

PIONEER APPOINTS FORMER BARRICK GOLD EXECUTIVES TO ACCELERATE SAN FRANCISCO GOLD-COPPER-SILVER PROJECT

Experienced exploration team with extensive Barrick Gold and San Juan Province expertise appointed, with exploration and 3D geological modelling already commenced

Highlights

- Pioneer engages Andes Exploration as its in-country exploration and project management team for the San Francisco Gold-Copper-Silver Project in San Juan Province, Argentina.
- Andes is headed by Leandro Sastre Salim, former Vice President of Exploration for Latin America and Asia-Pacific at Barrick Gold, with 25 years of international exploration and mining experience.
- Andes' senior technical team includes former Barrick executives with significant geological, resource evaluation and operational experience at the Veladero gold mine in San Juan Province.
- Andes has commenced a comprehensive review of historical surface geochemistry to prioritise gold, copper and silver anomalies, identify underexplored areas and generate targets for follow-up exploration.
- Detailed 3D geological modelling of the San Francisco breccia pipe is also underway, incorporating historical drilling information to assess the mineralised system and guide the planning of future drilling programs.
- The appointment provides Pioneer with established in-country technical and operational capabilities to systematically advance exploration and progress priority targets towards drill testing.

Pioneer Minerals Limited (ASX: PMM) ("Pioneer" or the "Company") is pleased to announce the appointment of Andes Exploration ("Andes") as its in-country exploration and project management team for the San Francisco Gold-Copper-Silver Project ("San Francisco" or "the Project"), located in San Juan Province, Argentina.

The appointment represents an important step in Pioneer's strategy to rapidly advance exploration at San Francisco, securing an experienced, locally based technical team with the expertise and operational capabilities to coordinate and execute the Company's exploration programs.

Andes Exploration is led by former senior executives of Barrick Gold, bringing extensive experience in mineral exploration, geological modelling, resource evaluation and mine operations across Argentina and South America. Importantly, members of the Andes leadership team have held senior technical and management positions at Barrick Gold's Veladero gold mine, also located in San Juan Province, providing valuable regional geological knowledge and operational experience.

Andes has already commenced technical work at San Francisco, undertaking a comprehensive review of historical surface geochemistry and detailed 3D geological modelling of the Project's breccia pipe mineralisation. These programs are designed to identify priority exploration targets, assess the existing mineralised system and provide a technical foundation for the Company's next phase of field exploration and drilling.

Highly Experienced Exploration and Technical Leadership

Andes Exploration is led by a highly credentialled team of mining professionals with extensive experience across major international mining companies and South American exploration and mining operations.

Leandro Sastre Salim – Chief Executive Officer

Leandro is a geologist with 25 years of international mining experience spanning mineral exploration, resource evaluation, technical services and project development across Argentina, Chile, Peru, the Dominican Republic and Guyana.

Previously, Leandro served as Vice President of Exploration for Latin America and Asia-Pacific at Barrick Gold, overseeing exploration activities across multiple jurisdictions and major mining operations. He also held the position of Mineral Resource and Technical Services Manager at Barrick's Veladero gold mine and senior geological management positions at Austral Gold.

Leandro holds a geology degree from the National University of Salta and a postgraduate qualification in Mineral Economics from the University of Chile. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists and has experience acting as a Qualified Person and Competent Person under NI 43-101 and JORC reporting frameworks.

Leandro will lead Andes' engagement with Pioneer, providing strategic exploration direction, technical oversight and senior management support for San Francisco.

Sebastián Juárez – Geology Manager

Sebastián is a geologist with 19 years of experience in mineral exploration, mine geology, geological modelling and mineral resource evaluation.

Previously, Sebastián served as District Exploration Geologist for Argentina at Barrick Gold, leading exploration activities across multiple projects. He also held the position of Head of Geology and Mineral Resources at the Veladero gold mine in San Juan Province.

Sebastián holds a geology degree from the National University of San Juan and has undertaken specialised training in geostatistical evaluation of mineral deposits at the University of Chile. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists.

Sebastián will provide specialist technical support in geological interpretation, exploration targeting, modelling and exploration program design as required.

Pablo Elgueta Zarhi – Chief Technology Officer

Pablo is a mining engineer with more than 25 years of experience in mining technology, geological information management and technical systems integration.

Previously, Pablo served as Senior Manager of Geoinformation for Latin America at Barrick Gold, overseeing regional geological information systems and the integration of exploration and operational data. He also held technical integration and business improvement positions at Newmont's Cerro Negro operation in Argentina.

His experience includes geological database management, quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC), resource reconciliation and technical reporting across major South American mining operations.

Pablo holds a Civil Mining Engineering degree from the University of Santiago de Chile and will provide specialist technical support in geological data management and information systems as required.

Exploration Activities Already Commenced at San Francisco

Pioneer has commenced advancing two key technical work programs in collaboration with Andes Exploration, designed to establish a systematic exploration strategy and identify priority targets for the next phase of work at San Francisco.

1. Historical Surface Geochemistry Review and Priority Exploration Targeting

Andes is undertaking a comprehensive review and interpretation of historical surface geochemical results across the San Francisco Project.

The review will focus on identifying and prioritising existing geochemical anomalies, assessing the distribution and relationships of gold, copper and silver mineralisation, and identifying prospective areas that have received limited or no historical exploration.

The results will be used to develop a targeted follow-up surface exploration program, including geological mapping and geochemical sampling of priority areas, with the objective of identifying additional mineralised zones and generating new exploration targets.

2. 3D Geological Modelling of San Francisco Breccia Pipe and Drill Target Assessment

In parallel, Andes is undertaking detailed 3D geological modelling of the San Francisco breccia pipe using available historical drilling information.

The modelling will focus on improving the Company's understanding of the geometry, geological controls and distribution of mineralisation within the breccia system, while identifying areas requiring further geological investigation.

The completed model will provide a framework for evaluating the existing mineralised system, identifying potential extensions and assessing opportunities for follow-up drilling. The findings will assist Pioneer in determining the appropriate scope, priorities and design of subsequent drilling programs at San Francisco.

Together, these work programs represent the initial stages of a broader exploration strategy aimed at systematically evaluating the Project's gold, copper and silver potential and advancing priority targets towards drill testing.

Pioneer anticipates providing further updates as the technical reviews progress and the next phase of field exploration is finalised.

Pioneer Minerals' CEO, Michael Beven, commented:

"The appointment of Andes Exploration is an important step in rapidly advancing the San Francisco Project. Led by former Barrick Gold Vice President of Exploration, Leandro Sastre

Salim, the team brings extensive technical expertise and valuable local experience, particularly from the Veladero gold mine in San Juan Province.

Importantly, Andes has already commenced a comprehensive review of historical surface geochemistry and detailed 3D modelling of the San Francisco breccia pipe. These programs will help identify new exploration targets, improve our understanding of the mineralised system and guide the planning of future drilling programs.

We are committed to advancing San Francisco aggressively and systematically, leveraging Andes' technical capabilities and local presence to accelerate exploration and deliver a strong pipeline of exploration activities and results for our shareholders."

For further information on Pioneer: www.pioneerminerals.com.au.

ENDS

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