting small. Rather than pursue the full scale of the Disley Project from the outset, which, at complete build-out, could produce more than a million tonnes of potash annually across three facilities, Buffalo is opting for a lower-cost initial phase intended to generate early cash flow while collecting the geological data needed to support a future feasibility study.

Steve Halabura, the company's chief executive officer, said the initial module was designed to accomplish three things: establish early commercial production, generate data to support development of the project's larger phases, and prove out the company's proprietary Horizontal Line-Drive mining method at a commercial scale. Halabura pointed to a recently completed financing round as giving the company the balance-sheet strength to move forward and said a drill rig is set to mobilize to the site in July 2026.

Quinton Hardage, Buffalo's president and chief operating officer, framed the technical ambitions of the project in more sweeping terms, describing the company's approach as one that could reshape how potash is solution-mined by targeting only the highest-grade minerals in the deposit, which would simplify processing on the surface.

"We are happy to have reached this stage of development. The technical team is now assembled, and it is time to execute on our vision of creating a mining plane that is anticipated to allow Buffalo to only recover the high-grade minerals from the potash deposit, thus greatly simplifying the processing requirements on surface," said Hardage in a press release.

The development plan itself unfolds in five phases: drilling wells to source and dispose of the water and brine

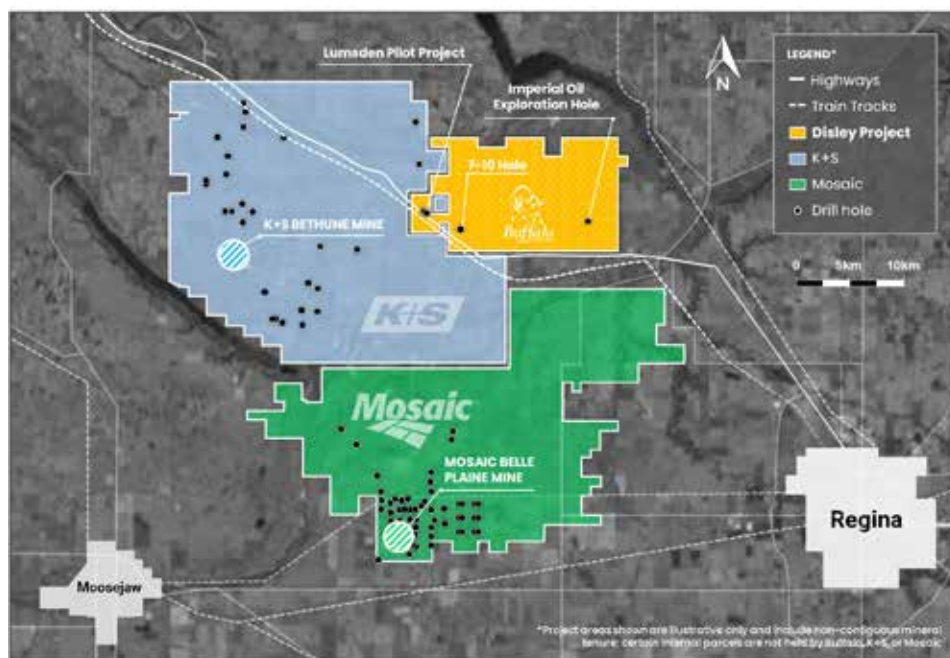


Figure 1: The Disley Property situated amongst major potash solution mines.

used in the mining process; drilling the horizontal wells that form the core of the company's technology; circulating brine to dissolve potassium-bearing minerals underground; developing the surface site; and finally, installing the processing plant that will crystallize, dry, and bag the finished product.

Buffalo has also been building out its broader corporate profile. Alongside the production roadmap, the company disclosed that it has engaged Global One Media Group, a Singapore-based investor marketing firm, to help produce digital investor content and expand the company's visibility among investors in North America, Europe, and Asia. The arrangement is set to run for an initial six-month term beginning July 1.

The announcement comes on the heels of a preliminary economic assessment released in May, which estimated the full Disley Project could be worth roughly \$1.1 billion on an after-tax basis, with an internal rate of return near 30 per cent. That analysis, prepared by the engineering firm Micon International, will serve as the foundation for the feasibility study the company hopes to advance as data from its initial wells comes in.

Still, Buffalo has been careful to temper expectations. The company noted that its production decision was not based on a feasibility study demonstrating the economic and technical viability of the project's mineral reserves – a distinction that carries a higher degree of risk – and cautioned that there is no

guarantee the initial module, or the larger Disley build-out, will proceed as currently envisioned.

For now, the company's attention turns to the drill rig arriving next month, the first concrete step in what it has called the most active period in its history.

"We anticipate the IPM will produce soluble grade potash that we intend to sell into local markets – including drilling fluid and proximal agricultural applications – which we anticipate will provide an early revenue foundation as we advance toward full commercial scale at Disley," said Halabura in a press release. "With the drill rig mobilizing to site in July and first production targeted for Q1 2027, the months ahead will be the most active in the company's history." ●



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GABON'S ATLANTIC ADVANTAGE: A NEW FORCE IN GLOBAL POTASH

With vast geological potential, direct ocean access and growing infrastructure investment, Gabon is emerging as one of the industry's most compelling new jurisdictions

By Farhad Abasov



Of all the emerging jurisdictions interested in developing its fertilizer industry, Gabon offers a unique synergy of promising geological prospect, strategic location, and infrastructure development.

For decades, the global potash sector has been shaped by a small number of producing nations led by Canada, Russia, and Belarus whose resources play a critical role in supporting agricultural production worldwide.

As demand for potash keeps increasing and emphasis from various governments grows toward developing a more resilient supply chain, a new source of supply coming from regions that are stable and are outside of major conflict zones is needed. Of all the emerging jurisdictions interested in developing its fertilizer industry, Gabon offers a unique synergy of promising geological prospect, strategic location, and infrastructure development.

Positioned along the Atlantic coast of Central Africa, Gabon



Gabon represents one of the most prospective but undeveloped potash basins on earth.

is an emerging player on the global potash scene. Gabon possesses many of the characteristics that industry insiders look for when evaluating the next generation of potash-producing regions.

As part of the promotion of Gabon's mining sector policy, the head of state, Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema, has made this sector a strategic pillar of the country's economic diversification.

"It is important to highlight that Gabon is endowed with significant mineral resources, including potash. Potash represents a key resource in a global context marked by strong demand for agricultural inputs and the need to secure supply chains," says Sosthène Nguema Nguema, Gabon's Minister of Mines and Geological Resources.



Unlike many inland potash projects around the world, Gabon's potash resources are located directly on the Atlantic coast.

THE GEOLOGICAL OPPORTUNITY

Gabon represents one of the most prospective but undeveloped potash basins on earth. While exploration is relatively limited compared to developed regions, data to-date indicate enormous potential for large-scale potash mining.

In a recent *Forbes Africa* article examining the country's emerging potash sector, Agricultural Business Chamber of South Africa economist Thapelo Machaba observed that "Gabon's strength isn't just what's been discovered. It's how little of the land has actually been explored". She further suggested that national resources could ultimately exceed 10 billion tonnes, highlighting the significant geological potential that remains to be evaluated.

For investors and industry participants, geology alone is never enough. Equally important is the ability to efficiently move product to the right markets. This is where Gabon possesses another important advantage.

ATLANTIC ACCESS AND GLOBAL MARKETS

Unlike many inland potash projects around the world, Gabon's potash resources are located directly on the Atlantic coast. Geography may ultimately prove to be one of the country's greatest strengths.

As *Forbes Africa* noted, "sail directly west from Gabon's coastline, and you'll end up in Brazil".

With global imports estimated at around 13 million tonnes annually, Brazil is the largest importer of potash. The opportunity to market to one of the largest agricultural markets in the world, as well as the United States – another large potash consuming nation – through a direct shipping

Farhad Abasov, CEO of Millennial Potash, during the agreement with the American DFC in the presence of Gabonese President Clotaire Oligui Nguema.



route across the Atlantic, provides a natural competitive advantage for emerging potash jurisdictions that very few can match.

Today, shipping routes are more relevant than ever. The recent global supply chain disruptions have once again

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It is no accident that U.S. International Development Corporation has backed the potash developer in Gabon as the U.S. government has recently added potash to its critical minerals list.

alerted the governments and corporations that supply chains can be easily disrupted by geopolitics, regional conflicts, and transportation choke points. Once more, Gabon holds an exceptional position because shipping between Gabon and other markets are not subject to major maritime choke points since there are no canals, straits, or foreign territory crossing your route. It is no accident that U.S. International Development Corporation has backed the potash developer in Gabon as the U.S. government has recently added potash to its critical minerals list.

Here again, Gabon offers a distinctive advantage as shipments from Gabon to key markets benefit from the absence of major maritime chokepoints, with no impeding canals, straits, or foreign borders. As supply chain resiliency becomes an ever-greater priority for the global economy, the ability to directly access major markets for agriculture is worth more than just transportation costs.

BUILDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR GROWTH

Furthermore, another development which lends itself to Gabon's rise is its expansion of infrastructure. From one side of the country to the other, port, energy, and transportation infrastructure is being built that can accommodate future industrial development. While mining jurisdictions thrive on resources, and resources need infrastructure to be brought to market.

Government support also plays an important role. Gabon has made a real commitment to promoting investment and economic diversification over the past few years. One important aspect of its diversification plans is the development of its mining industry. This area of Gabon's economy is attracting a great deal of attention from foreign investors and resource companies.

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mining investors who are engaged for the long term, while respecting environmental standards and sustainable development principles,” says Ghislain Moandza Mboma, director general of Gabon’s National Investment Promotion Agency (ANPI), a government agency charged with attracting foreign investment, facilitating strategic projects, and advancing the country’s economic development agenda.

Gabon offers something increasingly valuable in today’s resource sector: a combination of geological potential and strategic positioning. Many countries possess one or the other. Few possess both.

