

**SIMON L. BAKER, MMS, P.Geo.
Senior Consultant**

BACKGROUND

Simon Baker is a Senior Consultant with Micon International Limited, mineral industry consultants. Mr. Baker gained technical and operational management experience in Europe from 1986 and has been a consultant based in Canada since 1994, joining Micon in 2010.

Over some 24 years, Mr. Baker has been involved in a wide range of industrial minerals, base and precious metals operations or projects, including line management, technical evaluation, business planning, organizational performance and corporate roles. He has co-authored technical reports with Micon and provided expert witness testimony on behalf of clients.

PROFESSIONAL ROLES/ASSIGNMENTS: 1994-2010

Technical and Management Consulting Services

- **Blue Circle Aggregates** (prior to take-over by Lafarge): Wide ranging business performance and mineral evaluation work with emphasis on high quality aggregates acquisitions and business growth, North and Central America.
- **Crowflight Minerals Inc:** Logistics, management and team development for the Bucko Lake nickel mine in northern Manitoba, Canada. Achievements include active participation in successful First Nations consultation on behalf of Crowflight, as well as establishment of a fully compliant human resources function.
- Aggregates market study on the North American Pacific Coast for a world class industrial minerals company.
- Platinum group element exploration planning, logistics and Government/First Nations liaison, for a publicly listed company operating in northern Canada. Successfully achieved collaborative access to claims with support from the First Nations' community for essential groundwork.
- Diamond laboratory development services and process improvement for a publicly listed mining company, achieving ISO 9000+ quality standards and productivity improvement in a high security environment. RCMP security clearance standards required.
- Merger and acquisition support services for a European base metals mining company expanding into the Americas.

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- Merger and acquisition support services for a diamond exploration and mining company expanding in North America.
- Technical analysis, business planning and presentation preparation/delivery for a Canadian gold exploration company to raise investment capital and achieve a public listing.
- **Alliston Sand and Gravel:** Aggregates property evaluation, licensing review and successful acquisition negotiations, Ontario.
- Strategic search and review of slate quarrying opportunities in Canada and the United States for servicing a European company's market growth plans. Services include material analysis for end-use suitability and market studies.
- **TRT Aggregates** (prior to take-over by Lafarge): Mineral aggregates production development, testing and planning, Ontario.
- Evaluation and business development consulting for a high quality dimension stone quarry in the Sudbury Basin, Ontario.
- President, Telacorp Inc., providing wide ranging management and business services to clients on a bespoke basis. Clients include several charities, not-for-profit and quasi-government organizations where work was completed on a base cost or voluntary basis.

Corporate: Positions held include several directorships and executive positions with both private and publicly listed companies involved in mining and exploration. Commodities range from industrial minerals to base and precious metals, including the platinum group elements.

Academic Contribution: Past Lecturer on Industrial Minerals Economics, Lassonde Program, University of Toronto.

Guest Lecturer on industrial minerals and business related subjects at various academic institutions, including University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario, McMaster University and Ryerson University.

PRE-1994

British Geological Survey (1986/87): Research Officer and Geoscientist; Stratigraphy and Sedimentology. Analysis of hydrocarbon-bearing basins in northern Europe.

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RMC Group PLC (1987/89): Quarry, asphalt plant and minerals import/distribution facility management; all profit centre business, technical and operational functions. Achievements include:

- Turning a loss-making ship-fed industrial minerals distribution depot (London, UK) to profit within three months of appointment as manager.
- Bringing profits at a rail-fed industrial minerals and asphalt plant (Buckinghamshire, UK) up to acceptable levels through initiation of cost control systems, quality control, improved productivity and marketing/sales.

RMC Group PLC (1989/94): Senior Exploration Geologist operating from RMC's international headquarters in London, UK, servicing some 120 international subsidiary companies. Completed many business-sensitive, industrial minerals property and operational evaluations, including project management, technical reporting and acquisition negotiations. Projects include:

- Full mineral appraisal and operations report on a brick-clay, building and silica sand producing company. Recommendations led to improved working practices, a structured extraction program and significant productivity improvement.
- Successful identification of exploration and acquisition opportunities and negotiation for an aggregates deposit to service concrete and asphalt plants in a strategic market area.
- Appraisal of materials for concrete pipe manufacture leading to successful property acquisition.
- Due diligence, mineral evaluation and report to RMC Board recommending non-acquisition of a strategically targeted aggregates producing company; recommendation fully substantiated by subsequent testing.
- Identification and prediction of major geological discontinuities in mining operations; advice and design for de-watering and safe working methods to optimize production.
- Advice on extraction and processing methods to eliminate deleterious materials and to meet high purity silica sand specifications, leading to significant productivity improvement.
- Advice on open-pit slope stability of a major working face and roadway, successfully avoiding mineral loss and hazard to safety.

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- Landfill design and advice on geo-materials, groundwater control and drainage for rehabilitation of several exhausted mining operations, including successful restoration to arable, forestry and leisure uses.
- Preparation and presentation of technical reports for many operational licence applications and appeals.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. (Hons) Geology, University of Portsmouth, UK - 1986

Certified Management Services Practitioner, Southampton College of Technology, UK - 1978

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Member of the Institute of Management Services (UK)

Professional Geoscientist, Ontario, Canada

Chartered Geologist, UK

Member of the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum

Former Member of the Institute of Quarrying, UK

Fellow of the Geological Society (UK) and Past Member of the Engineering Group Committee

Co-Chair, Cross-Cultural Negotiations Workshop, Prospectors and Developers' Association of Canada