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## **Mediterranean Resources Upgrading Its Resource Base In Turkey**

By Rob Davies

**Since Minesite last wrote about [Mediterranean Resources](#) it has made good progress in taking its two properties at Tac and Corac towards the ultimate goal of extraction. Peter Guest, president and chief executive of [Mediterranean Resources](#), has recently been on the road as part of a C\$12million fund raising that will enable the company to achieve the targets it has set itself for this year. In the past Peter has found European investors more susceptible to the story but this time round apparently the Canadians are receiving the story well according to Jag Sandhu, head of corporate development. He says the Canadians are likely to take around three quarters of the issue.**

The big change in the story for the company has been the calculation of a 43-101 compliant resource for the Tac prospect. At the time [Mediterranean Resources](#) took it over in 2005 it had a resource of about 500,000 ounces of gold but was not 43-101 compliant as it was based on work done by Teck Cominco in the past. After the 2006 drill programme the company was able to announce an indicated resource of 638,000 ounces of gold at Tac on a capped basis contained in 11.8 million tonnes at a grade of 1.8g/t and 0.13% Cu.

This resource occurs in two zones; the Copper Creek-Ugur Thrust Zone and the Karsibayer both of which exhibit classic epithermal high sulphidation gold with associated base metals. Encouraged by this success the company is continuing its drilling on Tac this summer with a 5,000 metre drill programme. This will fill in the gaps between some of the holes which are 100metres apart and aims to increase the size of the resource by chasing it along strike and down dip. After that Jag says they will be able to complete the scoping study that was commissioned in April.

Corac, the other deposit, is only 8 kilometres from Tac and it will be the target of a 10,000 metre drill programme this summer that aims to replicate the success at Tac. The ambition is to take the existing resource figure of half a million ounces and increase its size and improve the quality of the data so that it will be 43-101 compliant. At the end of this year the company should then be a position to start a pre-feasibility study on both targets.

One key development has been that [Mediterranean Resources](#) now has 100 per cent ownership of both deposits after converting the option to purchase from Teck Cominco into a 7.5 per cent stake in the company. It has also staked all the land between the two deposits and that has taken its land position up to 7,700 hectares and Jag reports that the intervening ground is very prospective. At the same time as the resource estimate was announced the company also released some information on preliminary bench scale metallurgical testing. These showed that the sulphide mineralogy was amenable to good recovery rates of about 90% from using cyanide leach, gravity separation and flotation recovery using a fine grind of 80% passing 74 microns.

With over C\$2million in the treasury and another C\$12million to come from the placement conducted by Heywood Securities and Loeb Aron [Mediterranean Resources](#) will be well placed to fund its activities for the next twelve months. In the course of that it will help transform north east Turkey into a much more desirable address.