With the world looking to future supplies of potash, not only size and grade of resources will be key, but also market access, infrastructure, government backing, and logistics. Those nations that can demonstrate a favourable mix will be the most attractive for investment and long-term development.

A STRATEGIC JURISDICTION FOR THE FUTURE

“Gabon is committed to supporting long-term mining investors who operate in compliance with environmental standards and sustainable development principles,” says

Minister Nguema Nguema. “Companies such as Millennial Potash are fully aligned with this vision, contributing to strengthening Gabon’s attractiveness as a leading mining destination and positioning the country as a future major player in Africa’s mining sector.”

Global potash supply has been dominated by a few major producers for the last several decades and it will likely continue that way for the foreseeable future. Nevertheless, the industry will need new sources of supply to accommodate world agricultural growth and meet increasing global demand for potash.

Gabon has all the ingredients required for significant growth in its potash potential including potentially world-class geology, access to Atlantic transport infrastructure, and proximity to important agricultural markets. While there is work to do, the components of a major new potash development seem to be falling into place for Gabon.

Farhad Abasov is chairman and director of Millennial Potash, advancing the Banio Potash Project in Gabon. He is a veteran mining executive who has built and sold multiple resource companies including potash and lithium development companies. ●

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NEW BRUNSWICK'S NEW CONTENDER

Atlantic Potash advances Millstream toward production

By Keith Attoe, CEO and Director,
Atlantic Potash Millstream Corporation

The Millstream Potash Project sits in Kings County, 10 kilometres southwest of Sussex, within the same Moncton sub-basin geology that has proven productive for decades.

For most people, potash means Saskatchewan. New Brunswick rarely enters the picture – yet the geology around Sussex has been quietly supplying fertilizer to farmers across the eastern seaboard and beyond since 1983. The next chapter of that story is now taking shape.

The Millstream Potash Project sits in Kings County, 10 kilometres southwest of Sussex, within the same Moncton sub-basin geology that has proven productive for decades. APMC was awarded the mineral lease in 2011 and has invested more than \$17 million since then, advancing the project through systematic exploration, independent technical review, and early environmental work.

A DEPOSIT WITH STRONG FUNDAMENTALS

The Millstream deposit contains a measured mineral resource of 158

million tonnes grading 32.6 per cent KCl, with indicated and inferred resources adding further scale. The estimate is documented in a 2022 NI 43-101 technical report prepared by ERCOSPLAN, a German engineering consultancy whose principals bring over 70 years of combined potash experience across four continents.

The ore body consists of up to five stacked sylvinite horizons. The highest-grade among them grades between 41.78 per cent and 45.74 per cent KCl – premium quality by any global benchmark. Insoluble content across the deposit runs below three per cent, which simplifies processing and reduces operating costs. ERCOSPLAN has identified conventional flotation as the preferred processing route, a well-understood technology with a proven track record in similar deposits.

A 2024 scoping study confirmed the project's potential to produce two

million tonnes of muriate of potash per year over a 25-year mine life, at an estimated capital cost of US\$1.5 billion and annual operating cost of US\$191.7 million.

THE ADVANTAGE OF LOCATION

Millstream sits approximately 70 kilometres from the Port of Saint John, a deep-water, ice-free terminal with direct access to Atlantic shipping lanes. The region is well-served by existing rail and road connections to the port. Compared with producers moving product by rail to West Coast ports, that proximity translates to an estimated US\$75 per tonne freight advantage – a structural edge that holds regardless of where potash prices move.

INDIGENOUS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

APMC recognizes that meaningful engagement with Indigenous communities is fundamental to

responsible project development. The company will begin formal consultation with First Nations, coordinated by Stantec, with the goal of ensuring Indigenous voices inform the project from an early stage. Dialogue has also been opened with both municipalities in the project area to surface community priorities and shape development accordingly.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROGRESS

In June 2026, APMC presented baseline environmental assessments to New Brunswick's Department of Environment and local government, and its technical review committee – a formal step toward an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) registration. Four field-based surveys have been completed, covering aquatics, wetlands and vegetation, wildlife, and archaeology. The archeological assessment, filed with the province in spring 2026, identified no issues. A gap analysis has identified outstanding studies still required – including water supply, brine and tailings management, and groundwater baseline surveys – to be addressed as engineering and design advance.

TECHNICAL WORK AND NEXT STEPS

A summer 2026 drill program of two boreholes to approximately 1,100-metres depth will soon be underway with Logan Drilling, gathering the rock mechanical and processing data required for mine design. The company's schedule targets a pre-feasibility study by mid-2027 and a bankable feasibility study by 2028, with construction and ramp-up projected for the early 2030s – timelines that align with New Brunswick's new Mineral Resources Act and its expectation that licence holders actively advance their resources.

Millstream is advancing on exactly that

basis: steadily and deliberately, with the geology, logistics, and groundwork in place to become Atlantic Canada's next potash mine.

For more information, visit www.apmcpotash.ca. ●



Millstream sits approximately 70 kilometres from the Port of Saint John, a deep-water, ice-free terminal with direct access to Atlantic shipping lanes.





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GENSOURCE POTASH SCALES UP TUGASKE PROJECT

A strategic leap for North American potash

The global fertilizer industry is closely watching developments in Saskatchewan, where Gensource Potash Corporation is advancing one of the most significant greenfield potash projects in North America.

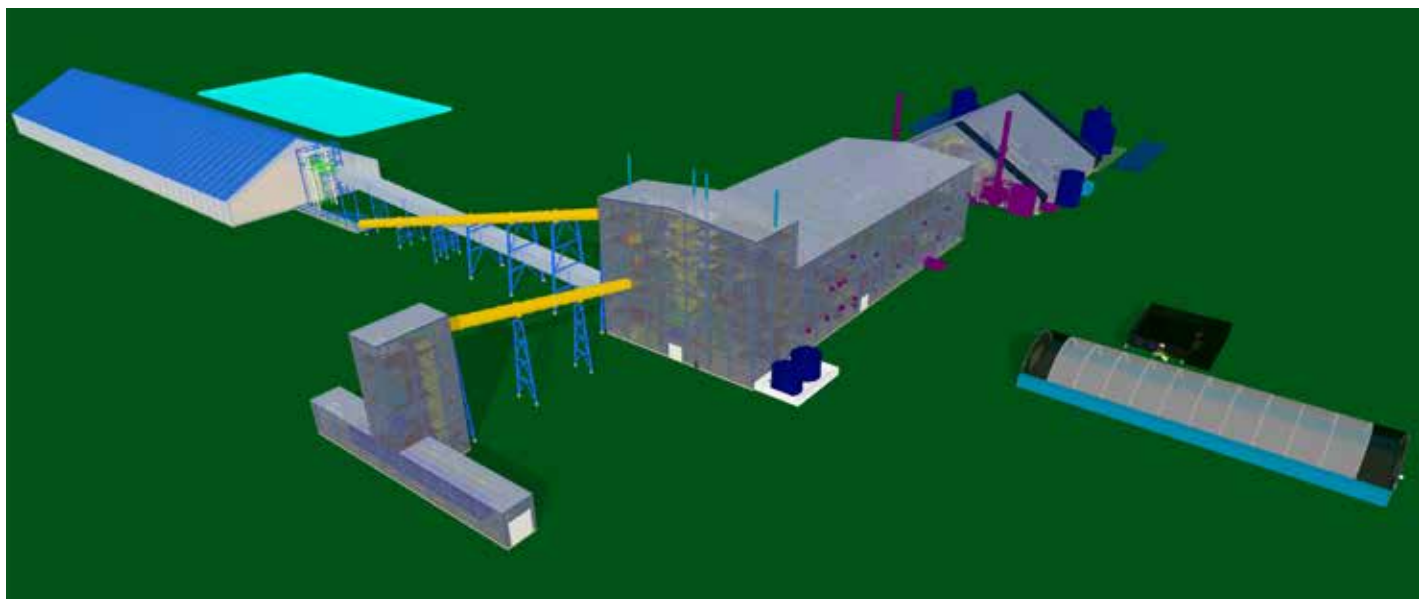
The Tugaské Project, already distinguished as the most advanced development of its kind, is now undergoing a significant transformation: an upsizing and engineering effort targeting 500,000 tonnes per year of premium Muriate of Potash (MOP) production. This expansion, coupled with strategic offtake agreements, positions Tugaské as a potential gamechanger for sustainable potash supply chains in both North America and Southeast Asia.

A RESOURCE BASE OF EXCEPTIONAL SCALE

The foundation of the Tugaské Project's viability lies in its substantial and high-quality resource base. The project has defined a remarkable 360 million tonnes (calculated as tonnes of finished MOP product) in the measured and indicated resource categories. This immense resource is crucial for ensuring a multi-decade mine life, underpinning the project's long-term economic viability. A particularly compelling aspect of this resource is its concentration: the Tugaské Project sits on only 10 per cent of Gensource's total mining lease area. This extraordinary density highlights the project's significant untapped potential for both the future expansion of Tugaské, as well as additional independent projects.

STRATEGIC OFFTAKES AND MARKET ACCESS

Gensource has already secured the commercial foundation for the scaled-up production. Offtake agreements are in place for the full 500,000 tonnes per year of MOP production. This market-first strategy significantly de-risks the project by ensuring a dedicated sales channel before construction begins. The product is strategically destined for two key global markets. A portion will be shipped to the United States, which is a major agricultural market with consistent demand for potash. Additionally, a comprehensive partnership framework is being established with a large Southeast Asian (ASEAN) conglomerate, which includes a long-term supply agreement for the ASEAN markets. This dual-market strategy provides



The Tugaské Project is now undergoing a significant transformation: an upsizing and engineering effort targeting 500,000 tonnes per year of premium Muriate of Potash (MOP) production.

robust diversification and aligns with Gensource's goal of creating bespoke and independent supply chains to enhance regional food security.

