

# OM HOLDINGS LIMITED

(ARBN 081 028 337)

(Malaysian Registration No. 202002000012 (995782-P))

Incorporated in Bermuda



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ASX Market Announcements  
ASX Limited  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
20 Bridge Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

## DECEMBER 2023 QUARTERLY PRODUCTION AND MARKET UPDATE

The Board of OM Holdings Limited (“OMH” or the “Company”) is pleased to provide the following update.

### HIGHLIGHTS

#### OPERATING PERFORMANCE

#### SMELTING: OM Materials (Sarawak) Sdn Bhd (100% owned smelter in Samalaju, East Malaysia)

- Production output for the quarter ended 31 December 2023 was 40,635 tonnes of ferrosilicon (“FeSi”), 84,571 tonnes of manganese alloys (including silicomanganese (“SiMn”) and high carbon ferromanganese (“HCFeMn”)) and 43,099 tonnes of manganese sinter ore
- A total of 43,346 tonnes of FeSi and 113,585 tonnes of manganese alloys were sold during the quarter ended 31 December 2023
- As at 31 December 2023, 8 furnaces (including 2 silicon metal furnaces) were in operation to produce FeSi and 7 Mn Alloys furnaces were in operation to produce Mn Alloys
- Replacement works of fabricated equipment for one silicon metal furnace commenced in the middle of January 2024, and is targeted to be completed by the end of February 2024
- Loan repayment of US\$9.3 million was made to project finance lenders during the quarter ended 31 December 2023

#### MARKETING, TRADING AND MARKET UPDATE

- 387,271 tonnes of ores and alloys were transacted in the period from 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023 as compared to 604,157 tonnes from 1 July 2023 to 30 September 2023, which represented a quarter-on-quarter decrease of 35.9%. The decrease was mainly due to lower volumes of manganese ores (“Mn ore”) traded during the period

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1



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### **OPERATING PERFORMANCE (CONT'D)**

- **World crude steel production during October and November 2023 was 303.1 million tonnes, which represented a 2.4% increase as compared to the same period in 2022**
- **Price of 44% Mn ore closed at US\$4.17/dmtu CIF China at the end of December 2023, a decrease of 4.6% from US\$4.37/dmtu CIF China at the end of September 2023**
- **FeSi price decreased from US\$1,360 to close at US\$1,285 per tonne CIF Japan and SiMn price decreased from US\$945 to close at US\$900 per tonne CIF Japan at the end of December 2023 compared to the end of September 2023**

### **CORPORATE**

- **OMH entered into a share subscription agreement with JFE Shoji Corporation to issue 27,633,464 fully paid ordinary shares at an issue price of A\$0.472 per share. The shares were issued and quoted on the ASX on 4 December 2023**
- **As at 12 January 2024, a total of 99,700,736 shares were listed on Bursa Malaysia and 666,556,065 shares were listed on the Australian Securities Exchange**



## **SMELTING**

### **OM MATERIALS (SARAWAK) SDN BHD (“OM Sarawak”)**

OM Sarawak owns a Ferroalloy Smelting Plant in the Samalaju Industrial Park in Sarawak, Malaysia (the “Plant”). The Plant consists of 8 main workshops with a total of 16 units of 25.5 MVA furnaces, of which 6 units are allocated for the production of FeSi, 8 units for manganese alloys and 2 units for silicon metal. Upon completion of the conversion works and scheduled major maintenance the Plant will have a design annual capacity to produce approximately 120,000 to 126,000 tonnes of FeSi, 333,000 to 400,000 tonnes of manganese alloys and 21,000 to 24,500 tonnes of silicon metal. The Plant also consists of a sinter plant that has a design capacity to produce 250,000 tonnes of sinter ore per annum.

### **Commercial operation**

As at 31 December 2023, 15 out of 16 furnaces were in operation with 8 furnaces (consisting of 6 Fesi furnaces and 2 silicon metal furnaces) producing FeSi and 7 furnaces producing manganese alloys.

