

These remarks were prepared to be presented at the second JTVIR, LLC Metals Conference on November 12, 2008 to be webcast at 12:40 pm.

TABLE SET FOR A HUGE UPSIDE REVERSAL IN 2010 OR 2011, BUT BETWEEN NOW AND THEN WE ALL NEED TO SURVIVE

- Year-to-date outputs of copper, nickel, gold, silver, platinum and palladium have fallen, and molybdenum or metallurgical coal may have output declines. Price plunges and mine idlings in the past 60 days and looking ahead to the next 90 days raise the odds of deeper supply declines. We believe a “Malthusian” long-term shortage argument can be made for the long-term.
- However, between now and then “survival” is the operating parameter. Important contributors to “survivability” for individual companies include low debt levels, low capital spending needs and lower costs.
- Important contributors to “survivability” for the entire sector include stimulus programs in the U.S., Japan, China and other nations, lower interest rates, a weaker dollar and, most important, production cuts.
- Prevention of excess inventory accumulation is vital. Once millions of tonnes build up, it can take years to work down. The 2.7 mmt LME aluminum stockpile from mid-1994 was never used up, for example.
- Aluminum, iron ore, steel and wood are examples of commodities for which ample supply existed in the 2008 first-half, and oversupplies worsen as demand fell.

EXAMPLES OF FINE LARGE CAP STOCKS

We like “balance,” diversity, excess capital, lean balance sheets, ability to buy back stock and robust profits.

Two such examples are Allegheny Technologies and BHP Billiton. Allegheny enjoys profits from six distinct product lines, and should maintain profits well ahead of most manufacturers. Similarly, BHP Billiton involves large balance among its many product groups, with an “under-weighting” in iron ore and aluminum in oversupply in the near-term. Both have excellent finances.

EXAMPLES OF FINE SMALLER CAP STOCKS

FNX Mining and Thompson Creek Metals each have net cash positions, virtually no debt, moderate capital needs and the ability to thrive perhaps in 2011 when the attritions of potential competitors may make their core markets stronger. Each are simpler companies without too many far flung units.

It is possible that both lose money in 2009, but it may turn out that most manufacturers do.

Table 1: Big Six's Combined Sept 2008 Output Profiles										