ADVANCING TOWARD A FINAL INVESTMENT DECISION

The project is currently navigating the final critical steps toward becoming a producing mine, with a clear timeline for key decisions. A pivotal technical update is underway, with an engineering scope of work designed to refine technical details for the double-sized project, update construction costs, and develop capital budgets for the expanded 500,000 tonnes per year facility. This work is being funded by Gensource's ASEAN partner and is a prerequisite for a final investment decision. The ASEAN partner is advancing financing work in parallel.

The company is on track to deliver a revised National Instrument 43-101 (NI 43-101) Technical Report in the coming months. This report will serve as the definitive basis for project financing and execution, covering all aspects from mineral resources and reserves to processing and logistics. This milestone will lead directly to the anticipated final investment decision (FID) later this year, marking the culmination of extensive technical work and commercial negotiations, and paving the way for full-scale construction.

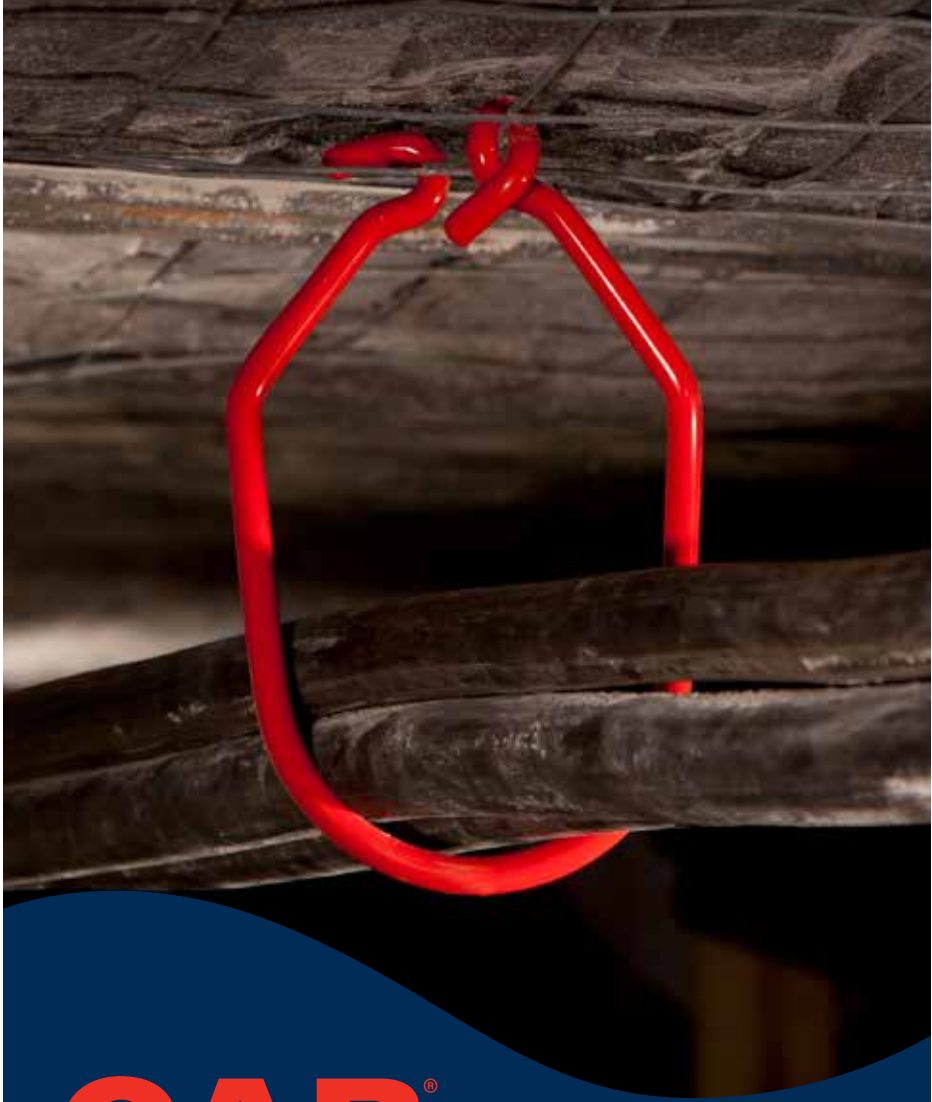
A SUSTAINABLE AND SCALABLE MODEL

Beyond its impressive resource and commercial strategy, the Tugaske Project sets a new standard for environmental responsibility in the potash industry. Gensource's proprietary selective solution mining process eliminates surface tailings and significantly reduces water consumption, avoiding the need for traditional brine or cooling ponds. The project has a strong financial profile at its original 250,000 tonnes per year size,

including a projected after-tax internal rate of return (IRR) of 21.39 per cent, and a position in the bottom decile of the global cost curve. The doubling in size to 500,000 tonnes per year is expected to further enhance these project economics.

For Saskatchewan, Tugaske represents more than another potash project. It reflects a broader shift in how critical

agricultural inputs may be produced, financed, and delivered: smaller in footprint, more closely connected to end markets, and increasingly shaped by the priorities of sustainability and food security. As Gensource and its partners carry the project through financing and into construction, Tugaske will become a notable new link between Canada's potash basin and the farmers who rely on it around the world. ●

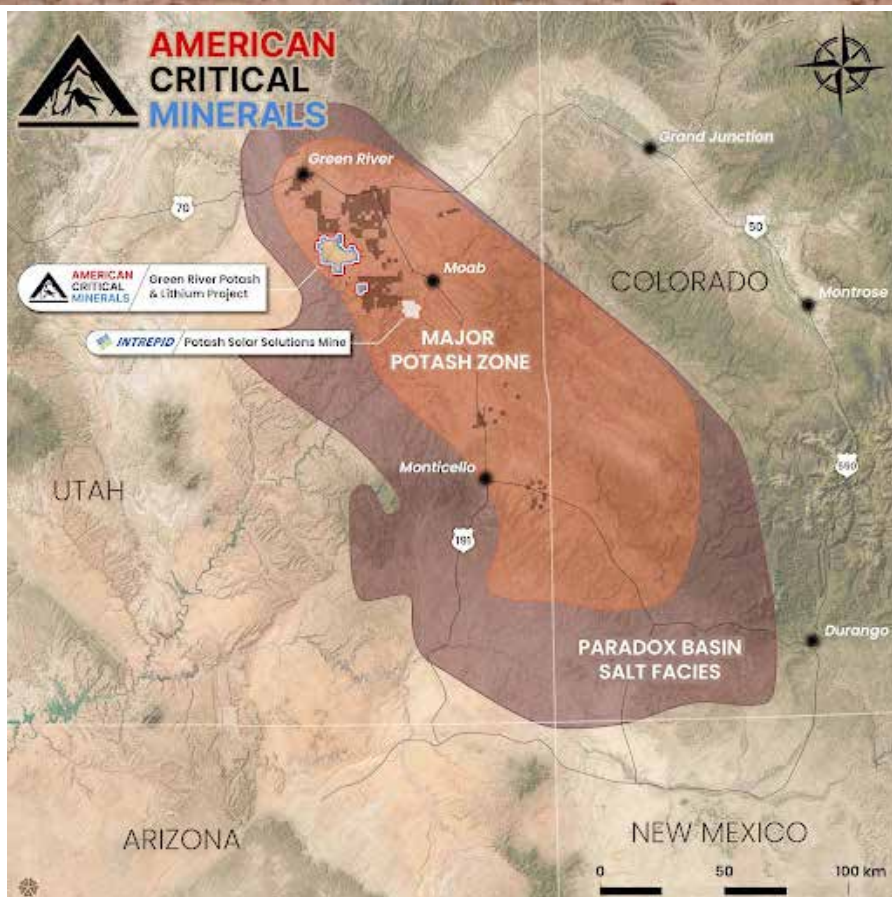


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FUELING AMERICA FROM THE HEART OF UTAH: THE CASE FOR DOMESTIC POTASH



America imports more than 94 per cent of its potash and domestic production has fallen 65 per cent since 1999. At the same time, U.S. lithium production has declined from 37 per cent of global output to just one per cent, despite holding four per cent of the world's reserves – yet both potash and lithium now appear on the USGS critical minerals list, and the U.S. Government has committed billions to securing a domestic supply chain.

The answer may well lie in the Paradox Basin in southeastern Utah, producing potash commercially since 1963 and hosting significant lithium and bromine targets within the same system. American Critical Minerals Corp. is advancing its Green River Potash, Lithium, and Bromine

Figure 1 - Location of the Green River Potash and Lithium Project within the Paradox Basin, southeastern Utah.

Project at the centre of that basin, 20 miles northwest of Moab, with proximity to rail, airport, roads, water, and communities (see Figure 1).

The company is neighboured by two of the most advanced critical minerals projects in the region. Intrepid Potash – America's largest potash producer – operating its nearby Moab Solution Mine from the same Paradox Formation potash cycles, providing strong evidence of stratigraphic continuity within the basin. Anson Resources holds advanced lithium development projects contiguous to the northern and southern boundaries of the project, with large initial resources, robust DFS, offtake with LG Energy, successful piloting through Koch Technology, and partnership with POSCO Holdings. Anson is focused on the combined Leadville

and Pennsylvanian Paradox Formation brine-bearing clastic layers, which also underlie KCLI's project area.***

Historic oil and gas wells across the project provide geologic data validating and de-risking the potential for high-grade potash and significant contained lithium. Wells on the property have reported potash mineralization from e-logs with intercepts up to 5.9 metres at 24.3 per cent eKCl being reported from two wells. The company has disclosed targets for further exploration at its project consisting of 500 million to 950 million tonnes of sylvinitic (the most important source for the production of potash in North America) grading from 12 per cent to 18 per cent potassium oxide based on e-log (eK₂O=19 per cent to 29 per cent potassium chloride based on e-log (eKCl)). Its target for further

exploration for lithium and bromine is 0.6 to 1.7 Mt lithium carbonate equivalent grading from 91 to 152 ppm, and 3.3 to 9.1 Mt bromine grading from 2,647 to 4,412 ppm.**

The company holds a 100 per cent interest in 11 SITLA mineral leases, 1,094 BLM lithium brine claims, and 11 BLM potash prospecting permits covering approximately 35,530 acres, providing the ability to explore for potash, lithium, and potential byproducts across the entire Green River Project. Seven drill holes are authorized and permitted, with RESPEC engaged to execute the program.

