



ASX/MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT

5 September 2011

Norton reduces debt to \$51 million

HIGHLIGHTS

- **Voluntary \$15 million repayment reduces debt facility to \$51 million**
- **Net debt reduced to \$23 million**
- **Total debt reduction of \$94 million in past year**

Established gold producer, Norton Gold Fields (ASX: NGF) is pleased to announce it has made a further \$15 million voluntary prepayment against its debt facility with Merrill Lynch, reducing the balance to \$51 million for a net debt position of \$23 million.

Managing Director, Andre Labuschagne said: "One year ago, when we converted the Lehmans hedge into a debt, we had total debt of \$145 million. Today we have a \$51 million debt with Merrill Lynch and a net debt position of approximately \$23 million, and this excludes the \$19 million cash we have on deposit as security for environmental bonds."

"For a company the size of Norton to reduce its debt by \$94 million in 12 months is a fantastic achievement and one which I believe has yet to be fully appreciated by the market. During this period we also re-invested almost \$50 million into Paddington to open up two new mines at Navajo Chief and Homestead, demonstrating the strong cashflows the business has produced."

"We have \$15 million still to be received over the next 18 months from the sale of Norton's non-core coal exploration assets (ASX: 17 December 2010) and these monies will also be used to repay debt."

"Consistent with our previous guidance, we will continue to seek opportunities to accelerate the repayment of the debt."

ENDS

Further information

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About Norton

Norton Gold Fields Limited is a mid-tier, ASX-listed, unhedged gold producer.

In FY2011, Norton produced approximately 152,000 oz of gold from its open cut and underground operations at Paddington, near Kalgoorlie in Western Australia.

Norton has recently added two new mining operations, the Homestead underground mine and the Navajo Chief open cut, to supply ore to its processing facility.

The Company holds extensive granted mining and exploration leases in the pre-eminent Kalgoorlie goldfields, with a landholding of 693 km². The Paddington operations have a current Mineral Resource of 5.9M oz, of which some 1.1M oz is classified as Reserves, for a mine life in excess of ten years.

Norton's growth will come from optimising existing operations and acquiring, developing and operating assets.

For more information, please visit our website: www.nortongoldfields.com.au