		Vale	BHP Billiton	Rio Tinto	Xstrata	Anglo-Am	Teck Com		Grand	QoQ
Iron Ore	mmt	RIO	BHP	RTP	XSRAF	AAUK	TCK		Total	Change
Sep-08		85.9	29.8	42.4	0.0	10.1	0.0		168.2	6.
Jun-08		78.1	29.7	41.9	0.0	8.9	0.0		158.4	7.
Mar-08		74.5	28.0	37.4	0.0	8.2	0.0		148.1	-4.
Dec-07		80.1	27.8	39.0	0.0	8.4	0.0		155.2	4.
Sep-07		78.3	26.0	36.4	0.0	8.4	0.0		149.1	3.
Jun-07		73.0	25.7	37.1	0.0	8.0	0.0		143.8	10.
Mar-07		67.4	23.0	32.2	0.0	7.6	0.0		130.2	
Steam Coal	mmt									
Sep-08		0.4	18.8	40.5	20.3	22.1	0.0		102.0	5.
Jun-08		0.3	21.4	36.5	17.3	21.4	0.0		96.9	6.
Mar-08		0.2	19.3	36.3	15.8	19.6	0.0		91.2	-7.
Dec-07		0.2	20.6	37.4	18.3	21.9	0.0		98.4	1.
Sep-07		0.2	20.0	37.0	17.0	22.5	0.0		96.7	2.
Jun-07		0.1	21.2	36.2	16.3	20.2	0.0		94.1	-1.
Mar-07		0.0	19.7	39.0	16.8	20.3	0.0		95.8	
Met Coal	mmt									
Sep-08		0.7	9.2	2.2	3.2	3.6	5.4		24.3	-8.
Jun-08		0.8	9.1	2.0	3.8	4.4	6.5		26.6	33.
Mar-08		0.7	6.8	1.0	2.7	2.8	5.9		19.9	-15.
Dec-07		0.8	8.8	1.5	4.1	2.7	5.5		23.5	-4.
Sep-07		0.9	9.5	1.5	3.9	3.2	5.7		24.7	-2.
Jun-07		0.5	11.1	1.6	2.6	3.2	6.2		25.3	26.
Mar-07		0.0	8.4	1.4	2.4	2.6	5.1		19.9	
Aluminum	mmt									
Sep-08		0.1	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		1.5	0.
Jun-08		0.1	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		1.5	-1.
Mar-08		0.1	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		1.5	12.
Dec-07		0.1	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0		1.3	118.
Sep-07		0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.6	-5.
Jun-07		0.1	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.6	-56.
Mar-07		0.1	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		1.5	
Copper	mt									
Sep-08		80.2	308.9	165.9	241.6	148.6	79.0		1024.2	-11.
Jun-08		76.5	390.7	214.9	239.5	161.0	79.0		1161.6	11.
Mar-08		73.3	328.9	185.2	220.0	159.7	71.0		1038.1	-8.
Dec-07		74.0	348.6	180.8	275.9	175.9	84.0		1139.2	9.
Sep-07		65.0	307.8	172.5	263.4	170.3	62.0		1041.0	-2.
Jun-07		68.0	342.1	186.4	250.1	167.9	53.0		1067.5	2.
Mar-07		77.6	355.2	198.1	216.2	146.4	53.0		1046.5	
Nickel	mt									
Sep-08		72.4	26.8	0.0	18.0	9.6	0.0		126.8	-10.
Jun-08		69.0	42.6	0.0	20.5	8.7	0.0		140.8	6.
Mar-08		60.8	43.0	0.0	20.5	8.3	0.0		132.6	-7.
Dec-07		69.0	43.9	0.0	19.1	11.6	0.0		143.5	16.
Sep-07		55.0	38.6	0.0	19.3	10.2	0.0		123.1	-15.
Jun-07		63.0	48.6	0.0	21.5	11.6	0.0		144.7	3.
Mar-07		61.4	45.6	0.0	21.5	11.6	0.0		140.1	
<i>Sources: Rio Tinto, BHP Billiton, Vale, Xstrata, Anglo-American and Teck Cominco</i>										

