



5 July 2017

SolGold plc
("SolGold" or the "Company")

Cascabel Exploration Update

Alpala Deposit Growing Rapidly. All Current Holes Intersect Mineralisation.

High-grade Intercepts Increase Grade of Alpala Exploration Target.

The Board of SolGold (AIM code: SOLG) is pleased to provide an update on the drilling progress of current Holes 23R-D1R, 24-D1R, 26, and 27 at Cascabel, the Company's copper-gold porphyry project in Ecuador.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Current drill holes 23R-D1 (Rig 1 Alpala Central), 24-D1R (Rig 3 Alpala Southeast), 26 (Rig 4 Alpala Northwest) and 27 (Rig 2 Hematite Hill) all intersect mineralised diorite porphyry as drilling continues to grow the known Alpala copper-gold deposit.**
- **Rig 5 has been mobilised to site. Rig 6 scheduled for arrival late July 2017. Rigs 5 and 6 to expand on growing resource potential at Hematite Hill and Alpala Southeast.**
- **Rig 7 scheduled for mobilisation in August 2017.**

Commenting on today's release, SolGold Technical Services Manager Benn Whistler said:

"It's encouraging to see the greater Alpala trend continuing to produce hundreds of metres of porphyry style mineralisation in the drill core trays being delivered to the logging shed each day. This deposit is wide open and what really enthuses us is the fact that we have drill tested less than half of the footprint of the system, from Trivinio in the northwest to Cristal in the southeast, an area some 2.3km long and up to 700m wide. The Alpala high grade zone alone, so far, implies a vertical ore-column of 1700m and the true width at greater than 1.0% Cu equivalent exceeds 500 metres. The arrival of Rig 5 is most exciting as it will test to the northeast Holes of 23R and 25 where there is potential to add significantly to the width of the gold-rich high-grade zone at Alpala, and follow up on the previously unknown very copper-rich high-grade panel of mineralisation intersected in Hole 25 which returned 100m at over 3.5% copper equivalent. The mineralisation style in Hole 25 is similar to some of the high-grade panels at Oyu Tolgoi and these can be used as vectors into a more robust mineralising system at depth. We are very pleased to have more drill rigs entering the task in coming months to assist expediting the Alpala drilling as well as testing the robust targets we have at Aguniaga and Tandayama-America."

FURTHER INFORMATION:

SolGold's Alpala deposit continues to grow with each new drill hole. Over 40,000m of drilling has been completed to date along the greater Alpala trend. Current drilling focuses on defining the geometry of the growing porphyry copper-gold deposit at Alpala, which is open in virtually all directions, as drill testing to date has not yet defined the extents of the evidently very large and rich Alpala deposit (**Figure 1**).



Drilling to date has tested less than half of the footprint of the greater Alpala zone (**Figure 2**). A major zone of magnetite-destruction related to intense hydrothermal (phyllitic and advanced argillic) alteration occurs over much of the Alpala porphyry cluster. This zone is coincident with the surface projection of the 0.7% and 1.0% copper equivalent models which suggests that similar mineralisation may exist along the full length and breadth of the greater Alpala zone from Trivinio in the northwest to Cristal in the southeast.

Hole 23R-D1 (Rig 1 Alpala Central) is at a current depth of 987.6m, following deviation from the parent hole (Hole 23R) at 710m depth. Hole 23R-D1 is a “daughter” hole testing for extensions to the high grade early quartz diorite intrusion intersected in Hole 23R, which recently returned 1030m @ 1.16% copper equivalent (0.59% Cu, 0.90 g/t Au), including 770m @ 1.44% copper equivalent (0.71% Cu, 1.16 g/t Au).

Hole 24-D1R (Rig 3 Alpala Southeast) is at a current depth of 777.9m. Hole 24-D1 is a “daughter” hole leaving the “parent” (Hole 24) at 735.0m depth testing for deeper extensions to the mineralisation discovered in Hole 24 which recently returned 586.0m @ 0.43% copper equivalent (0.27% Cu, 0.25 g/t Au) from 636m, including 160m @ 1.04% copper equivalent (0.63% Cu, 0.65 g/t Au).

Hole 26 (Rig 4 Alpala Northwest) started on 24th May 2017, testing the strike and depth extensions of Alpala towards the north and northeast. Hole 26 continues at a current depth of 1416.4m, within mineralised diorite intrusive, towards a planned depth of at least 1800m. The visible copper sulphide mineralisation encountered to date in Hole 26 extends the Alpala deposit approximately 120m northeast of hole 15R2, which returned 830m @ 0.93% copper equivalent (0.63% Cu, 0.46 g/t Au).

Hole 27 (Rig 2 Hematite Hill), from the same location as Hole 25, and is at a current depth of 1257.1m, within mineralised diorite intrusive with visible copper sulphide mineralisation, including 0.1% visible bornite locally. Hole 27 tests approximately 250m southeast of intersection achieved in Hole 16 which returned 894m @ 1.41% copper equivalent (0.78% Cu, 0.99 g/t Au).

Selected examples of mineralisation being encountered in current drill holes are shown in **Figures 3, 4, 5 and 6**.