	<b>December 2023 Quarter</b>	<b>September 2023 Quarter</b>	<b>YTD 2023</b>
Tonnes			
<b>Production</b>			
Ferrosilicon	<b>40,635</b>	<b>39,296</b>	<b>139,529</b>
Manganese Alloys	<b>84,571</b>	<b>86,934</b>	<b>294,432</b>
Manganese Sinter Ore	<b>43,099</b>	<b>38,832</b>	<b>154,273</b>
<b>Sales*</b>			
Ferrosilicon	<b>43,346</b>	<b>34,353</b>	<b>135,545</b>
Manganese Alloys	<b>113,585</b>	<b>67,586</b>	<b>290,770</b>
Manganese Sinter Ore	<b>-</b>	<b>1,625</b>	<b>1,625</b>

*\*Sales volume includes intercompany sales to OMS*

For the quarter ended 31 December 2023, FeSi production increased by 3.4% or 1,339 tonnes quarter-on-quarter. One FeSi furnace began hot commissioning and performance testing at the end of December 2023, bringing the total operational FeSi furnaces to 8 units.

Production volumes for manganese alloys decreased marginally by 2.7% or 2,363 tonnes.

For the quarter ended 31 December 2023, sales volumes for FeSi and manganese alloys experienced considerable growth of 26.2% and 68.1% respectively as compared to the previous quarter ended 30 September 2023. The sales increase was due to shipments in the previous quarter being carried forward into Q4 2023.

As at 31 December 2023, 14 out of 16 furnaces have undergone and completed major maintenance, of which 12 furnaces have passed hot commissioning and performance testing. 1 FeSi furnace is currently undergoing hot commissioning while 1 manganese alloy furnace's hot commissioning has been extended due to the furnace not performing as per contract requirements. The remaining 2 FeSi furnaces are scheduled to commence major maintenance in 2025.

Fabricated equipment for the silicon metal conversion project has been delivered on site, and the replacement works have commenced in the middle of January 2024, and are targeted to be completed by the end of February 2024. In the interim, both silicon metal furnaces are producing FeSi to maximize furnace utilization.



Loan repayment of US\$9.3 million was made to project finance lenders during the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

## **EXPLORATION AND MINING** **OM (MANGANESE) LTD (“OMM”)**

Production at the 100% owned Bootu Creek Manganese mine (the “Mine”) ceased as planned in December 2021.

### **Processing**

The Mine remains under care and maintenance mode.

The review of the Ultra Fines Plant (“UFP”) rectification plan and the financial model was completed in early November 2023 and Board approval for the restart of the UFP was obtained in late November 2023. The existing UFP screens will be changed to new stacked screens and the tails pumps will be upgraded to ensure optimal performance of the UFP. Production restart is targeted to commence in Q4 2024.

### **Environmental Programs**

For the quarter ended 31 December 2023, the primary focus was the continued maintenance and repair of damage caused by the higher-than-expected rainfall experienced on the Mine site from December 2022 to March 2023. The Mine Closure Plan (“Plan”) is in the process of being finalised for presentation to the Department of Industry, Tourism and Trade of Northern Territory (“DITT”). The plan will be presented to the DITT in Q1 2024.

The Mine rehabilitation program continued to focus on the repair of damaged landforms (washouts and other water damage) as follows:

- Repairs to landforms across site have been completed;
- Damaged landforms have been ripped and prepared for seeding in February 2024 after the year-end wet season;
- Clean up across the Mine site has commenced, Massai ROM, Chugga ROM, Go Go Line and water ponds have been prepared for seeding; and
- Weed spraying has continued as agreed with the Northern Territory Government Weed Management Branch during their site visit to the Mine in November 2022.

Rehabilitation of the Tourag Waste Rock Dump is currently ongoing and will continue into Q1 2024 after the wet season.

## **MARKETING AND TRADING UPDATE**

During the quarter ended 31 December 2023, a total of 387,271 tonnes of ores and alloys were transacted (which included intercompany sales), which represented a 35.9% quarter-on-quarter decrease compared to the previous quarter ended 30 September 2023. The decrease was mainly due to lower volumes of Mn ores traded during the quarter ended 31 December 2023.

According to the International Manganese Institute (“IMnI”), world crude steel production during October and November 2023 was 303.1 million tonnes, which represented an increase of 2.4% as compared to the same corresponding period in 2022.

Fastmarkets MB reported that the price of 44% Mn ore closed at US\$4.17/dmtu CIF China at the end of December 2023, a decrease of 4.6% from US\$4.37/dmtu CIF China at the end of September 2023.

During the quarter ended 31 December 2023, FeSi price decreased from US\$1,360 to US\$1,285 per tonne CIF Japan, while SiMn price decreased from US\$945 to US\$900 per tonne CIF Japan. The decrease was mainly attributed to reduced global demand towards the year end period and higher production rates from FeSi smelters in China.