The goal is straightforward: use modern drill data to prove that the horizons developed by neighbouring operators extend into the Green River Project's land package and to



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validate historic drill data across and surrounding the project. Thus, offering leveraged exposure to potash, lithium, and bromine from a single asset. With newly appointed CEO, Dean Pekeski bringing 33 years of largely potash-focused exploration, development, and operations experience, KCL's primary task now is to confirm the potential derived from historic oil and gas wells

into an NI 43-101 compliant resource for both potash and lithium. Drilling is expected to commence in Q3 2026.

Notes & Disclaimers

*Historical data disclosed in this news release relating to historical wells from previous operators are historical in nature. Neither the company nor a

qualified person has yet verified this data and therefore investors should not place undue reliance on such data. The company's future exploration work may include verification of the data. The company considers historical results to be relevant as an exploration guide and to assess the mineralization, as well as economic potential of exploration projects. Any historical well data disclosed are selective and may not represent true underlying mineralization. Please refer to the January 2026 NI 43-101 Technical Report available under the company's profile at www.sedarplus.ca.

**The potential quantity and grades are conceptual in nature and there has been insufficient exploration to define a mineral resource, and, while reasonable potential may exist, it is uncertain whether further exploration will result in the determination of a mineral resource under NI 43-101. Targets for further exploration for potash, lithium, and bromine at the Green River Project are used to provide a conceptual estimate of the potential quantity and grade of a mineral deposit, based on known and additional limited geological evidence. It is an early-stage assessment that will help to guide further exploration, but it is not a mineral resource or mineral reserve and should not be treated as such. The January 2026 NI 43-101 Technical Report available under the company's profile at www.sedarplus.ca provides details of the basis on which the targets for further exploration have been determined.

***American Critical Minerals' management cautions that results or discoveries on properties in proximity to its properties may not necessarily be indicative of the presence of mineralization on the company's properties. ●



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WHAT IS ARAB POTASH COMPANY'S GHOR AL-SAFI EXPANSION PROJECT?

By Joshua Mayfield

Around one year ago from the time of this publication, a delegation of Australian and Canadian ambassadors visited one of the world's potash producers, Arab Potash Company (APC), at the Ghor Al-Safi mining site in Jordan. So, why did the ambassadors want to learn more about this potash expansion project at Ghor Al-Safi? The official documentation states that the ambassadors had sought to hear about the nature of APC's work, including the expansion project at Ghor Al-Safi and how the company plays a leading role in the global fertilizer market.

APC is a potash mining company. In addition to potash, APC is also expanding on a production strategy to invest in the downstream and complementary industries related to its Dead Sea industrial operations, including the production of potassium nitrate, bromine, and other mineral byproducts from the Ghor Al-Safi mining site. Jordan's King Abdullah II has given strong support for APC's strategy at Ghor Al-Safi by inaugurating two strategic projects that will complement potash production capacity expansion plans: the solar evaporation ponds expansion project, and the power and steam plant project.

These are some of the sustainable energy projects in place for APC to grow its presence in the downstream sector and enhance Jordan's position as a key Middle East supplier of potash to the global fertilizer market. The company aims to increase production capacity by 3.7 million tons per year of potash through this new expansion strategy at Ghor Al-Safi. The Australian and Canadian ambassadors got to see firsthand how APC intends to construct a new granular potash factory, while developing processing industries that boost APC's position in the industrial value chain for downstream fertilizer products.

There's more to this potash expansion strategy than just downstream investments. Jordan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have unveiled their plans to develop a railway network entitled the UAE-Jordan Railway Company. This new railway will link Ghor Al-Safi to Jordan's Port of Aqaba on the Red Sea. The railway project aims to transport 16 million tons of phosphate and potash per year. The joint-railway project has a total investment value of USD \$2.3 billion. In 2025, APC exported approximately 2.6 million tons of potash to the global market.

The agreement for the UAE-Jordan Railway Company was set up by a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed in 2024 under an equal partnership model with a consortium



There's more to this potash expansion strategy than just downstream investments. Jordan and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) have unveiled their plans to develop a railway network entitled the UAE-Jordan Railway Company.

of Jordanian entities such as APC, but also the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), the Government Investments Management Company, and the Social Security Investment Fund. The financing is expected to be closed in 2027 to make way for the construction of the railway.

The Jordanian government has been working closely with major potash importers Brazil and Indonesia to gain market access to APC's potash. In the first quarter of 2026, APC's potash exports to Brazil grew year-over-year. In addition, Jordanian and Indonesian government authorities are in talks to develop a joint fertilizer company to expand APC's potash exports

into Southeast Asia. The Jordanian government has already successfully carried out this partnership model in Asia-Pacific with the Nippon Jordan Fertilizer Company (NJFC). The NJF is the first joint-venture company set up by APC and JPMC for fertilizer exports to Japan. The production started in 1997.

APC is the eighth-largest potash producer worldwide by volume. APC also entitles itself to being a sole producer of potash in the Arab world. Established in 1956 in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan as a pan-Arab venture, APC operates under a concession from the Government of Jordan that grants it exclusive rights

to extract, manufacture, and market minerals from the Dead Sea until 2058.

The Ghor Al-Safi area is famous for its strategic location and is in the lowest point on earth next to the Dead Sea in Jordan. There are many farming and livestock communities in the Ghor Al-Safi area. It was known during Roman-Byzantine time by the name "Zoara" and was famous for being a vital agricultural and trade centre during the era. At present, APC is building a new crystallization plant with Germany-based CAC Engineering that will increase potassium chloride production at Ghor Al-Safi by one million tons per year. ●

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PRECONCENTRATION IN MINERAL PROCESSING



Spotlight on ore sorting and dense media separation

By Lucy Hunt, Saskatchewan Research Council



Sensor-based sorting at SRC is part of staged preconcentration testwork programs (Copyright SRC).



SRC's DMS Bulk Sample Plant is one of the only continuous testing DMS facilities in Canada (Copyright SRC).

As ore grades decline and mineralization becomes more complex, many operations must process larger volumes of material to recover the same amount of value. At the same time, increasing material volumes place greater demands on energy use, water management, and tailings handling. These pressures are driving interest in technologies that reduce the amount of material entering downstream processing.

One approach receiving renewed attention is preconcentration. A well-established method in minerals processing, preconcentration removes waste earlier in the processing sequence, reducing the volume of material entering more energy- and cost-intensive stages such as milling and tailings treatment.

In many cases, the primary goal of preconcentration is to reduce the material volume reporting to downstream processing, while additional benefits may include upgrading ore prior to final recovery, reducing the amount of material requiring finer crushing or milling, lowering water use, and creating additional value streams from rejected material.

At the Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC), a staged testing approach to preconcentration is used, ranging from bench-scale

studies through to industrial-scale testing. This allows a range of preconcentration technologies to be evaluated as part of a broader flowsheet.

Understanding how the ore behaves through characterization is therefore critical to determining whether preconcentration is suitable, and if so, which technologies can be applied effectively.

UNDERSTANDING DISTRIBUTION AND LIBERATION

Preconcentration technologies separate particles containing valuable minerals from lower-value or waste material, rather than extracting individual elements directly. Understanding how minerals are distributed within the ore is therefore a critical first step.

In some cases, minerals are concentrated within distinct particles, making separation at coarse sizes relatively straightforward. In others, they are finely and uniformly disseminated throughout the rock, making early-stage separation more challenging and limiting its effectiveness.

Preconcentration is most effective when the valuable mineral is unevenly distributed, a measurable contrast exists between ore and waste, and contrast can be detected at a coarse particle size.

FROM ORE CHARACTERISTICS TO TECHNOLOGY SELECTION

Understanding how minerals are distributed and whether meaningful differences in their properties exist provides the basis for selecting an appropriate preconcentration method.

Two commonly applied approaches are sensor-based sorting and dense media separation (DMS), which address similar challenges in different ways. Sorting offers higher selectivity at the particle level, typically at coarser particle sizes, while DMS can be applied at finer particle sizes as a high-throughput bulk-separation method.

Sensor-based sorting uses technologies such as X-ray transmission (XRT), laser and optical sensors to measure individual particles and separate them in real time based on their properties. DMS relies on differences in particle density to separate ore from waste as a bulk process.

Factors such as mineral distribution, particle size, water availability, process complexity, and operational constraints influence which technology is most suitable. In some cases, one technology may be clearly suited to the application. In others, a combination of approaches may provide the most effective solution.

FROM THEORY TO APPLICATION

Evaluating preconcentration requires moving from theoretical potential to practical performance. Testing begins by identifying whether measurable physical or mineralogical differences exist that can be targeted by a given technology, followed by controlled separation under ideal conditions. The final stage assesses performance at higher, more representative throughputs, where mechanical and operational factors begin to influence separation efficiency.

SRC provides production-scale XRT and laser sorting test work, along with a five-tonne-per-hour rated DMS plant and heavy liquid separation facilities, enabling evaluation at all scales. Combined with mineralogical characterization, this staged approach allows preconcentration strategies to be refined and adapted to specific ore types before full-scale implementation.

As an independent testing facility, SRC can assess both emerging and established technologies without bias, ensuring that the most appropriate solution is identified for each application. In an environment where uncertainty carries real cost, understanding whether and how preconcentration can be applied early can make a meaningful difference in both technical performance and project outcomes.

