



## NEWS RELEASE

### IVERNIA'S MAGELLAN LEAD PLANT HANDLED OVER ON SCHEDULE BY CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTOR

**Toronto, Ontario, December 21, 2004:** Ivernia Inc. (TSX: IVW) today announced that its Magellan mine has accepted the handover on schedule of the lead processing facilities from the main contractor, Roche Mining JR. Commissioning of the facilities will commence with the set-up and calibration of the reagent distribution system and with water testing in early January, followed by solid testing using waste rock and then low-grade ore. Ivernia has a 51% interest with operating control in the Magellan property in Western Australia.

#### From Approval to Plant Commissioning in Eight Months

"We are very pleased with progress at Magellan. Going from construction approval to commissioning in just eight months demonstrates the preparation, planning and ability of our team and contractors on site. Roche Mining JR and its sub-contractors have done an excellent job on the plant construction and in maintaining the planned schedule in the midst of a construction boom in Western Australia. This was expedited by our detailed engineering design ahead of construction and the opportune purchasing of second-hand, long lead-time items." said Alan De'ath, President and CEO.

#### Mining of Cano Deposit on Schedule

Concurrent with finishing plant construction, Magellan's mining contractor, Mining and Civil Australia, has been developing the Cano open pit and constructing the tailings storage facility. The tailings facility will be completed in early January, primarily using material from pre-stripping of the Cano deposit. Ore has already been exposed in the Cano open pit and mining in January will enable building of ore stockpiles for processing.

Power for ore processing will be provided by temporary generators until the permanent power generation facility is completed at the end of January.

#### A New Port for Concentrate Shipping

"Following an extensive review of port options and economics for shipping concentrates, we decided the best option was to use the southern port of Esperance, some 990 kilometres to the south of the mine," said Alan De'ath. "The concentrate will be transferred by road from the mine site to the rail terminal in Leonora, a distance of about 320 kilometres, for onward rail transfer to Esperance. The concentrates will be stored in a dedicated warehouse within the port. It is anticipated that the first shipment of

approximately 5,000 dry tonnes of lead concentrate will be made in March to Metal Reclamation (Industries) Sdn. Bhd., our Malaysian customer.”

Ivernia is an international base-metals mining and exploration company whose principal asset is a 51% interest with operating control in the low-cost Magellan lead mine in Western Australia. The mine will commence production in the first quarter of 2005, producing an estimated total of 410,000 tonnes (904 million pounds) over the first five years of its current 12-year life. By 2006 Magellan is expected to be one of the top three lead-producing mines in the world in terms of annual production of contained lead metal, producing close to 5% of Western World lead-mine production. Substantial exploration opportunities and inferred resources exist to extend mine life and potentially increase production.

Forward-Looking Information

*This document contains certain “forward-looking statements”. All statements, other than statements of historical fact, that address activities, events or developments that the Company believes, expects or anticipates will or may occur in the future, are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are often, but not always, identified by the use of words such as “seek”, “anticipate”, “believe”, “plan”, “estimate”, “expect”, and “intend” and statements that an event or result “may”, “will”, “can”, “should”, “could” or “might” occur or be achieved and other similar expressions. These forward-looking statements reflect the current internal projections, expectations or beliefs of the Company based on information currently available to the Company. Forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, including those detailed from time to time in filings made by the Company with securities regulatory authorities, that may cause the actual results of the Company to differ materially from those discussed in the forward-looking statements, and even if such actual results are realized or substantially realized, there can be no assurance that they will have the expected consequences to, or effects on, the Company. The Company expressly disclaims any obligation to update or revise any such forward-looking statements.*

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