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Freight rates increased in the current quarter as compared to the preceding quarter with Fastmarkets MB reporting an implied freight of US\$0.82/dmtu from South Africa to China for 37% manganese ore, as compared to US\$0.80/dmtu at the end of September 2023.

## **OM Holdings Limited**

### **CORPORATE**

#### **1. Tshipi é Ntle Manganese Mining (Pty) Ltd (“Tshipi”)**

OMH has an effective 13% interest in Tshipi through its 26% strategic partnership with Ntsimbintle Holdings Proprietary Limited.

OMH (26%) and Ntsimbintle Holdings Proprietary Limited (74%) are shareholders in Ntsimbintle Mining Proprietary Limited (“NMPL”). NMPL holds a 50.1% interest in Tshipi, an independently operated and managed black-empowered manganese mining company that operates the Tshipi Borwa Manganese Mine located in the world class Kalahari Manganese field in South Africa. The Tshipi Borwa Manganese Mine currently has a production capacity of 3.3 to 3.6 million tonnes per annum.

#### **Tshipi Borwa Manganese Mine**

Tshipi exports (100%) for the quarter ended December 2023 totalled 624,681 tonnes, which represented a decrease of 27.6% from the previous quarter ended 30 September 2023. Road hauling was stopped with most of the tonnages railed due to declining manganese ore prices resulting in a decrease in export during the quarter ended December 2023. The full year tonnage however, totalled 3,215,949 tonnes, a marginal decrease of 4.1%, as compared to 3,353,264 tonnes in 2022.

#### **2. Update on Bryah Farm-In and Joint Venture Agreement (OMM has earned a 51% interest)**

As previously announced, OMM is a party to the Farm-In and Joint Venture Agreement for the Bryah Basin Manganese Project with Bryah Resources Limited (ASX Code: BYH).

OMM has earned a 51% interest in the Bryah Basin Manganese Joint Venture (“BBMJV”).

OMM is currently sole funding A\$1.8 million on exploration to earn a 60% interest in the BBMJV.

BYH announced to ASX an updated Bryah Basin Manganese Mineral Resource Estimate on behalf of the BBMJV on 24 August 2023.

The total Inferred and Indicated JORC 2012 compliant Mineral Resource Estimate is 3.07 million tonnes (Mt) at 20.2% Mn. The Indicated Mineral Resource tonnage is 2.07 Mt at 20.9% Mn and the Inferred Mineral Resource is 1.0 Mt at 18.6% Mn. The Mineral Resource estimate included prospects Area 74, Brumby Creek East, Brumby Creek West, Redrum and Black Hill deposits on E52/3237 and Horseshoe South and Horseshoe Extended on M52/806.

Assay results received from a 95 hole Reverse Circulation (RC) drill program (3,298 metres) conducted in August 2023 included drilling to infill and extend Brumby Creek West and Redrum deposits, and to test drill new prospects at Gold Trip, Black Hill Northeast and Epona. Assay results were announced to ASX on 16 November 2023.

Brumby Creek West results extended the deposit to the southwest and include 13m at 22.7% Mn from 15m (BBRC0241) and 6m at 24.4% Mn from 19m (BBRC0249).

Redrum results extend the deposit to the northeast and include 7m @ 29.3% Mn from 21m (RRRC074) and 8m at 29.6% Mn from 14m (RRRC076). Mineral Resource updates for Brumby Creek West and Redrum are planned for Q2 2024.



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Scattered intersections from exploration drilling include 3m at 34.8% Mn from 0m (BHRC035) at Black Hill North, 5m @ 21.0% Mn from 15m (EPRC0015) and 3m at 21.5% Mn from 10m (EPRC028) at Epona, and 2m at 25.5% Mn from 3m (GTRC005) at Gold Trip.

## **CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

As announced on 1 December 2023 [here](#), OMH entered into a share subscription agreement with JFE Shoji Corporation to issue 27,633,464 fully paid ordinary shares at an issue price of A\$0.472 per share. The shares were issued and quoted on the ASX on 4 December 2023. As a result, the Company's ordinary shares on issue increased from 738,623,337 to 766,256,801 during the current quarter.

As at 12 January 2024, a total of 99,700,736 shares were listed on Bursa Malaysia and 666,556,065 shares were listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

Yours faithfully

**OM HOLDINGS LIMITED**

Heng Siow Kwee/Julie Wolseley

**Joint Company Secretary**

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*This ASX announcement was authorised for release by the Board of OM Holdings Limited.*