Read the full article at src.sk.ca/blog. ●

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CN RAIL TO MOVE BHP'S JANSSEN POTASH TO PACIFIC PORTS, BETTING ON GLOBAL FERTILIZER DEMAND



Canadian National Railway has struck a deal with the mining giant BHP to haul potash from the massive Jansen mine in Saskatchewan to export terminals on Canada's West Coast, positioning the rail carrier at the centre of one of the most ambitious resource projects in the country's recent history.

The agreement, announced in June 2026, will see CN use its sprawling, nearly 20,000-mile rail network to shuttle potash from the Prairies to Westshore Terminals in Vancouver, from where it will be shipped to buyers across Asia and Latin America. The arrangement covers the initial phase of production at Jansen, a mine that BHP has described as one of the largest new potash developments in the world and that officials in Saskatchewan have called one of the largest

infrastructure investments in the province's history.

For CN, the deal is as much about logistics as it is about strategy. Potash, which is a key ingredient in fertilizers used to boost crop yields, has become an increasingly valuable export for Canada as global food security concerns intensify and demand for agricultural inputs grows in developing markets. By locking in a transportation role for Jansen's output, CN cements its position as a critical link between one of the world's richest potash deposits and the ports that connect it to buyers overseas.

Janet Drysdale, CN's executive vice-president and chief commercial officer, framed the partnership as central to North America's agricultural future.

"Jansen is the most significant investment in Saskatchewan and a transformative project for North America's agricultural supply chain," said Drysdale in a press release.

Sandra Ellis, the railway's vice-president of bulk, was similarly direct about what the deal signals for the company's ambitions, describing potash as one of Canada's most important export commodities.

"CN's network provides the reach, capacity, and resilience needed to move these products efficiently from mine to port," says Ellis in a press release. "We look forward to working closely with BHP as production ramps up and new supply chains are established to help support farmers and feed a growing world."

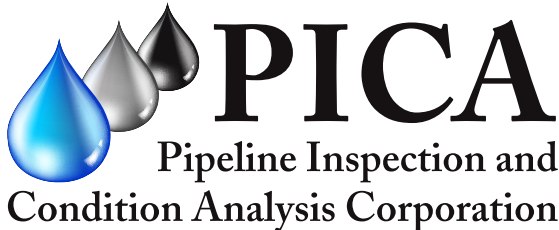
The stakes extend well beyond the balance sheets of CN and BHP. Potash mining has long been a pillar of Saskatchewan's economy, and Jansen, which has been years in development and billions of dollars in the making, represents a bet that global agriculture will need even more fertilizer to feed a growing population. As arable land comes under strain and food security climbs governments' priority lists from Brazil to Southeast Asia, producers like BHP are counting on steady,

high-volume demand to justify the scale of their investment.

That demand, however, depends on getting the product to market efficiently, which is where CN's rail network becomes indispensable. The company has cast the arrangement as part of a broader mission connecting the country's eastern and western coasts to trading partners in the U.S. and beyond, a role it has occupied since 1919.

As Jansen ramps up production in the coming years, the partnership between CN and BHP will serve as an early test of whether Canada's rail infrastructure can keep pace with the country's growing ambitions as a resource exporter, and whether the world's appetite for fertilizer will match the scale of what Saskatchewan is preparing to produce.

"CN is proud to partner with BHP and help connect Canadian potash producers to customers around the world," said Drysdale. "Our network and transportation solution expertise will provide reliable and sustainable service supporting the global food production supply chain and strengthen Canada's position as a leading exporter of critical resources." ●



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HOW POTASH OPERATORS CAN MAKE NEW TECHNICAL WORK MORE USEFUL ACROSS THE MINE LIFE CYCLE



By Jacob Hewett, Director of Industrial Minerals Operations

A new strategy question at any potash mine rarely begins with a blank page. By the time an operator is considering a capital investment, operational change, or closure decision, years of studies, models, data, and recommendations may already support the next step. The practical challenge is deciding what historical work remains useful, what needs to be revisited, and what new work will genuinely help the operator make their decision.

That question follows a mine throughout its life cycle. Work completed during exploration or development can inform later operating decisions, while work completed during operations can affect the options available when the mine changes course or approaches closure. Operators may draw on internal teams, engineering partners, specialty consultants, and independent reviewers along the way. Each can bring a useful perspective. The objective is to use those inputs deliberately and direct any new effort toward the questions that could materially affect the next decision.

WHAT WORK ALREADY EXISTS?

Before beginning a new study or technical assignment, operators should identify the work that already relates to the current issue. This effort may include reviewing previous reports, models, datasets, design work, or recommendations developed for an earlier phase of the mine. These considerations also include the context behind that work: the purpose of the assignment, the conditions at the time, and the intended decision to support.

Earlier work should not be treated as automatically relevant. Mine plans change, new information becomes available, and the question in front of the operator may differ from the one

that shaped the original scope. But reviewing what already exists helps distinguish between information that remains a useful starting point and information that needs to be updated or tested. This approach can also reduce the time a team spends gathering information and understanding the operation before they can apply their expertise.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE UPDATED OR VALIDATED?

Not every new decision requires a full recreation of earlier technical work. Often, the operator's real need is to determine if a key assumption still applies, what conditions have changed, or whether the available technical basis is strong enough for a major commitment. Identifying this need at the beginning keeps the work tied to the decision it is meant to inform.

Independent review can be valuable in these situations. A focused review can test an important assumption, provide a second perspective on a material risk, or help decision-makers evaluate if additional work is warranted before moving forward. The scope matters. There is a difference between validating the assumptions most relevant to a decision and repeating an entire body of work. A targeted review can challenge or confirm the technical basis where it matters most; recreating the full deliverable may add time, coordination, and cost without changing the available options.

WHAT EXPERTISE IS NEEDED FOR THE NEXT DECISION?

The answer may be an existing engineering partner, a specialist with a specific technical capability, an independent reviewer, or a combination of these resources. The right approach depends on the decision, risk involved,

Work completed during exploration or development can inform later operating decisions, while work completed during operations can affect the options available when the mine changes course or approaches closure.

information already available, and the expertise needed to address the remaining question. No single model fits every mine or every stage of the life cycle.

When a new team joins the effort, clear communication and access to relevant information are essential. The team needs to understand the mine, previous work, and specific problems they are being asked to solve. When several contributors are involved, operators also need clarity around roles, scope, and how each input will support the final decision. That coordination helps each team focus on their assignment rather than revisiting work that remains relevant.

MAKING NEW WORK COUNT

Reducing rework does not mean avoiding new analysis, limiting independent review, or relying on old studies without question. It means making better use of previous knowledge and investment, to define scopes around the uncertainty that need to be addressed. When operators take this approach, they can reduce unnecessary duplication, limit the effort required to bring teams up to speed, and keep consulting dollars focused on the work that will improve the next decision.

Across the mine life cycle, the strongest technical programs use the right expertise at the right time, with a clear understanding of what has already been developed and what still needs to be resolved. That discipline can help operators move from one decision to the next with a strategically focused technical foundation. ●

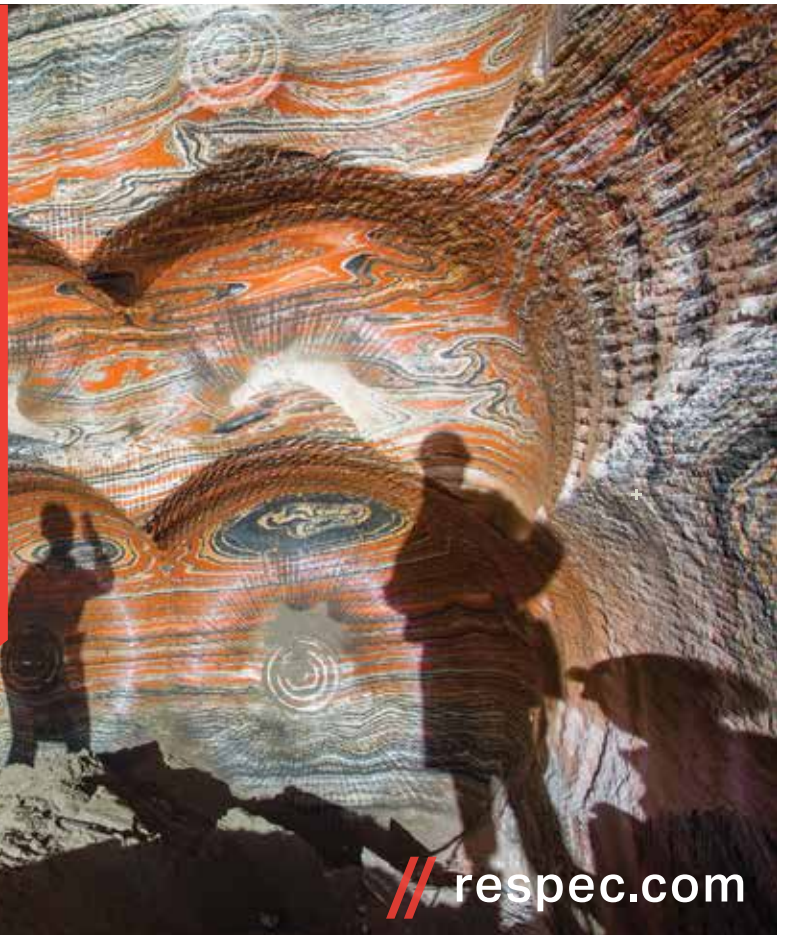


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HAS A MEMORY.
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build on what came before.*

RESPEC helps potash operators connect prior work to current conditions, focus reviews where they matter, and reduce costly technical rework.

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Available in both diesel and battery-electric configurations, Komatsu LHD machines allow mines to select the equipment best suited to their operating environment and project requirements.

