



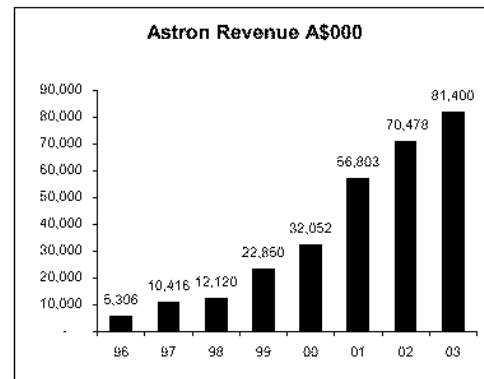
ONCE AGAIN ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Shareholders will be pleased to note that Astron continues to grow with record sales and profits.

- Astron continues to develop its business as a global supplier of Zirconium materials and specialty chemicals.
- With a strong competitive advantage derived from its low cost China production base, and proven international acceptance for its highly technical products, Astron is well placed for continuing growth in sales and profit.
- One of the largest importers to China of Zirconium sand (over 60,000 tonnes with over 50% processed) internally.
- Astron product groups
 - Fused zirconia
 - Chemical zirconia
 - Zirconium chemicals
 - Optical materials
 - Other products

All performed strongly

RECORD SALES & PROFIT CONTINUES DESPITE STRONG \$A v \$USA



- Astron's strong growth continued for the year ended June 2003 with sales up 16% to \$81.4 million (2002 \$70 million).
- The result for the year ended June 2003 was a record profit after tax of \$6.24 million (2002 \$4.53 million) prior to extraordinary items, up 38%, being 48.5 cents per share.
- In the first half of the year the Directors decided to fully provide for a loss of the Malaysian receivable of \$13.03 million as an extraordinary item resulting in a loss after tax and extraordinary item of \$6.79 million.

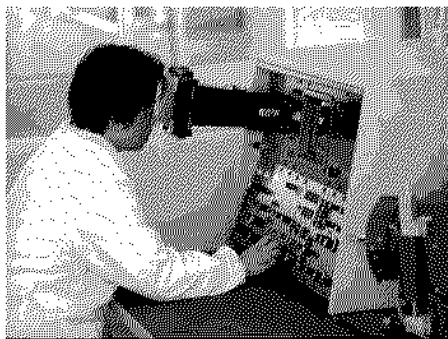


OPERATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

- Increased product range
- Plant capacity expanded



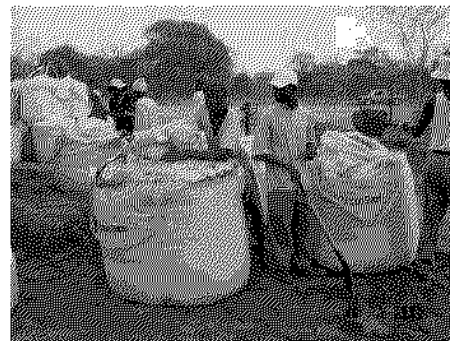
- Astron has received growing interest from customers throughout the world for their quality raw materials to be produced according to special formulations in cooperation with Astron's research team.
- Astron's research and development (of special and improved materials to improve customers own products or processes) continues to be a major and growing feature of our worldwide sales effort.



- During this year, work was completed on the No.3 furnace which now lifts fused zirconium capacity to 7,000 tonnes p.a., and the company also expanded the specialty chemical plant.

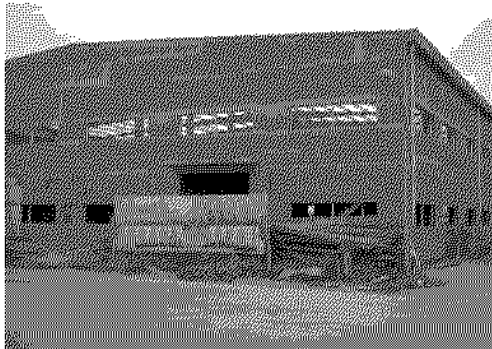


- Raw materials supply diversification, with processing of Zircon concentrates in Hainan Island, China, grew during the year and included approximately 12,500 tonnes Zircon (43% ZrO_2) Zircon concentrate) material from the company's own joint venture mine in Gambia which was delivered in the current period.