COMPANIES IN OVERSUPPLIED SECTORS

We single out Alcoa, Nucor, Weyerhaeuser and AngloGold Ashanti as companies in oversupplied commodity sectors, tough dividend maintenance or capital needs that detract from their 2009 or 2010 outlooks.

Soft construction or auto markets, the dollar rebound and too much plant and equipment could be drawbacks. AngloGold has specific issues related to its hedging, debt maturities, reserve replacement and capital for development.

Table 2: COMMODITIES DEMAND GAINS RANGE FROM -2% TO +5% VICINITY IN 2008

COMMODITIES WITH SUPPLY GAINS > 5% OR POSSIBLE OVERSUPPLY				
			Source	
World Steel Output	to Sept	4.7%	IISI	China fell 9.3% and Russia and Africa almost as much in Sept from Sept 2007
Big 4 Iron Ore	3Q	13.0%	companies	Rail, port and ocean shipping constrain supply; mines able to deliver maybe 10% more
World Aluminum Output	Aug/Aug	2.6%	IAI	China, Russia, Iceland, Mideast and Latin America rising while Africa and US falling
World Aluminum Output	to Sept	5.8%	IAI	China up 100,000 t per mo, AA & CENX Iceland #2, Mideast, Russia, N & S Am up
World Alumina Output	to June	5.7%	IAI	China and rest of world up
World Alum. Demand	Full Year	2.0%	JTVIR	autos and housing down; SUVs 500-600 lbs/vehicle and economy cars 150 lbs each
World Lead Mine Output	to Aug	4.8%	WBMS	Prior \$10-\$20 silver helped keep lead and zinc mines open
World Lead Refined Output	to Aug	4.9%	WBMS	In balance with mine output
World Lead Demand	to Aug	3.9%	WBMS	Sino-Soviet surge in June-Aug, +18.4% YoY Jan-Aug
World Zinc Mine Output	to Aug	9.0%	WBMS	Prior \$10-\$20 silver helped keep lead and zinc mines open
World Zinc Refined Output	to Aug	4.3%	WBMS	maybe concentrate inventories accumulated
World Zinc Demand	to Aug	5.0%	WBMS	tied to slower consumer segments of steel demand
Chrome Output	2008E	4.5%	CRU	S Africa decline in 1Q rebounding. JTVIR est. global output 4Q = 3Q
COMMODITIES WITH SUPPLY DECLINES OR POSSIBLE UNDERSUPPLY				
MET COAL, MOLY, CHROME, PT AND SILVER OUTPUTS SWING TO LARGER OUTPUT GAINS IN 2H08. WE EXPECT CU, NI, AND GOLD OUTPUTS TO FALL LESS.				
Copper Mine Output	to Aug	-1.6%	WBMS	Chile -2.4%, Indonesia -35.7%, US +3.1%, Peru +9.6%, Africa +16.5%, Asia ex-Indo.+3.4%
Copper Demand	to Aug	1.1%	WBMS	China +2.9%, Rest of Asia -2.4%, Europe -8.8%, US -11.7%, Rest of Americas +0.2%
Nickel Mine Output	to Aug	-4.0%	WBMS	South Africa, China, the Phillipines, and New Caledonia had large declines
Nickel Refined Output	to Aug	-5.2%	WBMS	South Africa, China, and Colombia had large declines
World Nickel Demand	to Aug	-3.1%	WBMS	EU, S.Korea, Taiwan, Japan fell; Substitution to 201(4% ni) from 304 (8%). US & China rose.
Gold Mine Output	to Aug	-9.2%	WBMS	S Africa fell 17.7t or 17%, China fell 31.6t or 28%, Canada 5.8t or 14% and Indo.41.1t or 64%.
Silver Mine Output	to Aug	-1.9%	WBMS	Bolivia, Mexico, Peru and US up while Poland, Sweden, Kaz., Phil, Canada, Chile down
Molybdenum Mine Output	to Aug	4.1%	WBMS	Includes a Chinese gain estimated at 10,300 or more than the 5,600 tonne global gain
Molybdenum Mine Output	to Sept	1.1%	CRU	Includes catalyst recoveries
Metallurgical Coal	3Q Big 6	-1.0%	companies	Vale, Xstrata, Teck Cominco/Fording and BHP down 3-24%. Rio Tinto and Anglo up 39-46%.

World Bureau of Metals Statistics reported August data on October 23, 2008

Table 3: John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC Metals & Mining Universe

