

Centamin PLC

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Centamin sees Q4 gold production jump 51% as it continues takeover battle with Endeavour Mining

Egypt-focused gold miner Centamin PLC (LON:CEY) has reported a 51% jump in gold production for the fourth quarter at its flagship Sukari mine.

The FTSE 250 firm reported that for the three months ended 31 December, production at Sukari had risen 51% since the third quarter to 148,387 ounces of gold, driven by what it said were improved feed grades, metallurgical recoveries and a year-end plant drawdown of gold in-circuit.

READ: Endeavour Mining asks London-listed Centamin to request takeover offer date extension

Gold production for the whole of 2019 was 480,529 ounces, a 2% improvement year-on-year, while production estimates for the coming year were unchanged at between 510,000-540,000 ounces.

"As expected, the fourth quarter production result represents one of the strongest quarterly results from Sukari and is a significant achievement for our operational team", said Centamin chief executive Ross Jerrard.

"During 2019 there have been substantial changes in senior management and this transition in leadership is beginning to be reflected in our improved operating performance."

Takeover battle rages on

The production update comes as Centamin finds itself embroiled in a debate over its future following an all-share merger approach in December by Canadian firm Endeavour Mining Corp (TSE:EDV) (OTCMKTS:EDVMF).

When it announced its bid, Endeavour said it had made "several unsuccessful attempts" to engage with Centamin's board and had decided to set out its stall publicly to encourage the company to enter discussions, an approach that was unanimously rejected by Centamin's management shortly after.

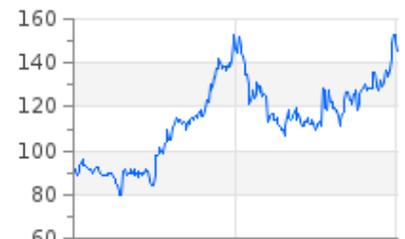
Endeavour had previously had until 31 December to make a firm offer for the group under the 'put up or shut up' rules of the UK's Takeover Panel, however at the request of Centamin this deadline has been extended to 14 January.

Centamin shares were 2% higher at 124p in mid-morning trading on Thursday.

Price: 141.5

Market Cap: £1.64 billion

1 Year Share Price Graph



February 2019 August 2019 February 2020

Share Information

Code: CEY

Listing: LSE , TSX

52 week High Low
162.4 79.14

Sector: Exploration & Production

Website: www.centamin.com

Company Synopsis:

Centamin plc is an Arabian-Nubian Shield focused mineral exploration, development and mining company dual listed on the London Stock Exchange (LSE: CEY) and the Toronto Stock Exchange (TSX: CEE). Centamin's principal asset, the Sukari Gold Mine, began production in 2009 and is the first large scale modern gold mine in Egypt.

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