

Azimut Appoints Rock Lefrançois as Manager - Special Projects

LONGUEUIL, QC, Dec. 15, 2022 /CNW Telbec/ - **Azimut Exploration Inc.** ("**Azimut**" or the "**Company**") (TSXV: AZM) (OTCQX: AZMTF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Rock Lefrançois, P.Geo., as Manager – Special Projects. Mr. Lefrançois' specific mandates will be to manage work programs on several key projects and support the growth of the Company.

Mr. Lefrançois brings to Azimut 35 years of international experience in the search, evaluation and development of gold and base metal deposits throughout the Americas. During his 15 years of engagement with mid-tier mining companies he was responsible for the implementation of project generative and acquisition programs and the management of exploration and extensive resource and reserve definition drilling programs and collaborated on economic assessments. For the last 20 years, Mr. Lefrançois has been involved in the management and development of publicly traded junior exploration and mine development companies.

In the position of President & COO of NioGold Mining Corp., he was a key contributor to the consolidation of the largest land position in the Malartic Gold Camp in Abitibi, the definition of 2 Moz of gold resources and the negotiation of strategic partnerships with gold producers. NioGold was taken over by the Osisko Group in 2016.

In the position of COO of Columbus Gold Corp. (now Orea Mining Corp.), Mr. Lefrançois was responsible for the management of a joint venture between Columbus and gold producer Nord Gold plc for the completion of the Bankable Feasibility Study and Environmental and Social Impact Study on the Montagne d'Or open pit gold mine project (4.8 Moz resources, 2.8 Moz reserves), located in French Guiana, South America, leading to a mine construction decision by the joint venture and the start of the permitting process. More recently, as President & COO, and subsequently, President & CEO of Columbus, Rock implemented a corporate growth strategy involving the search, evaluation, and acquisition of gold projects in South America with a priority on the Guianas.

Mr. Lefrançois holds a bachelor's degree, specialization Geology, from Concordia University in Montreal.

About Azimut

Azimut is a leading mineral exploration company with a solid reputation for target generation and partnership development. The Company holds the largest mineral exploration portfolio in Quebec. Azimut is actively advancing its wholly-owned flagship **Elmer Gold Project** to the initial resource stage in the James Bay region. Azimut has also acquired a major nickel position in the region with its **James Bay Nickel Project**.

Azimut uses a pioneering approach to big data analytics (the proprietary **AZtechMine™** expert system), enhanced by extensive exploration know-how. Azimut's competitive edge is based on systematic regional-scale data analysis and concurrently active projects. Azimut maintains rigorous financial discipline and a strong balance sheet, with 79.3 million shares issued and outstanding.

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