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## **RECORD 52,118 OUNCE JUNE QUARTER AT TRIDENT**

### **Highlights**

- **Record June quarter production of 52,118 ounces.**
- **Trident mine and treatment plant both performing well above the 1 Mtpa design rates and 5.3 g/t gold reserve grades.**
- **Avoca's maiden production year at Higginsville totalled 130,594 ounces.**
- **Avoca remains on target for 190,000+ ounce production in FY2010 at estimated cash operating costs of A\$468 per ounce<sup>1</sup>.**

ASX 200 mid-tier gold producer, Avoca Resources Ltd (ASX:AVO), is pleased to announce a record 52,118 ounces of gold production for the June quarter from its 100% owned Higginsville gold project, located south of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia.

The record June result contributes to Avoca's first year as a gold producer of 130,594 ounces.

Total plant throughput for the June quarter amounted to 304,590t @ 5.5 g/t gold for 52,118 recovered ounces. Plant recovery was very high at 97.5%. The dramatic improvement in head grade to 5.5 g/t for the June quarter is attributed to the commencement of mining the 1005 level of the Western Zone, and an increasing contribution from the rich Athena Lodes. Estimated mine production from Trident during this period amounted to 267,449t @ 5.8 g/t gold for 49,823 ounces.

Importantly, the treatment capacity of the plant is exceeding the design of 250,000 tonnes per quarter (equivalent to 1 million tonnes per annum), and accordingly 37,141t of medium grade material at a grade of 3.0 g/t gold was treated in addition to the mined production during the quarter.

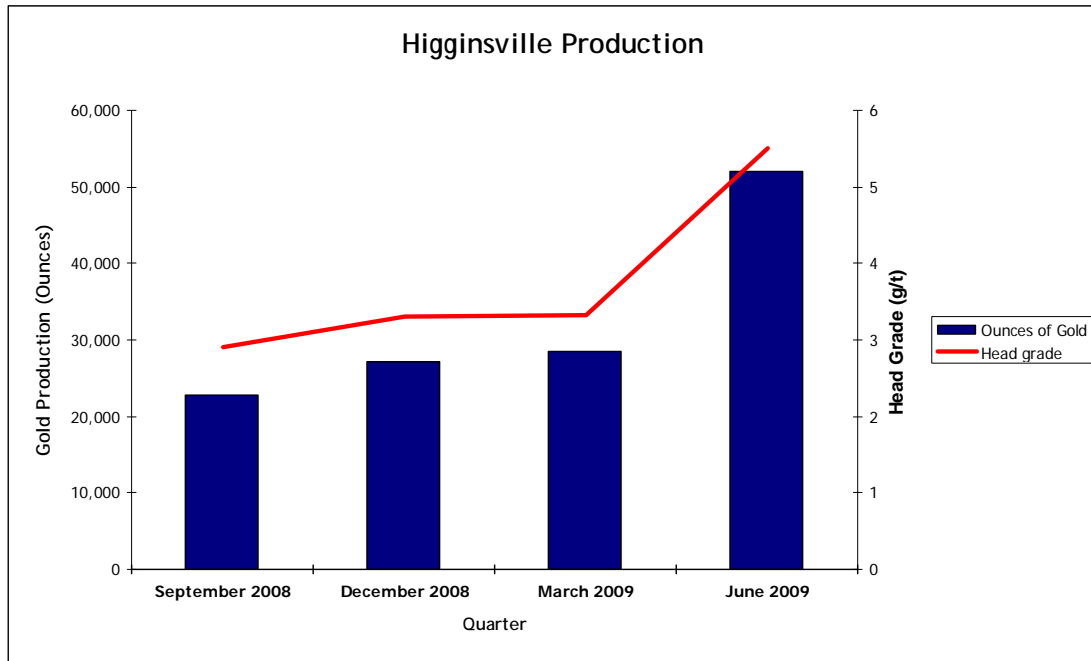
Avoca's Managing Director, Mr Rohan Williams, said "The June quarter has proven to be a watershed period for Avoca, with an excellent quarterly production result of over 52,000 ounces."

“Both the mining rate at Trident and the treatment rate at the plant are in excess of the 1 Mtpa designs, and the 5.3 g/t gold reserve grades,” Mr Williams said.

“The June quarter result clearly highlights Trident’s achievement as a significant new high-grade underground gold mine, and the result is a testament to the excellent efforts of our site personnel at Higginsville, and the quality of our operations,” said Mr Williams

“Avoca remains confident it will produce 190,000+ ounces in the next financial year at an estimated cash operating cost of A\$468 per ounce.”

Figure 1 below shows the marked improvement in quarterly gold production since the inception of mining from Trident which commenced in early July 2008.



**Figure 1:** Quarterly production for FY2009 showing the marked increase in June’s result to 52,118 ounces at a head grade of 5.5 g/t gold. Total production for Avoca’s first year as a gold producer was 130,594 ounces

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*Please Note:*

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Footnotes:

1. All cash costs reported are exclusive of royalties.

### ***Avoca Background***

Avoca is an ASX 200 gold mining and exploration company based in Perth, Western Australia. Avoca has grown rapidly since its listing in 2002, and its acquisition of the Higginsville exploration project in 2004, located 130km south of Kalgoorlie.

Following the discovery of the Trident underground gold mine at Higginsville in late 2004, and the subsequent construction of the Higginsville Gold Project which included a new 1 million tonne per annum CIL treatment facility built on time and under budget; it poured its first gold bar on 1 July 2008. The time taken from exploration project acquisition to gold pour was exactly four years. Presently, Trident is Western Australia's third largest underground gold mine and has recently commenced mining the thick and high grade 1005 level, which has contributed to record gold production levels. Avoca remains confident it will produce 190,000+ ounces of gold in FY2010 at an operating cash cost of A\$468 per ounce (not including royalties).

Avoca has a highly credentialed management team with considerable expertise in exploration, project development and underground mining. Avoca's managing director, Rohan Williams, has more than 15 years experience in the region having worked as a geologist at the +15 million ounce St Ives field immediately north of Higginsville, and the +6 million ounce Norseman field immediately to the south.

The Avoca Board is confident that its management team will continue to expand and develop the existing 1.45 million ounce Higginsville resource base into realising its goal of a +10 year mine life for Higginsville.