

15<sup>th</sup> April 2009ASX/Media Release**FURTHER POSITIVE DRILLING RESULTS FROM DARGUES REEF****POTENTIAL TO SIGNIFICANTLY EXPAND EXISTING HIGH-GRADE GOLD RESOURCE****HIGHLIGHTS**

- ✘ **Latest drilling at Plums Lode intersects 16m @ 4.66g/t gold.**
- ✘ **Bridges the upper and lower mineralised zones and confirms mineralisation model.**
- ✘ **Significant potential to expand the existing resource estimate (1.44Mt @ 6.2g/t gold).**
- ✘ **Further drilling at Plums currently underway.**

Australian-based gold explorer, Cortona Resources Limited (ASX: **CRC** – “Cortona”), is pleased to announce that it has received further significant assays from the first phase of the current 3,500m RC drilling program at its 100%-owned **Dargues Reef Gold Project**, 60km east of Canberra in New South Wales.

The latest result from the newly discovered **Plums Lode** returned a significant intercept of **16m @ 4.66g/t gold from 124m**, which is 60m beneath the current resource boundary.

Drill hole DREX128 was designed to test the area between the upper and lower zones of mineralisation at Plums Lode, where Cortona’s reinterpretation of earlier results suggested that previous drilling (DREX001) may not have reached the mineralised lode structure. DREX128 successfully intersected the lode where predicted, supporting the notion that the lode position was not adequately tested by DREX001.

The style of mineralisation at Plums bears all the hallmarks of the Main Lode 250m to the west (see *Figure 1*), and confirms the potential for significant additions to the current Dargues Reef resource inventory (currently comprising Indicated and Inferred Resources of 1.44 million tonnes at 6.2g/t Au for 286,000 contained ounces).

At the nearby **Chianti** prospect four shallow holes have also been completed. Chianti hosts geochemical and geophysical anomalies akin to those at Dargues and Plums and occurs eastwards along strike from Plums Lode (*Figure 1*). One pair of holes targeted beneath anomalous rock chips, whilst the second pair of holes targeted the IP chargeable anomaly ~100m further east. This area has never previously been drilled.

The results received to date are highly encouraging, with a best intercept of **4m @ 2.25g/t gold** from 37m down hole. Lode structure was observed in three of the four holes, and the Dargues diorite is present in all of the holes. Further drilling is being planned to expand the exploration at Chianti.

A larger rig capable of drilling to greater depths has now been deployed in the area and is currently drilling a number of deeper holes at Plums Lode.

Yours faithfully

**Peter van der Borgh**  
Managing Director

Figure 1: Long Section through Dargues Reef showing true-width gram metre contours, and highlighting the intercepts in the recent drilling at Plums Lode and Chianti.