Qualified Person:

Information in this report relating to the exploration results is based on data reviewed by Mr Nicholas Mather (B.Sc. Hons Geol.), the Chief Executive Officer of the Company. Mr Mather is a Fellow of the Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy who has in excess of 25 years’ experience in mineral exploration and is a Qualified Person under the AIM Rules. Mr Mather consents to the inclusion of the information in the form and context in which it appears.

Market Abuse Regulation (MAR) Disclosure

Certain information contained in this announcement would have been deemed inside information for the purposes of Article 7 of the Regulation (EU) No 596/2014 until the release of this announcement.

By order of the Board
Karl Schlobohm
Company Secretary



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NOTES TO EDITORS

SolGold is a Brisbane, Australia based, AIM-listed (SOLG) copper gold exploration and future development company with assets in Ecuador, Solomon Islands and Australia. SolGold's primary objective is to discover and define world-class copper-gold deposits. The Board and Management Team have substantial vested interests in the success of the Company as shareholders as well as strong track records in the areas of exploration, mine appraisal and development, investment, finance and law. SolGold's experience is augmented by state of the art geophysical and modelling techniques and the guidance of porphyry copper and gold expert Dr Steve Garwin.

SolGold was shortlisted as a nominee for the Mining Journal Explorer Achievement Award for 2016. The Company announced USD54m in capital raisings in September 2016 involving Maxit Capital LP, Newcrest International Ltd and DGR Global Ltd, and a USD41.2m raising in June of 2017 largely from Newcrest International with USD1.2m raised from Ecuadorean investors. All of these raisings were undertaken at substantial premiums to previous raisings, and SolGold has circa USD70 million in available cash to continue the exploration and development of its flagship Cascabel Project.

Mr Craig Jones joined the SolGold Board on 3 March 2017, nominated to the Board of SolGold by Newcrest Mining, now a 14.54% shareholder in SolGold. Mr Jones is a Mechanical Engineer and is currently the Executive General Manager Wafi-Golpu (Newcrest-Harmony MMJV). He has held various senior management and executive roles within the Newcrest Group, including General Manager Projects, General Manager Cadia Valley Operations, Executive General Manager Projects and Asset Management, Executive General Manager Australian and Indonesian Operations, Executive General Manager Australian Operations and Projects, and Executive General Manager Cadia and Morobe Mining Joint Venture. Prior to joining Newcrest, Mr Jones worked for Rio Tinto.

Cascabel, SolGold's 85% owned "World Class" (Ref: Cautionary Notice) flagship copper-gold porphyry project, is located in northern Ecuador on the under-explored northern section of the richly endowed Andean Copper Belt. SolGold owns 85% of Exploraciones Novomining S.A. ("ENSA") and approximately 8% of TSX-V-listed Cornerstone Capital Resources ("Cornerstone"), which holds the remaining 15% of ENSA, the Ecuadorian registered company which holds 100% of the Cascabel concession. Subject to the terms of existing agreements, Cornerstone is debt financed by SolGold for its share of costs to completion of a Feasibility Study.



The investments by Newcrest for 14.54% of SolGold, and the investments into SolGold by Guyana Goldfields, Maxit Capital and its clients, endorses Ecuador as an exploration and mining destination, the management team at SolGold, the dimension, size and scale of the growing Alpala, and the prospectivity of Cascabel and its multiple targets. The gold endowment, location, infrastructure, logistics are important competitive advantages offered by the project.

To date SolGold has completed geological mapping, soil sampling, rock saw channel sampling, geochemical and spectral alteration mapping over 25km², along with an additional 9km² of Induced Polarisation and 14km² Magnetotelluric "Orion" surveys over the Alpala cluster and Aguinaga targets.

SolGold has completed over 40,000m of drilling and expended over USD47M on the program, which includes corporate costs and investments into Cornerstone. This has been accomplished with a workforce of up to 176 Ecuadorean workers and geoscientists, and 6 expatriate Australian geoscientists. The results of 26 holes drilled (including re-drilled holes) and assayed to date have produced some of the greatest drill hole intercepts in porphyry copper-gold exploration history, as indicated by Hole 12 (CSD-16-012) returning 1560m grading 0.59% copper and 0.54 g/t gold including, 1044m grading 0.74% copper and 0.54 g/t gold. The average grade of all metres drilled to date on the project currently stands at 0.32% copper and 0.27 g/t gold. Intensive diamond drilling is planned for the next 12 months with 10 drill rigs expected to be operational by early 2018, targeting over 90,000m of drilling per annum.

Cascabel is characterised by fifteen (15) identified targets, "World Class" drilling intersections over 1km in length at potentially economic grades, and high copper and gold grades in richer sections, as well as logistic advantages in location, elevation, water supply, proximity to roads, port and power services; and a progressive legislative approach to resource development in Ecuador.

To date, SolGold has drill tested 4 of the 15 targets, being Alpala Northwest, Alpala Central, Hematite Hill, and Alpala Southeast. Currently drill testing of Alpala Northwest, Alpala Central and Alpala Southeast targets is underway, with drill testing of the Aguinaga target to commence in August 2017.