X	Integrated Steel	Rating	Price 11/10/08	Target Price	Mkt Cap (\$ mm)	Shares 11/10/08	Earnings Estimates			Gross Cash flows			Price to Tang.	2008E EV/ EBITDA	Yld	
							2008E	2009E	2010E	2008E	2009E	2008E				
							EPS	EPS	EPS	P/E	P/e	CF/Share				
	US Steel	N	34.02	\$75	4,022	118	\$18.16	\$12.74	\$3.17	1.9	2.7	\$23.13	1.5	0.9	4.2	2.9%
	Minimill, Stainless & Distribution															
	NUE Nucor	N	35.13	52	11,171	318	7.38	9.01	9.86	4.8	3.9	8.84	4.0	6.6	6.1	5.9%
	ATI Allegheny Technolog	O	23.82	72	2,394	101	5.59	5.44	5.01	4.3	4.4	6.95	3.4	1.1	5.7	3.0%
	WOR Worthington Ind. (May)	O	11.84	20	941	79	1.31	1.49	2.05	9.1	7.9	2.18	5.4	1.4	7.6	5.7%
	Gold Mining															
	AU AngloGold	U	18.51	15	6,564	355	(0.39)	1.59	1.83	NM	11.6	1.90	9.7	3.7	9.8	1.0%
	ABX Barrick Gold	O	24.98	53	22,032	882	2.74	3.62	3.11	9.1	6.9	3.56	7.0	1.9	3.4	1.6%
	GG Goldcorp	N	22.98	32	16,592	722	0.70	0.88	0.66	32.7	26.2	1.28	17.9	0.2	(156.6)	0.8%
	NEM Newmont Mining	O	27.47	74	12,554	457	2.85	3.89	2.57	9.6	7.1	5.06	5.4	1.9	5.4	1.5%
	Copper/Nickel/Diversified															
	GMO General Moly	N	1.26	6	77	61	(0.37)	(0.21)	0.71	NM	NM	(0.37)	-3.4	0.6	(8.1)	0.0%
	PLM Polymet mining corp	O	1.13	6	179	159	(0.04)	0.16	(0.07)	NM	6.9	(0.04)	-29.2	3.0	(39.8)	0.0%
	ANTO.L Antofagasta PLC	O	5.00	11	4,929	986	0.64	0.99	1.01	7.8	5.0	0.94	5.3	0.9	12.8	9.9%
	FCX Freeport-McMoRan	O	27.46	75	10,462	381	2.90	2.03	1.00	9.5	13.5	2.62	10.5	1.1	77.5	0.0%
	BHP BHP Billiton ADR	O	39.69	60	111,019	2,797	5.50	4.76	4.20	7.2	8.3	6.42	6.2	156.8	4.6	1.5%
	RTP Rio Tinto ADR	O	172.24	380	4,551	26	39.31	33.73	31.23	4.4	5.1	50.73	3.4	2.7	34.0	3.2%
	DM.to Duluth Metals	O	0.32	15	30	96	(0.18)	(0.11)	(0.09)	NM	NM	(0.18)	-1.8	1.7	(12.1)	0.0%
	FNX FNX Mining	O	3.09	20	26	9	0.10	(0.26)	(0.13)	30.4	NM	0.10	30.4	NM	NM	0.0%
	TCK TeckCominco	O	9.18	75	4,233	461	4.09	1.73	1.35	2.2	5.3	4.74	1.9	0.4	3.7	10.9%
	RIO Vale (CVRD)	O	13.02	32	66,788	5,130	2.77	1.83	2.10	4.7	7.1	3.07	4.2	1.4	3.9	4.3%
	ML.TO Mercator Minerals	O	1.39	30	110	79	1.69	2.97	2.95	0.8	0.5	2.10	0.7	0.5	1.3	0.0%
	TC Thompson Creek	O	3.50	13	479	137	1.73	0.83	1.18	2.0	4.2	2.20	1.6	8.4	1.0	0.0%
	Aluminum															
	AWC Alumina Ltd	N	5.93	9	1,933	326	0.33	0.10	0.37	18.2	61.8	0.24	24.8	1.0	27.7	11.3%
	AA Alcoa	N	11.78	24	9,424	800	1.61	0.79	1.62	7.3	14.9	3.20	3.7	0.3	5.2	5.8%
	Cash flow equals net income + deprec. + deferred taxes + undist. equity income + FASB 106 noncash accruals + writeoffs per diluted share before working capital and capital spending.															
	UNDERLYING VARIABLES															
	U.S. Steel Shipments (t)	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007E	2008E	2009E	2010E	
	U.S. Steel Shipments (t)	105.9	102.4	106.2	109.6	99.4	100.0	105.6	111.3	105.0	109.5	106.4	107.4	106.4	107.6	
	Gold Price (\$/oz)	331	294	294	290	280	311	365	410	438	604	697	900	1,000	850	
	Silver Price (\$/oz)	\$4.75	\$5.53	\$5.53	\$5.25	\$5.00	\$4.60	\$5.00	\$6.70	\$7.00	\$11.52	\$13.00	\$17.5	\$17.50	\$15.00	
	Copper Price (\$/lb)	\$1.04	\$0.75	\$0.75	\$0.72	\$0.83	\$0.72	\$0.80	\$1.29	\$1.65	\$3.08	\$3.20	\$3.50	\$3.25	\$3.25	
	Nickel Price (\$/lb)	\$3.14	\$2.25	\$2.25	\$2.73	\$3.85	\$3.07	\$4.00	\$6.28	\$6.71	\$10.93	\$16.00	\$10.37	\$10.00	\$10.00	
	Alum Ingot (\$/lb)	\$0.72	\$0.62	\$0.62	\$0.70	\$0.61	\$0.64	\$0.78	\$0.84	\$1.13	\$1.20	\$1.30	\$1.25	\$1.25		
	Alum Fab Avg Price	\$1.52	\$1.50	\$1.50	\$1.35	\$1.35	\$1.62	\$1.80	\$1.20	\$1.31	\$1.51	\$1.53	\$1.40	\$1.30	\$1.31	
	US Alum (bil lbs)	21.8	21.8	21.8	24.7	24.5	23.6	23.3	25.1	26.6	25.6	25.9	26.3	26.6	27.0	

