

Media Release

HYDROMET REPORTS HALF YEAR PROFIT

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Listed Australian chemical and mineral waste recycling company HydroMet Corporation Ltd [ASX: HMC] today announced an increase in net profit of \$0.53 million for the six months ended December 2001. The profit represents a \$1.2 million improvement compared to a loss of \$0.62 million for the same period in 2000.

"We have turned the corner with these results," said Hydromet Chairman Dr Lakshman Jayaweera. "Hydromet's profit has been made possible by the positive contributions from the very successful Lead Immobilisation on behalf of Rio Tinto and Precious Metals project for Falconbridge we have undertaken in Unanderra and Newcastle [New South Wales]. Both projects commenced scaled-up processing in July/August and are currently operating at a steady state with capacity to exceed forecast production rates."

Dr Lakshman said the results reflected one of the company's most successful and profitable years. Hydromet recently announced it has signed a 5-year, \$25 million contract with OneSteel Ltd to treat the electric arc furnace dust produced as waste at the steelmaker's Rooty Hill NSW plant.

"We are focused on bringing a number of promising projects to fruition and are confident of additional opportunities emerging as we continue to gain industry and regulatory support for services. Our objective is to become the industry leader in waste treatment and recycling technology. We are tackling the kinds of disposal and recycling problems faced by heavy industry both in Australia and overseas."

Hydromet has a number of projects under review including :

- A battery stripping and recycling project.
- Potential acquisition of secondary smelter.
- Mercury immobilisation project.
- Potential landfill acquisition.
- Falconbridge Tellurium project.
- Manganese recycling project.

For more information:

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