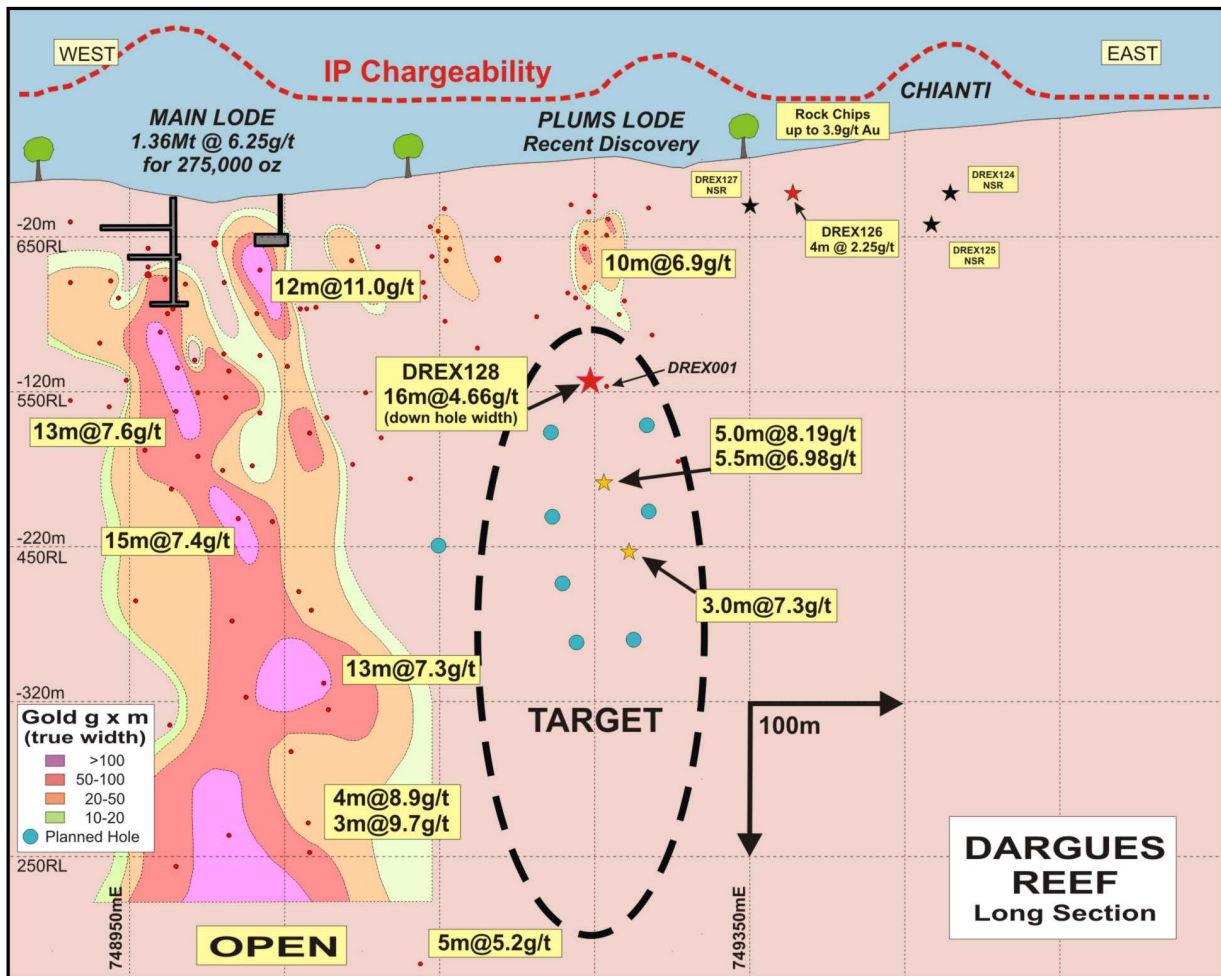


Table 1: Significant intercepts, Plums Lode and Chianti RC drilling, March 2009.

Hole ID	GDAE	GDAN	Dip	Azimuth	From (m)	Interval (m)	Gold (g/t)	Comment
<b>Chianti</b>								
DREX126	749375	6062943	-55	180	37	4.0	2.25	1m internal dilution
<b>Plums</b>								
DREX122	749228	6062886	-60	018	124	16.0	4.66	

NB: Results by fire assay, Internal dilution applies to 1m intercepts below 1.0g/t gold..

For further information please contact:

Peter van der Borgh (Managing Director) on +618 6380 1093

Amanda Wilton-Heald (Company Secretary) on +618 9388 8041

[admin@cortonaresources.com.au](mailto:admin@cortonaresources.com.au)

-ENDS-

For personal use only

## **ABOUT CORTONA RESOURCES**

***Cortona is an emerging Australian gold company focused on the exploration and development of the Dargues Reef Gold deposit, part of its 100%-owned Majors Creek Project, located 60km east of Canberra in New South Wales.***

***Majors Creek was the largest historical alluvial goldfield in NSW, with historical production of 1.25 million ounces. The Dargues Reef underground mine was operated between 1870-91 and 1914-16 by numerous shafts to a maximum depth of 70 metres with initial mining of oxidised ore by open cut methods to depths of up to 10m.***

***Cortona is an energetic explorer, with aggressive exploration programs underway targeting an increase in the updated Indicated and Inferred Resource at Dargues Reef of 1.44Mt @ 6.2g/t for 286,000oz to underpin a long-term gold business.***

***The Company has a portfolio of gold and nickel projects in Western Australia and NSW.***

### **Sampling and Assay Procedures**

*A bulk sample from each metre interval is collected from the drill rig. A representative sample (approx 3kg) is collected via a PVC spear and submitted to ALS in Orange for analysis. Standard samples of known gold concentration are inserted every 25 samples and a blank sample is inserted at the start of each hole. On occasion a blank was also inserted following visually determined high-grade mineralisation.*

*In each case the entire sample is pulverised in a LV5 mill to 85% passing 75 microns. A sub-sample is selected for analysis. Gold is analysed by a 50gram fire assay with AAS finish (0.01ppm detection). Silver (0.2ppm), Arsenic (2ppm), Bismuth (2ppm), Copper (1ppm), Lead (2ppm), Molybdenum (1ppm), Sulphur (0.01%) and Zinc (2ppm) are analysed by Aqua Regia digest and ICPAES finish.*

***Competent Persons:*** *Information in this report relating to Mineral Resources has been completed by Mr Aaron Green of Runge Ltd., who is a member of the Australian Institute of Geoscientists. Mr Green has sufficient experience which is relevant to the style of mineralisation and type of deposit under consideration and to the activity which he is undertaking to qualify as a 'competent person' under the 2004 Edition of the Australasian Code for reporting of Exploration Results, Mineral Resources and Ore Reserves (the JORC Code). Mr Green consents to the inclusion of the data in the form and context in which it appears. The contents of this report that relate to geology and historical exploration are based on information compiled by Mr Peter van der Borgh, who is a Professional Geologist and Fellow of the Geological Society. He has sufficient experience relevant to the style of mineralisation and types of deposit under consideration and to the activity being undertaken to qualify as a 'Competent Person' as defined in the 2004 Edition of the JORC Code. Mr van der Borgh consents to the inclusion in this report of the matters compiled by him in the form and context in which they appear.*