

## Press Release

### **arsago expands into Brazilian Copper, Gold, Iron Ore and Heavy Rare Earth exploration**

7 September, 2011 – Zurich, Switzerland based arsago capital partners AG announced that it has on July 7<sup>th</sup> acquired a minority stake in Mining Ventures Brasil through its arsago Mining Capital subsidiary, backed by a group of European and Brazilian investors. The majority investor in Mining Ventures Brasil is Houston based Denham Capital, a private equity firm.

Mining Ventures Brasil has its operational headquarters in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Its principal business activity consists of the identification and exploration of prospective world-class mineral deposits in Brazil, with the major areas of focus being gold, copper, heavy rare earths, and iron ore.

"Expanding from our existing Brazilian investment themes of equity value and affordable housing into mining, particularly into copper, gold and heavy rare earths, is in line with our strategic macro approach to investing in Brazil. This transaction, I believe, again underscores our capability to advise sophisticated international clients with regard to investing in real assets in Brazil. CEO of Mining Ventures Brazil, Andreas Sprecher, remains a significant shareholder in arsago Mining Capital and I'm particularly delighted to announce that Andreas has agreed to become a Brazilian based partner in arsago Capital Partners AG. Andreas brings with him a wealth of expertise in infrastructure and natural resource investment globally and particularly in Brazil", said Daniel Bittner, CEO of arsago capital partners AG and now a partner of arsago Mining Capital.

"The current project portfolios consist of one heavy rare earth project in Goiás, one copper and two gold projects in Rio Grande do Sul, and two iron ore projects in Paraiba and Bahia. We see substantial investment opportunities for new world-class mineral deposit discoveries in Brazil", added Andreas Sprecher.

#### **About arsago Capital Partners AG**

arsago Capital Partners AG is an independent specialised alternative investment house, focusing on macro investment themes with a special emphasis on Brazil. Founded in 2001 by former investment bankers and proprietary traders in Frankfurt, Germany, the Zurich, Switzerland based company today has ten staff across the areas of research, investment management, risk control, operations, product development and client service.

#### **Mining Ventures Brazil**

Mining Ventures Brazil is a privately funded Brazilian based mineral exploration company. It employs approximately 80 geologists and investment professionals, working on the identification and exploration of prospective world-class mineral deposits in Brazil.

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## Andreas Sprecher

Andreas is founder and CEO of Mining Ventures Brazil and a partner of arsago Mining Capital and arsago Capital Partners AG. Andreas spent 15 years in various global executive positions at the ABB Group, specialising in infrastructure and private equity. Andreas has founded several successful business start-ups in Brazil since 2000, including Mining Ventures Brasil.

## For inquiries please contact

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