Source: Company reports, LME, COMEX, Aluminum Association, and JT Very Independent Research, LLC. estimates

Table 4: John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC Paper & Forest Products Universe

ABH	Rating	Price 11/10/2008	Target Price	Mkt Cap (\$ mill.)	Shares Out (mill.)	Earnings Estimates			P/E		2008		Est. Tang. BV		2008E EV/EBITDA	Div.	Yield
						2008E	2009E	2010E	2008E	2009E	CFPS	P/CF	Dec-08	2008E			
						(\$15.41)	(\$5.07)	(\$3.17)	NM	NM	6.56	0.2	(17.38)	-7.5			
ABH	N	1.45	\$4	\$84	58												
IP	O	14.09	\$33	\$5,963	423	\$1.34	\$1.80	\$1.60	10.5	7.8	4.96	2.8	(48.62)	4.8	1.00	7.1%	
LPX	N	2.18	\$10	\$224	103	(\$2.81)	(\$0.99)	(\$0.05)	NM	NM	(0.62)	NM	25.12	(2.0)	0.30	13.8%	
MWV	O	12.91	\$24	\$2,229	173	\$0.81	\$1.03	\$1.09	15.9	12.6	3.77	3.4	0.93	4.6	0.92	7.1%	
PCL	N	33.10	\$60	\$5,638	170	\$1.45	\$2.11	\$2.29	22.9	15.7	2.21	15.0	8.67	19.3	1.68	5.1%	
SSCK	N	0.98	\$2	\$252	257	(\$0.03)	(\$0.15)	(\$0.01)	NM	NM	1.08	0.9	(13.44)	8.4	0.00	0.0%	
TIN	O	5.23	\$13	\$562	108	\$0.09	\$0.96	\$0.84	57.8	5.4	1.93	2.7	3.64	4.5	0.40	7.6%	
WY	U	32.56	\$30	\$6,879	211	(\$0.30)	(\$0.80)	\$1.39	NM	NM	2.40	13.6	80.04	-12.0	2.40	7.4%	
UFS	O	2.12	\$6.5	\$1,093	516	\$0.29	\$0.49	\$0.35	7.4	4.3	0.29	7.4	6.45	20.6	0.00	0.0%	
Underlying Dynamics																	
Total Paper Market (mm tons)		2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008E	2009E	2010E					
Total Paper Market (mm tons)		103	97	99	98	102	100	100	101	101	102	102					
Uncoated Free Sheet Price (offset 50-lb rolls \$/t)		756	719	692	630	750	703	838	847	-	860	907					
Linerboard Price (unbleached kraft \$/t)		467	444	427	421	468	478	553	582	605	605	600					
Newsprint (\$ per metric tonne)		561	586	465	513	550	610	668	594	620	680	735					
Board Lumber (\$ per 000 sq ft)		323	318	304	311	404	385	327	300	330	330	330					
Plywood (\$ per 000 sq ft)		229	276	262	346	417	355	330	300	300	300	300					
Oriented-Strand Board (\$ per 000 sq ft)		159	159	160	294	369	288	146	151	137	179	201					

Source: Company reports, American Forest and Paper Association, Pulp & Paper Week, Random Lengths, JTVIR, LLC estimates

CHANGE IN THIS RESEARCH OPERATION

This report reflects research coverage by JTVIR, LLC. In no way shape or form should it be misconstrued as involving Prudential Equities Group (PEG), which shut down on June 6, 2007 as noted. The continuation of that same quarterly or full year earnings estimate for 2007 as JTVIR, LLC should not be construed or mistaken to involve PEG, which shut down on June 6, 2007. Certain data, such as the logic of earnings models, are similar owing to the same primary author, but this coverage initiation herein involves a different entity and no employment or affiliation with the former Prudential Equity Group, LLC.

ORGANIZATION OF JTVIR

John Tumazos Very Independent Research, LLC (JTVIR) is organized as an investment advisor in the State of New Jersey and regulated by the NJ Bureau of Securities. We publish about 18 research reports each month covering about 30 stock in the metals commodities markets, forest products, aluminum, steel, gold, copper and other mining sectors. We travel abroad or domestically typically twice each month visiting companies. We host two Metals Conferences each year in which 14 or more companies make presentations.

