Mineral Discoveries Using Big Data Analytics: Azimut's Exploration Edge

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Azimut: Big Data Analytics in Exploration

Why use Big Data in Exploration?
 Key Facts about Azimut
 Big Data in Practice
 2017-2018 Perspectives



Why use Big Data in Exploration?

Declining discovery rates explained by:

1) Increasing maturity of the mining regions

- All deposits that respond well to an existing technology tend to be discovered through time in a given region
- Remaining targets are deeper, or geographically more remote

2) Exponential increase in data availability

- Increase in data generates an increase in the number of potential targets
- Nevertheless, very few tools to discriminate good targets from barren ones ("noise")
- Quantity is the enemy of quality

3) Non technical factors

- Wars, civil unrest, corruption, adverse mining regimes



Why use Big Data in Exploration?

Quality of initial targeting as the crucial step of mineral exploration

- Systematic, large-scale ("province-scale") data processing approaches are used to recognize the footprint of district-scale targets
- Predictive mineral potential modelling conducted through advanced statistical analysis
- Quebec-scale processing: 87.5 million pixels; cell size: 200 m by 200 m; up to 70 parameters per pixel; 500 GB database size
- Big Data analytics as an edge against exploration risk
- Concurrent partnership development as an edge against business risk



Sampling points

- Lake-bottom sediments (144,833)
- Stream sediments (230,224)
- Soils (75,845)
- Tills (41,041)

Geochemistry Surficial sediments Government surveys

500,000 samples over 1.5M km²



km

Data: MERN, Azimut Processing: Azimut





Key Facts about Azimut

- Core business since 2003: Big Data analytics applied to mineral exploration, and concurrent partnership development
- 30 partnership agreements since 2003, including Rio Tinto, Goldcorp, IAMGOLD, Hecla Mining and SOQUEM
- One of the top exploration portfolios in Quebec including: Eleonore South (Au), Eastmain West (Cr, PGE, Ni), Rex South (Au, Cu, W)
- Discovery of two new mineral provinces, incl. 400 mineral prospects



Key Facts about Azimut

- Company founded in 1986
- 45.4M shares outstanding never consolidated
- 53.3M shares fully diluted, incl. 4.5M warrants (\$0.45)
- Tightly held share structure: 53.8% of the shares owned by top shareholders:
 - 5.3% insiders
 - 28.0% Quebec's institutional funds (Caisse, FSTQ, Desjardins, Sidex,...)
 - 20.5% ten other individual investors
- \$2.3 M working capital, no debt (as of May 2017)



Key Facts about Azimut 2003 – 2016

Demonstrated ability to counteract share dilution

- One of the best financial leverages among project generators
- Total expenditures:
- Partner expenditures:
- AZM's expenditures:
- Cash & shares received:
- Net expenditures:

\$70.46 M (5.42 M\$/year)
\$52.30 M (4.02 M\$/year)
\$18.16 M (1.39 M\$/year)
\$10.97 M (0.84 M\$/year)
\$7.19 M (0.55 M\$)

Leverage Partners/AZM: 7.27





AZIMUT EXPLORATION

Number of years since incorporation

Choice of Quebec for three main reasons



Huge under-explored territory with favourable geology
 Outstanding database enables efficient targeting
 Safe, stable mining jurisdiction; one of the best worldwide



Big Data in Practice

High conversion rate from predictive modelling to field mineral discoveries

Key successes as main driver for current activities:Gold in the Eleonore Mining Camp, James Bay

2) Polymetallic mineralization in Far North Quebec





Gold Potential Modelling, James Bay Region

| Regional | Predictive Modelling | Year | Surface Area |
|-----------------|----------------------|------|---------------------------|
| Initial modelli | ng and updates | 2003 | 82,257 km ² |
| | | 2005 | 167,759 km² |
| | | 2009 | 167,759 km² |
| | | 2015 | 1,169,369 km ² |
| | | 2016 | 167,509 km ² |

Database: lake bottom sediment geochemistry, gravity, magnetism

Decision: project staking by map designation in 2003 and 2004 **before** and during the discovery phase of the Eleonore deposit by Virginia (August 2004)

Results: discovery of **major gold prospects** on the Eleonore South, Opinaca A, Opinaca B and Wabamisk properties







Mineral Potential Modelling, Far North Quebec

| Regional Predictive Modelling | g Year | Surface Area |
|--------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| Initial modelling and update | 2009 | 1,248,000 km ² |
| | 2015 | 1.167.103 km ² |

Database: lake bottom sediment geochemistry, gravity, magnetism

Target types: IOCG (Cu, REE), intrusion-related gold mineralization

Decision: staking by map designation in 2009 and 2010 of four major projects

Results: outline of a **new mineral province** ("the Rex Trend") including the discovery of 5 IOCG systems and of a major intrusion-related polymetallic mineral system (Au, Ag, Te, Bi, Cu, W, Sn, fluorite, topaz)





Quebec-scale Copper footprint

Lake-bottom sediment anomaly 330 km long by 30 to 50 km wide

Under-explored, neglected giant target

Data: MERN



Azimut

Rex (Cu, Au, Ag)

> 30 km long prospective corridor with numerous high grade prospects

Rex South (Cu, Au, Ag, Te, Bi, W, Sn)

- > 18 mineralized zones
- ±60 km cumulative length of highly prospective targets

Nantais (Au-Ag-Cu-Zn)

- 3 km x 200 m mineralized corridor
- 18 km cumulative length of electromagnetic conductors



2017 - 2018 Perspectives

| Projects | Budget | Funding | Planning |
|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Eleonore South | \$3,900,000 | 73,4% partners (G, ER) 26.6% AZM | 8,000 m of drilling stripping, prospecting |
| Opinaca B | \$925,000 | 100% Hecla Mining | 2,500 m of drilling |
| SOQUEM | \$770,000 | 100% SOQUEM | Prospecting, geochemistry |
| Other Eastmain West Opinaca A | \$400 000 | 100% AZM | Prospecting, drilling |

\$6 M budget, 76% funded by partners



Eleonore South

- Located 6 km from the world-class gold Eleonore Mine (8 Moz Au)
- Adjacent to and on-strike with Cheechoo discovery
- Highly prospective 4 km x 500 m gold-bearing corridor
- \$3.9 million exploration budget in 2017 including:
 - 8,000 m of diamond drilling
 - Heliborne geophysics
 - Mechanized stripping
 - Prospecting
- Azimut 26.6%, Goldcorp 36.7%, Eastmain 36.7%
- Azimut manager







Moni Prospect 49.18 g/t Au over 4.0 m



Hole ES17-64: 4.9 g/t Au over 45.0 m

Native gold with arsenopyrite. Core sample at - 204.65 m downhole

1 cm



Conclusion

- Pioneer in Big Data analytics applied to exploration
- Quebec-scale strategic positioning
- Tight share structure, financial discipline
- \$6 M budget, including > 10,000 m of drilling
- Major results expected in 2017-2018