PLANT EXPANSIONS PLANS

- The company continues with its expansion of its high purity chemical Zirconia business and a new No.4 2 story factory of approximately 10,000 m² is under construction and is expected to contribute strongly to sales in the future.



- An additional 2 furnaces are currently being installed in the new No.5 factory which will provide 13,000 tonnes capacity (possibly the largest in the world).



- These expansions will allow for continuing increases in sales during the coming year.

MINING PLANS

- The Gambia Mining Joint Venture is a 50:50 JV between Astron Limited and Carnegie Corporation (of Perth, Western Australia).
- Astron plans to send men and equipment from China to The Gambia to commence trial mining later this year. Subject to successful results and formal mining license approval, Astron is planning to commence mining next year to produce approximately 30,000 tonnes (43% ZrO₂) Zircon concentrate and 100,000 tonnes (55% TiO₂) Ilmenite concentrate per year from the Sanyang Area which contains approximately:

Ilmenite	0.53 million tonnes
Zircon	0.11 million tonnes
<u>Rutile</u>	<u>0.03 million tonnes</u>
Total heavy minerals	0.67 million tonnes

A final report has been received from Micromine Consultants (Australian resource modeling firm) including a computer database and resource evaluation of all three known Gambian deposits. The resource modelling results have confirmed available historical estimates and the resource statement for the Sanyang, Batukunku and Kartung heavy minerals prospects, at a 1% HM cut-off grade, is as follows:

Batukunku	7.2 Mt @4.0% HM
Kartung	0.6 Mt @4.8% HM
<u>Sanyang</u>	<u>11.0 Mt @6.0% HM</u>
Total	18.8 Mt @5.2% HM

According to the Australian JORC Code standard, at a 1% HM cut-off grade the Gambian resources are classified as Measured, Indicated and Inferred as follows:

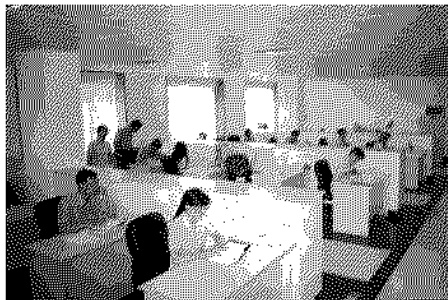
<u>Resource Categories, %</u>			
	<u>Measured</u>	<u>Indicated</u>	<u>Inferred</u>
Batukunku	52.1	41.5	6.4
Kartung	80.6	19.1	0.3
Sanyang	69.1	29.0	1.9
Total	63.0	33.5	3.6



RIGHTS ISSUE

- The company in July announced a fully underwritten rights issue to all shareholders to raise \$6.4 million for additional working capital and new plant purchases.

PERSONNEL



- The continuing success of Astron is clearly due to the calibre and enthusiasm of its people and their dedication to the company. Our special thanks to them all.

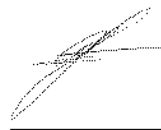
- The company welcomes Mr. Kim Hodieme who joins the company as Vice General Manager- Marketing and Fused Materials. Kim Hodieme has 25 years experience in Zirconia fused materials production and sales with his former company Foskor Ltd. Zirconia business unit.
- The company also welcomes Mr. Alan Guy to the company. Alan joins the company as Vice President--Business Development. He has previously worked in senior technical, operational, and project management positions with Cristal (National Titanium Dioxide Company) of Saudi Arabia, Ticor/Kerr McGee JV (Tiwest), Tioxide Ltd and brings a wealth of practical experience in technology and operational development for Titanium, Zirconium, and related chemicals products.

FUTURE

- Astron staff all look forward very much to the forthcoming year which is expected to be very exciting with a no of new projects under consideration

Note: In accordance with ASX listing requirements, the geological information supplied in this report has been based on information provided by geologists who have had in excess of five years experience in their field of activity."

For more pictures and information please visit www.astronchem.com



A Brown

Signed on the 12th Day of September 2003