Currently we have over 30 paid clients in NY, CT, MA, CA, FL, WI, MI, TX and MN. We have “inquiries” in Peru, Australia, the U.K., Quebec, Ontario, PA, and ILL.

Three of our clients have engaged us to write “custom studies” on pre-production mining stocks without any U.S. or global research coverage, including Skye Resources (an 11 bil lb nickel resource in Guatemala), Mercator Minerals (a copper-moly restart in Arizona) and JSW Steel’s 70%-owned Minera Santa Fe (48 sq km undrilled magnetic anomaly and associated iron ore properties in 3rd Region of Chile).

JTVIO

John Tumazos Very Independent Opinions, LLC (JTVIO) is a separate company providing various services “other than” investment research sold to institutions in JTVIR. Counsel advised these businesses be separate.

On June 3, 2008 Galway Resources engaged JTVIO to commercialize its Victorio, New Mexico molybdenum-tungsten deposit containing over 200 mm pounds of each mineral in situ, which is JTVIO’s first activity (see www.galwayresources.com June 3 press release). This engagement poses no “conflict of interest” with JTVIR research coverage as JTVIR does not cover or write on Galway Resources, a \$24 mm market cap emerging company.

JTVIO envisions merger advisory, “second opinion” critiques of investment banking advice, strategic consulting, valuation opinions, fairness opinions, mine technical services such as “Third Party Reviews” of technical studies or other corporate services.

POTENTIAL MONEY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

Money Management could be a third line of business. “Mine Development Fund” is a “year two” project to establish a small fund to invest in post-discovery, large resource companies (over \$2 billion in situ mineral value already defined) requiring financing to “build the mine” and grow. The target market cap of the companies in which it would invest would be \$0.1 to \$10 billion. Our detailed studies of emerging mines may prove synergistic across several applications.

Our published research of about 200 reports to June 1, 2008 has concentrated on the metals commodities themselves, steel, aluminum, forest products and larger capitalization

mines like Rio Tinto, BHP, Freeport-McMoRan Copper, Barrick Gold, etc. Only 7%-10% of our written research involves the “sub-\$10 billion mine” size range that would be the focus of either JTVIO or Mine Development Fund. Thus, compliance issues or conflicts of interest would occur in a smaller subset of JTVIR coverage as JTVIR coverage involves larger caps, “established processing companies” or commodities. JTVIO or the buy-side Mine Development Fund will focus on much smaller companies

JTVIR DISCLOSURES

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Our investment rating system for securities recommendations is Overweight, Neutral Weight or Underweight. Overweight or Underweight recommendations are estimated to vary from the relative performance of the S&P 500 by more than 10% annually, and the intended time horizon is up to 24 months. Our securities research is intended for institutional investors that might buy up to 10% of a given company, and as such focuses more towards longer-term dynamics impacting the net present value of future cash flows rather than “day trading” sorts of near-term issues.

Except for Allegheny Technologies, Worthington Industries, FNX Mining, International Paper, Temple-Inland, MeadWestvaco, Mercator Minerals, Quaterra Resources, Duluth Metals, Polymet Mining, Quadra Resources, Niger Uranium, Verena Minerals and Atna Gold, neither JTVIR, its members or its employees own or have a financial interest in any securities discussed in this report or any reports we have published recently. Our policy is full disclosure.

Our policy permits personal trading in the metals or paper industries, though no positions were taken in companies within regular research coverage after July 2001 after joining Prudential Financial and until after four months of completed New Jersey registration of JTVIR. Our policy is that any personal trading must be consistent with our recommendation, made two business days or more AFTER a recommendation or change in recommendation and held for a minimum of 30 days or one month. We believe it is virtuous for a securities analyst to “put his or her money where his mouth is” to invest consistent with the recommendation to clients after such recommendation has been made, and we disagree with some restrictions made upon broker-dealer employees after 2000 era scandals.

Our policy permits up to three directorships and up to five consulting projects, advisory assignments or financial advice to corporations that might supplement, backcheck or

substitute for certain services of a large investment banking firm. For example, we would accept an engagement to evaluate investment banking advice on behalf of a manufacturing company concerned whether advice is sincere or intended to maximize fees. Currently no such relationships exist.