DEVELOPMENT AND REHABILITATION: BUILDING STRONGER OPERATIONS IN POTASH MINING

Creating the foundation for long-term mine performance

In every successful potash operation, production begins long before the first tonne reaches the conveyor. Within every productive mine is a network of development headings, rehabilitated workings, and critical infrastructure that make safer, more efficient extraction possible.

Development and rehabilitation are more than support activities; they are strategic investments in a mine's future. Whether opening new production areas, restoring access to existing workings, or creating space for essential infrastructure, these activities help ensure mines can adapt, grow, and sustain performance over the long term.

As operators face evolving production demands, changing ground conditions, and increasing pressure to optimize

costs and sustainability, having the right equipment and technologies in place becomes essential. Komatsu's portfolio of Joy underground mining solutions and Komatsu load-haul-dump (LHD) machines is designed to help potash producers meet these challenges while advancing productivity, safety, and operational flexibility.

ADVANCING DEVELOPMENT WITH PURPOSE-BUILT MINING SOLUTIONS

Every development project presents unique requirements. Some applications involve creating future production panels, while others require excavations for ventilation systems, substations, conveyor infrastructure, or access routes. Success depends on equipment that can be matched to the task while delivering consistent performance.

Joy continuous miners are engineered to support a wide range of development and rehabilitation applications. From low-seam rehabilitation work beneath existing conveyor systems to large-scale development headings, operators can select machine configurations that align with specific mining conditions and productivity goals.

With multiple machine sizes and power ratings available, potash producers can deploy solutions tailored to their mine plans while maintaining efficient advance rates.

KEEPING MATERIAL MOVING

Efficient development requires more than cutting rock. Material must be sized, handled, and transported effectively to maintain momentum and keep projects on schedule.



Joy battery hauler feeding Joy feeder breaker.

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Joy battery hauler.

Joy feeder breakers play an important role in supporting continuous development operations by regulating material flow from the mining face. Their robust construction, dependable sizing capability, and ease of relocation help minimize bottlenecks and maintain productivity as mining conditions evolve.

Together, continuous miners and feeder breakers provide an integrated approach that helps development projects progress more efficiently.

EXPANDING POSSIBILITIES WITH ELECTRIFIED HAULAGE

As development headings move farther from established infrastructure, transporting material can become increasingly complex. This challenge is especially common in rehabilitation projects and remote development areas where extending ventilation systems may be difficult or cost-prohibitive.

Joy battery haulers are helping potash operators rethink how development and rehabilitation projects are executed. By eliminating diesel emissions, battery-powered haulage can help reduce ventilation requirements while providing the

mobility and flexibility needed to support changing mine layouts.

These capabilities can enable operators to access opportunities that may have previously been constrained by infrastructure limitations, creating new possibilities for mine development and optimization.

FLEXIBLE SOLUTIONS FOR REHABILITATION PROJECTS

Rehabilitation work often requires a different set of capabilities than traditional production mining. Material cleanup, recovery operations, and specialized handling tasks frequently occur in confined areas where maneuverability and adaptability are critical.

Komatsu LHD machines provide operators with the flexibility to address these demands. Available in both diesel and battery-electric configurations, they allow mines to select the equipment best suited to their operating environment and project requirements.

Battery-electric LHDs offer the additional advantage of reduced emissions and lower ventilation requirements,



By eliminating diesel emissions, battery-powered haulage can help reduce ventilation requirements while providing the mobility and flexibility needed to support changing mine layouts.

making them particularly well suited for development and rehabilitation applications where minimizing ventilation demand and eliminating diesel emissions can help to meet operational needs.

THE POWER OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

The greatest value is realized when development and rehabilitation solutions work together as a coordinated system.

By combining continuous miners, feeder breakers, battery haulage, and LHDs, operators can build equipment fleets tailored to the specific needs of each project. This integrated approach helps improve flexibility, streamline workflows, and support productivity across a range of mining conditions.

Rather than adapting projects to available equipment, mines

can deploy purpose-built solutions designed to meet their operational objectives.

SUPPORTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF POTASH MINING

As potash producers continue to pursue higher levels of productivity, sustainability, and operational resilience, development and rehabilitation will remain critical drivers of long-term success.

Through its portfolio of Joy underground mining products and Komatsu mining solutions, Komatsu helps operators develop new mining areas, restore existing workings, and maintain the infrastructure that supports safe, reliable production. By enabling mines to build for the future while maximizing performance today, Komatsu continues to help customers advance what is possible underground. ●

ADVANCED ASSET PRESERVATION TECHNOLOGIES

*Protecting critical infrastructure. extending service life.
Reducing maintenance costs.*



Above left: Lajcon Distributors delivers engineered, specified solutions that help mining operations preserve critical infrastructure, reduce lifecycle costs, and maximize operational uptime. Right: Dissolver tank after three years.

For more than 65 years, the potash mining industry has faced one of the most aggressive environments for concrete and steel infrastructure. Potassium chlorides, brines, moisture, abrasion, impact, and chemical attack continually deteriorate processing facilities, tank foundations, floors, walls, pedestals, and structural concrete—leading to costly repairs, production interruptions, and shortened asset life.

Lajcon Distributors delivers engineered, specified solutions that help mining operations preserve critical infrastructure, reduce lifecycle costs, and maximize operational uptime. Our integrated protection technologies are designed to address both new construction and existing assets, providing long-term performance in some of the industry's harshest conditions.

PROTECT NEW CONCRETE WITH VAPOR LOCK®

Vapor Lock® is a high-performance concrete admixture that permanently enhances the durability of concrete from the inside out.

Unlike conventional concrete, Vapor Lock reacts with water and cementitious materials to generate additional Calcium Silicate Hydrate (C-S-H), creating an exceptionally dense and impermeable concrete matrix. By eliminating continuous capillary pathways, Vapor Lock dramatically reduces the migration of moisture and aggressive chemicals through the concrete.

In potash environments, potassium chlorides react with calcium hydroxide within conventional concrete, producing expansive calcium oxychloride. This destructive reaction generates internal stresses that often exceed the compressive strength of the concrete,

leading to cracking, scaling, and premature deterioration.

Because Vapor Lock converts cement hydration into additional C-S-H rather than producing excess calcium hydroxide, the potential for calcium oxychloride formation is significantly reduced. The result is concrete that is denser, more durable, and far more resistant to the aggressive conditions found throughout potash mining operations.

Benefits include:

- Permanent reduction in concrete permeability
- Increased resistance to chloride penetration and chemical attack
- Improved durability and service life
- Reduced maintenance and lifecycle costs
- Long-term protection for new concrete infrastructure

PERMANENT CONCRETE REPAIRS WITH 1260 MG-KRETE®

When existing concrete has deteriorated, 1260 MG-Krete® provides a permanent structural repair solution.

This two-component, high-early-strength structural repair mortar forms an ionic bond with properly prepared concrete, creating an exceptionally durable and waterproof repair. Unlike conventional cement-based repair materials, MG-Krete is non-water-based and provides outstanding resistance to moisture, salts, abrasion, and aggressive chemical exposure.

Suitable for horizontal, vertical, overhead, shallow feather-edge repairs, and deep structural placements, MG-Krete delivers long-term performance where conventional repair mortars often fail.

PROVEN PERFORMANCE

One Saskatchewan potash operation used MG-Krete to rehabilitate the concrete base of a dissolver tank containing 240°F heated potash brine with continuous mechanical agitation.

After preparing the substrate by bush hammering to sound concrete, only a half-inch application of MG-Krete was required. Years later, the repair continues to exhibit virtually no deterioration or measurable wear despite continuous exposure to one of the industry's most demanding environments.

Many MG-Krete repairs remain in service after seven years and beyond, eliminating the repeated repair cycles that consume maintenance budgets and disrupt production.

MINECOAT™ PROTECTIVE LINING SYSTEMS

For steel and concrete assets requiring advanced surface protection, MINECOAT™ provides a high-performance engineered protective lining system.

MINECOAT is a performance-grade, spray-applied protective liner specified for potash brine thickener tanks and other demanding industrial applications where corrosion, abrasion, impact, and chemical exposure are constant challenges.

Engineered with enhanced chemical resistance, puncture resistance, and abrasion durability, MINECOAT creates a seamless waterproof barrier that protects valuable infrastructure while extending service life and reducing maintenance requirements.

IDEAL APPLICATIONS

- Potash brine thickener tanks
- Concrete containment structures
- Steel process equipment
- Secondary containment
- Processing facilities
- High-abrasion and high-impact environments

KEY BENEFITS

- Outstanding corrosion protection
- Excellent waterproofing performance
- Superior chemical resistance

- High impact and abrasion resistance
- Long-term protection of steel and concrete infrastructure

A COMPLETE ASSET PRESERVATION SYSTEM

Lajcon Distributors provides engineered technologies that work together to protect mining infrastructure throughout its entire lifecycle.

- Vapor Lock® – Permanent protection for new concrete.
- 1260 MG-Krete® – Permanent structural repairs for existing concrete.
- MINECOAT™ – High-performance protective lining system for steel and concrete assets.

Together, these technologies help potash operations extend infrastructure life, reduce maintenance costs, improve reliability, and keep production running where it matters most.

Build it better. Repair it permanently. Protect it for the future.

Lajcon Distributors ●

VAPOR LOCK

MAKING CONCRETE IMPERMEABLE

VAPOR LOCK ADMIXTURE

Makes concrete impermeable to potash/brine deterioration. Encapsulates steel reinforcement and protects from ever corroding.

Vapor Lock concrete closes the open capillaries, stops:

- Moisture vapor emission
- Water and chemical intrusion

Vapor Lock concrete improves:

- Concrete performance and service life
- Adhesion of coatings and adhesives

MG-KRETE

BRINGING CONCRETE BACK TO LIFE

- Salt, moisture and chemically resistant mortar
- Ionic bond to concrete
- No minimum or maximum depth of install
- Stronger than concrete in 45 minutes



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UNLOCKING HIDDEN CAPACITY

How process optimization increases throughput without major investment

By Julie Andras, Haver & Boecker Niagara



In many operations, meaningful production gains can be achieved not through new buildings, new circuits, or large equipment replacement programs, but through a more disciplined evaluation of how the current process is performing.

Global producers are navigating an increasingly complex operating environment. Ongoing supply chain disruptions, geopolitical uncertainty, shifting trade policies, and volatile energy costs continue to place pressure on production schedules and operating margins.

At the same time, demand for fertilizers remains strong, requiring producers to maximize output while carefully managing costs. In this environment, there is a critical challenge: how to increase production, improve efficiency, and maintain profitability when major capital

investments are subject to greater scrutiny than ever before.

THE ANSWER MAY ALREADY EXIST INSIDE THE PLANT

The answer may not lie in expansion, but in unlocking the hidden capacity that already exists within current operations through process optimization and continuous improvement.

EFFICIENCY HAS BECOME JUST AS IMPORTANT AS CAPACITY

In many operations, meaningful production gains can be achieved not through new buildings, new circuits,

or large equipment replacement programs, but through a more disciplined evaluation of how the current process is performing. Hidden capacity is often lost through bottlenecks, unstable feed conditions, excessive recirculating loads, inefficient screening, unplanned maintenance, poor material distribution, or process settings that have gradually drifted away from optimal conditions. Over time, these small inefficiencies become accepted as “normal”, even though they may be limiting throughput, recovery, and product quality.

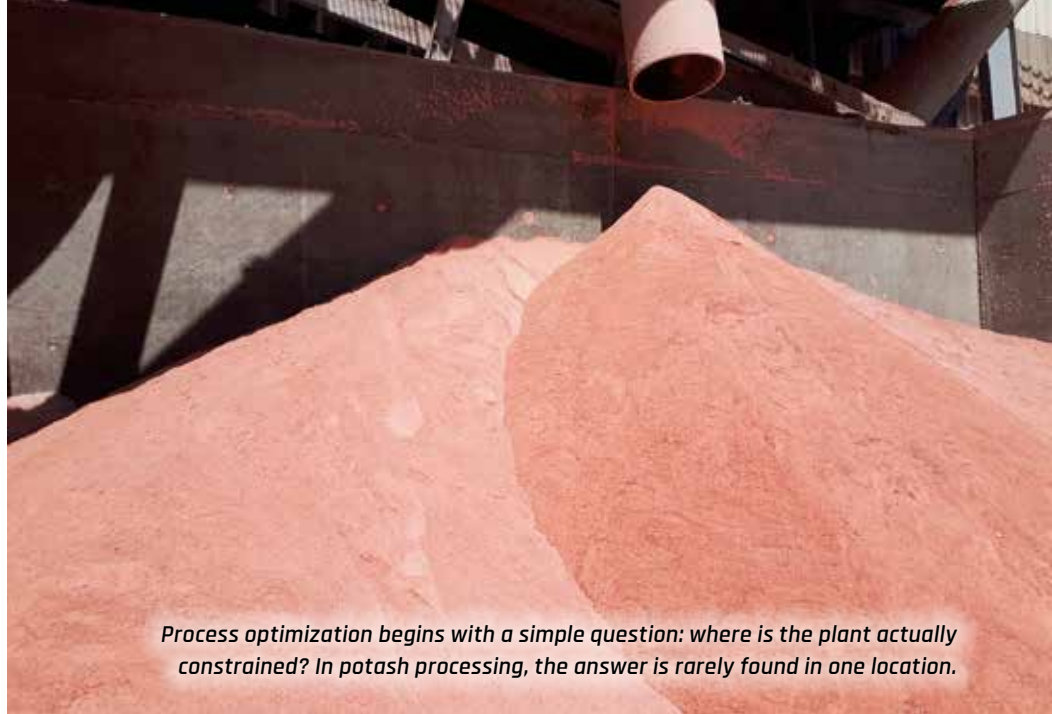
Process optimization begins with a simple question: where is the plant

actually constrained? In potash processing, the answer is rarely found in one location. Capacity can be restricted in crushing, screening, compaction, drying, conveying, storage, loadout, or in the transitions between these stages. A dryer may have the theoretical capacity to handle more tons per hour, but downstream screens may be overloaded. A compactor may run well at higher rates, but if oversize and fines recirculation increases, the rest of the circuit may become unstable. A conveyor may be sized correctly, but uneven distribution into a screener can reduce effective separation efficiency and increase carryover.

This is where diagnostics become essential and are widely used to understand performance gaps before making investment decisions. In business financial audits, market analyses, customer research, and production reviews all serve the same purpose: they replace assumptions with evidence. The same principle applies inside a processing plant.

Before adding more equipment, information about vibration, feed rates, bed depth, screen loading, product gradation, moisture levels, energy consumption, maintenance frequency, and equipment condition can reveal issues that are not always visible during routine operation.

The screener may appear to be running, but it may not be running effectively. Uneven feed distribution can leave part of the screen deck overloaded while another section is underutilized. Blinding can reduce open area and lower capacity. Worn media can affect cut accuracy. Excessive bed depth can prevent proper stratification. In potash, corrosion, fines, moisture, and agglomeration can contribute to mesh blinding and sudden capacity loss. These conditions may seem minor individually, but



Process optimization begins with a simple question: where is the plant actually constrained? In potash processing, the answer is rarely found in one location.



In potash, corrosion, fines, moisture, and agglomeration can contribute to mesh blinding and sudden capacity loss. These conditions may seem minor individually, but together they can impact the entire plant.

together they can impact the entire plant.

A diagnostic program can evaluate both mechanical condition and process performance. Tools such as vibration analysis like PULSE Diagnostics, condition monitoring, particle size sampling, regular process audits, and inspection programs can help maintenance and operations teams identify whether equipment is performing within its intended range. The goal is not simply to collect data, but to connect that data to decisions. Are the screeners operating at the correct stroke, speed, and angle? Is the feed consistent? Is the screen media appropriate for the material

characteristics? Are maintenance issues causing gradual performance loss? Is the circuit being pushed beyond its most efficient operating window?

The value of this work can be significant. Industry examples show that targeted screening improvements in compaction and granulation circuits can unlock meaningful capacity by addressing equipment sizing, distribution, and recirculation challenges rather than rebuilding entire facilities. Some reported screening optimization projects have identified production increases in the range of 10 to 20 per cent, with specialized configurations achieving higher gains when downstream and



Industry examples show that targeted screening improvements in compaction and granulation circuits can unlock meaningful capacity by addressing equipment sizing, distribution, and recirculation challenges rather than rebuilding entire facilities.

upstream systems can support the additional tonnage. While every plant is different, the principle is the same: the lowest-risk way to increase capacity is to improve how existing assets work together.

Modern process simulation and modeling tools can further strengthen optimization efforts by helping producers visualize entire plant flowsheets and evaluate improvement opportunities before making operational changes. Programs such as NIAflow allow engineers and operations teams to model crushing, screening and material handling circuits, analyze equipment utilization, identify bottlenecks, and simulate the impact of process adjustments on overall performance.

By creating a digital representation of the plant, teams can better understand how changes in one area influence downstream operations, helping prioritize improvement initiatives with the highest potential return. When combined with plant diagnostics and operating data, process simulation tools provide a powerful framework for uncovering hidden capacity, improving process balance, and validating productivity gains before committing resources in the field.

Optimization also strengthens resilience. When supply chains are uncertain and capital projects face longer lead times, plants that understand their process limits can

respond more quickly. They can adjust operating parameters, prioritize maintenance, reduce unplanned downtime, and improve product consistency without waiting for large projects to be approved, engineered, and installed. This is especially important in potash, where product sizing and quality specifications influence downstream handling, storage, transportation, and customer acceptance.

Continuous improvement is key. A one-time audit can identify opportunities, but sustained gains require ongoing condition monitoring, routine measurement, and cross-functional discipline.

Operations, maintenance, engineering, and management teams should review performance indicators together and look for early warning signs: rising recirculating loads, declining screen efficiency, repeated media failures, higher cleanup requirements, unstable product gradation or unexplained throughput losses. These indicators often point to lost capacity before a major failure occurs.

The most effective optimization programs also avoid treating equipment in isolation. A screener is not simply a machine; it is part of a larger process. Improving screening efficiency may reduce load on crushers, stabilize compaction, improve dryer performance, lower energy use, and increase final product recovery.

Likewise, better upstream control can improve screening results. True optimization considers the full circuit and focuses on the interaction between material characteristics, equipment condition, and operating targets.

The business case is compelling. Major capital investment will always have a place in long-term growth strategies, particularly where reserves, market demand, and infrastructure justify expansion. But in the near term, many plants may be able to capture a five to 15 per cent production increase by unlocking capacity already present in the current process. That opportunity is not always obvious, and it rarely appears in a single line item. It is found through diagnostics, measurement, maintenance discipline, and a willingness to challenge long-standing operating assumptions.

In an uncertain global environment, optimization is more than a technical exercise. It is a strategic advantage. Producers that know their process in detail can make better decisions, protect margins, improve reliability, and respond faster to changing market conditions. The next increase in throughput may not require a new plant or a major expansion. It may be waiting inside the existing circuit—hidden in the data, the screens, the maintenance records, and the everyday operating practices that determine how efficiently each ton of potash moves through the plant. ●



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BUILT TO SUPPORT SASKATCHEWAN'S POTASH INDUSTRY



Leading Manufacturing Group delivers the strength, quality, and reliability mining companies depend on



LMG's manufacturing facility in Battleford, Saskatchewan provides complete steel fabrication solutions for heavy industry throughout Western Canada.



LMG offers a complete range of fabrication services, including steel storage tanks, pressure vessels, pressure piping, structural steel, custom fabricated equipment, and engineered industrial components.