Our policy is full disclosure of any advisory relationship or conflict going back three years. None currently exist.

Numerous prior investment banking relationships existed prior to three years history to the pre-1997 time frame under the employment of Donaldson, Lufkin and Jenrette or Oppenheimer & Co., Inc. Some of these we can recollect included 14 different gold mine valuations or sales for Barrick Gold, LAC Minerals (later acquired by Barrick), Addington Resources (gold assets in Montana acquired by Canyon Resources), Westworld Industries (Bolivian assets acquired by Battle Mountain Gold later acquired by Newmont Mining), Coeur d'Alene Mines, Crown Resources (acquired by Kinross Gold), Freeport-McMoRan Gold (acquired by Minorco later AngloGold later Queenstake Resources), FMC Gold (later renamed Meridian Gold) and others. Sole managed initial public offerings included Reliance Steel & Aluminum and Huntco. Lead-managed initial public offerings included American Steel & Wire (later acquired by Birmingham Steel) and lead-managed underwritings included Quanex. Co-managed underwritings included the IPO of Century Aluminum and Grupo Imsa and offerings for AK Steel, Kaiser Aluminum, Agnico-Eagle Mines, Cameco and others. Asset sales or purchase advisories, fairness opinion or trusteeships were done for Thypin Steel (sold to Ryerson Tull), Cyclops Corp. (sold to Armco later sold to AK Steel), Allegheny Corp., Bethlehem Steel, the U.S. Dept. of Justice pursuant to the June 1984 merger of LTV and Republic Steel to sell the Gadsden, AL integrated flat-rolled mill, Cobre Copper, and others. Typically more than five investment banking assignments were evaluated, partly executed or "due diligenced" for any completed transaction. Some examples we can recall for which a prospectus was either drafted or partly drafted indicating much work included stock underwritings not completed for Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel, Steel Dynamics, Atlas Corp., Webco, Sharon Steel, IPSCO, Co-Steel Inc., and others.

ANALYST UNIVERSE COVERAGE:

John C. Tumazos, CFA: Rio Tinto, Louisiana-Pacific, Nucor Corp., Newmont Mining, U.S. Steel, International Paper, BHP Billiton, MeadWestvaco Corp., Antofagasta PLC, Allegheny Technologies, Alcoa Inc., Inco Limited, Bowater, Inc., Temple-Inland, Barrick Gold, Abitibi-Consolidated, Weyerhaeuser Co., Alcan Inc., Smurfit-Stone Container, Plum Creek Timber, Worthington Industries, Goldcorp Inc., AngloGold Ashanti, Freeport McMoRan Copper & Gold, and, FNX Mining..

Dynatec, Alcan and Bowater are companies not continued in the research coverage of JTVIR, LLC that was previously included in the prior June 6, 2007 Prudential Equities Group universe owing to takeovers.

Subsequently, since September 2007 JTVIR, LLC has initiated coverage of new companies not previously covered in the former universe. These new companies include TeckCominco,

Mercator Minerals, Skye Resources, General Moly, Inc., Duluth Metals, Polymet Mining, Franconia Minerals, Vale, Alumina Ltd. and Century Aluminum.

In accordance with applicable rules and regulations, we note above parenthetically that our stock ratings of “Overweight,” “Neutral Weight,” and “Underweight” most closely correspond with the more traditional ratings of “Buy,” “Hold,” and “Sell,” respectively; however, please note that their meanings are not the same. (See the definitions above.) We believe that an investor’s decision to buy or sell a security should always take into account, among other things, that the investor’s particular investment objectives and experience, risk tolerance, and financial circumstances. Rather than being based on an expected deviation from a given benchmark (as buy, hold and sell recommendations often are), our stock ratings are determined on a relative basis (see the foregoing definitions).

There is no intention to “balance” the number of Overweight or Underweight ratings, as instances of broad over- or under-performance among basic industrials may occur. JTVIR makes each investment judgment in a “bottoms up” manner based on the assets of each individual company.

Price Target – Methods/Risks

The methods used to determine the price target generally are based on future earning estimates, product performance expectations, cash flow methodology, historical and/or relative valuation multiples. The risks associated with achieving the price target generally include customer spending, industry competition and overall market conditions.

Additional risk factors as they pertain to the analyst's specific investment thesis can be found within the report.

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