Few industries shape Saskatchewan's economy like potash mining. As global demand for fertilizer continues to grow, producers are expanding operations, modernizing facilities, and investing in infrastructure designed to perform for decades. Behind every successful project is a network of trusted industrial partners capable of delivering quality equipment on schedule and built to withstand some of the most demanding operating conditions in Canada.

Leading Manufacturing Group (LMG) has established itself as one of those trusted partners.

Our manufacturing facility in Battleford, Saskatchewan provides complete steel fabrication solutions for heavy industry throughout Western Canada. For Saskatchewan's potash producers, that local presence means more than convenience—it means responsive service, shorter transportation distances, and manufacturing capabilities designed specifically for large-scale industrial projects.

One of LMG's unique advantages is its Battleford manufacturing facility, where Saskatchewan's transportation regulations allow larger diameter tanks to be shipped than in many neighbouring provinces. This provides

mining companies with opportunities to reduce field construction time, lower installation costs, and receive larger completed assemblies directly from the fabrication shop.

COMPLETE MANUFACTURING SOLUTIONS

Mining operations require equipment that performs reliably under demanding conditions while meeting strict quality and regulatory requirements. LMG offers a complete range of fabrication services, including steel storage tanks, pressure vessels, pressure piping, structural steel, custom fabricated equipment, and engineered industrial components.

Rather than coordinating multiple suppliers, customers benefit from an integrated manufacturing process that brings engineering, drafting, fabrication, blasting, coating, insulation, inspection, and quality assurance together under one organization. This streamlined approach improves communication, enhances quality control, and helps keep complex projects on schedule.

Whether supporting a new processing facility, replacing aging infrastructure, or completing equipment upgrades during scheduled shutdowns, LMG works closely with customers to deliver solutions tailored to each project's specific operating requirements.

QUALITY THAT MEETS THE HIGHEST STANDARDS

In the mining industry, quality is never optional.

LMG maintains an extensive range of industry certifications that demonstrate its commitment to manufacturing excellence. From ASME-certified pressure vessels and piping systems to Canadian Welding Bureau-certified fabrication, every project is produced to recognized industry standards by experienced tradespeople and inspected throughout the manufacturing process.

Blasting, coating, and painting services follow established SSPC and NACE standards, helping ensure long-term corrosion protection in Saskatchewan's demanding operating environments. Comprehensive quality assurance procedures verify every stage of fabrication before equipment leaves the facility, providing customers with confidence that their investment is built to perform.

SAFETY AT EVERY STAGE

Mining companies expect their suppliers to share the same



LMG maintains an extensive range of industry certifications that demonstrate its commitment to manufacturing excellence.

commitment to workplace safety that exists on every mine site.

LMG's COR-certified safety program reflects a culture built around continuous improvement, employee training, and safe work practices. Participation with recognized contractor management systems, including Avetta, ISNetwork, and Veriforce, further demonstrates the company's commitment to meeting the rigorous safety expectations of today's industrial clients.

Environmental stewardship is equally important. Sustainable manufacturing practices, environmentally responsible blasting media, recycling initiatives, and low-VOC coating systems all contribute to reducing environmental impact while maintaining exceptional product quality.

A PARTNER FOR THE LONG TERM

The relationship between a mining company and its fabrication partner extends well beyond a single project. Facilities evolve, production expands, equipment requires replacement, and maintenance schedules demand responsive support.

LMG understands these long-term operational needs. In addition

to manufacturing large process equipment, the company supplies replacement components, custom-fabricated parts, and specialized accessories that help mining operations minimize downtime and maintain productivity.

As Saskatchewan's potash industry continues to grow, reliable manufacturing partners will play an increasingly important role in supporting that success.

With decades of fabrication experience, strategically located manufacturing facilities, highly skilled employees, and an unwavering commitment to quality, safety, and customer service, LMG is well positioned to help build the next generation of mining infrastructure across Saskatchewan.

For companies seeking a supplier that delivers more than fabricated steel, LMG delivers confidence. From concept through completion, every project reflects the craftsmanship, accountability, and industrial expertise that have become the foundation of the company's reputation.

Leading Manufacturing Group—Building the infrastructure that powers Saskatchewan's mining industry, one project at a time. ●

THROUGH ITS PROPRIETARY SUBCOM[®] TECHNOLOGY, INPROHEAT INDUSTRIES DELIVERS EFFICIENCY, RELIABILITY, AND SERVICE TO POTASH PRODUCERS



Clockwise from above: 182 MM Btu/h SubCom[®] unit from Inproheat Industries Ltd. to heat a potash solution mining brine in Patience Lake in Saskatchewan. A SubCom[®] system from Inproheat Industries Ltd. at a Sulphate of Potash (SOP) application site in Ogden, Utah. A three-burner SubCom[®] system with an integrated glycol heater, heated brine transfer pump, and hot brine heat exchangers from Inproheat Industries Ltd. for Phase 1 of the Milestone Project for Western Potash Corporation in Saskatchewan.

The potash industry continues to face evolving environmental requirements, safety challenges, and economic pressures. In this dynamic landscape, trusted partnerships, proven technologies, and dependable service are essential for maintaining operational excellence and long-term competitiveness.

For more than 60 years, Inproheat Industries has built its reputation on trust, expertise, and innovation. At the heart of the company's success is its proprietary Submerged Combustion (SubCom[®]) technology, used in direct-fired heaters and evaporators. Purpose-built to help potash producers improve efficiency, reduce operating costs, and support sustainable growth, SubCom[®] technology has delivered proven

results across a wide range of mining applications.

SubCom[®] systems provide significant advantages in solution mining, process-water heating, crystallization, and reagent production. The technology operates by burning fuel within a direct-fired combustion chamber submerged beneath the surface of a process liquid or slurry. Since there are no solid heat-transfer surfaces, combustion gases come into direct contact with the process medium, enabling highly efficient, no-fouling heat transfer and maximizing energy utilization.

In potash applications, SubCom[®] direct-fired heaters can achieve thermal efficiencies exceeding 99 per cent (HHV basis), making them highly effective for corrosive and fouling liquids,

abrasive slurries, and fluids containing high concentrations of suspended or dissolved solids. SubCom[®] systems are also configurable for heat recovery and water conservation, further improving operating efficiency.

Engineered for long service life and minimal maintenance, SubCom[®] heaters resist fouling, reduce fuel consumption and greenhouse-gas emissions, and provide high turndown capability for operational flexibility. Compliance with CEN, FM, NFPA, and CSA standards supports safe and reliable operation, while remote monitoring and control capabilities can eliminate the need for boiler operator certification in many applications.

For decades, Inproheat has partnered with leading potash producers to deliver

measurable results through innovative engineering, dependable equipment, and responsive customer support.

One notable example is the Patience Lake operation in Saskatchewan. When the Potash Corporation of America converted the site from a conventional underground mine to a solution mining operation, Inproheat supplied a 10-burner SubCom® system with a total heat input of 130 MMBtu/h. Integrated into a floating tank structure and commissioned in 1990, the system increased thermal heating efficiency to 98 per cent. The project's success earned Potash Corporation of America a Canadian Gas Association Award in 1991 for its innovative application of natural-gas technology.

Inproheat has maintained a close relationship with the mine's successive operators—first Potash Corporation of Saskatchewan, and today, Nutrien—by optimizing the system as requirements have evolved. In 2011, the facility underwent a major modernization that added four burners, increased heat input capacity, upgraded control systems, and incorporated new modular fuel trains. After almost 35 years in service, in 2025, Inproheat developed custom replacement burners to extend system life while preserving performance and minimizing capital expenditures.

Inproheat has delivered similar results at Compass Minerals' Sulphate of Potash operation in Ogden, Utah. When the site's package boiler system began increasing operating costs, Compass Minerals turned to Inproheat for a more efficient solution. In 2014, Inproheat supplied a 30 MMBtu/h SubCom® unit for process-water heating. Building on the success of that installation, the company later engineered and supplied a 60 MMBtu/h heating system that increased hot-water production capacity and improved overall process efficiency. This proved the long-term reliability and performance of SubCom® technology.

Inproheat's expertise extends beyond equipment supply to collaborative project development with engineering firms and technology partners. A strong example is Western Potash Corporation's Milestone Project near Regina, Saskatchewan.

During Phase 1 planning in 2018, SNC-Lavalin engaged Inproheat to design a specialized heating system capable of handling corrosive brine service, elevated operating temperatures, high thermal-efficiency requirements, and strict environmental standards. To meet these objectives, Inproheat engineered a three-burner SubCom® system with a gross heat input of 51 MMBtu/h, designed to heat brine to 82°C while achieving thermal efficiencies exceeding 90 per cent (HHV basis).

Integrated with a Sigma Thermal glycol heater and a Tranter titanium plate-and-frame heat exchanger, the solution successfully delivered the temperatures required for solution mining operations. A specialized hot-brine centrifugal pump circulated fluid through the system, ensuring efficient heat transfer throughout the process. Solution mining operations commenced in 2020, demonstrating the effectiveness of the

integrated heating solution.

Although the Milestone Project is currently inactive, it highlights Inproheat's engineering capabilities, collaborative approach, and commitment to solving complex challenges in the mining sector.

Today, SubCom® direct-fired heaters and evaporators continue to help potash producers improve energy efficiency, reduce operating costs, enhance reliability, and maximize long-term performance in demanding operating environments.

As the potash industry evolves, producers need partners that combine proven technology with practical experience. Inproheat remains committed to helping mining operations meet today's challenges while preparing for tomorrow's opportunities.

Contact us to discuss your potash mining objectives and learn how SubCom® technology can help your operation achieve them. Get in touch with Osama Shenouda, CEO, Inproheat Industries Ltd., at oshenouda@inproheat.com. You can also find us online at www.inproheat.com. ●



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