The Alpala deposit is open in multiple directions and the mineralised corridor marked for drill testing of the greater Alpala cluster occurs over a 2.2km strike length from Trivinio in the northwest to Cristal in the southeast. The mineralised corridor is known to be prospective over approximately 700m width.

High priority targets within the Alpala cluster, at Moran approximately 700m to the north, and at Aguinaga approximately 2.3km north east, are closely modelled by 3D MVI magnetic signatures that currently encompass over 15Bt of magnetic rock. Based on a strong spatial and genetic relationship between copper sulphides and magnetite, this body of magnetic rock is considered to be highly prospective for significant copper and gold mineralisation, and requires drill testing.

SolGold is focussing on extending the dimensions of the Alpala deposit including Hematite Hill, Alpala South East, Cristal, Alpala Northwest and Trivinio before completing a resource statement and drill testing of the other key targets within the Cascabel concession at Aguinaga, Tandayama-America, Alpala West, Carmen, Alpala East, Moran, Parambas, and Chinambicito.



The Company is currently planning further metallurgical testing and completion of an independent Pre-Feasibility Study at Cascabel. SolGold is investigating both high tonnage open cut and underground block caving operations, as well as a high grade / low tonnage initial underground development towards the economic development of the copper gold deposit/s at Cascabel.

Drill hole intercepts have been updated to reflect current commodity prices, using a data aggregation method, defined by copper equivalent cut-off grades and reported with up to 10m internal dilution, excluding bridging to a single sample. Copper equivalent grades are calculated using a gold conversion factor of 0.63, determined using an updated copper price of USD3.00/pound and an updated gold price of USD1300/ounce. True widths of down hole intersections are estimated to be approximately 25-50%.

Following a comprehensive review of the geology and prospectivity of Ecuador, SolGold and its subsidiaries have also applied for additional exploration licences in Ecuador over a number of promising porphyry copper gold targets throughout the Country. SolGold is negotiating external funding options which will provide the Company with the ability to have some of these projects fully funded by a third party while focussing on Cascabel.

In Queensland, Australia the Company is evaluating the future exploration plans for the Mt Perry, Rannes and Normanby projects, with drill testing of the Normanby project planned for the coming quarter. Joint venture agreements are being investigated for a joint venture partner to commit funds and carry out exploration to earn an interest in the tenements.

SolGold retains interests in its original theatre of operations, Solomon Islands in the South West Pacific, where the 100% owned, but as yet undrilled, Kuma prospect on the island of Guadalcanal exhibits surface lithocap characteristics which are traditionally indicative of a large metal rich copper gold intrusive porphyry system. SolGold intends in the future to apply intellectual property and experience developed in Ecuador to target additional "World Class" copper gold porphyries at Kuma and other targets in Ecuador and Argentina.

SolGold is based in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia. The Company listed on London's AIM Market in 2006, under the AIM code 'SOLG' and currently has a total of 1,512,955,685 ordinary shares issued, together with 33,095,884 options exercisable at 28p and 11,095,884 options exercisable at 14p.

CAUTIONARY NOTICE

News releases, presentations and public commentary made by SolGold plc (the "Company") and its Officers may contain certain statements and expressions of belief, expectation or opinion which are forward looking statements, and which relate, inter alia, to interpretations of exploration results to date and the Company's proposed strategy, plans and objectives or to the expectations or intentions of the Company's Directors. Such forward-looking and interpretative statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other important factors beyond the control of the Company that could cause the actual performance or achievements of the Company to be materially different from such interpretations and forward-looking statements. Accordingly, the reader should not rely on any interpretations or forward-looking statements; and save as required by the exchange rules of TSX and LSE-AIM and LSE for companies or by applicable laws, the Company does not accept any obligation to disseminate any updates or revisions to such interpretations or forward-looking statements. The Company may reinterpret results to date as the status of its assets and projects changes with time expenditure, metals prices and other affecting circumstances.



The Company and its officers do not endorse, or reject or otherwise comment on the conclusions, interpretations or views expressed in press articles or third-party analysis, and where possible aims to circulate all available material on its website.

The Company recognises that the term "World Class" is subjective and for the purpose of the Company's projects the Company considers the drilling results at the growing Alcala Porphyry Copper Gold Deposit at its Cascabel Project to represent intersections of a "World Class" deposit on the basis of comparisons with other drilling intersections from "World Class" deposits tabulated in **Table 1**, some of which have become, or are becoming, producing mines and on the basis of available independent opinions which may be referenced to define the term "World Class" (or "Tier 1").

The Company considers that "World Class" deposits are rare, very large, long life, low cost, and are responsible for approximately half of total global metals production. "World Class" deposits are generally accepted as deposits of a size and quality that create multiple expansion opportunities, and have or are likely to demonstrate robust economics that ensure development irrespective of position within the global commodity cycles, or whether or not the deposit has been fully drilled out, or a feasibility study completed.

Standards drawn from industry experts (1Singer and Menzie, 2010; 2Schodde, 2006; 3Schodde and Hronsky, 2006; 4Singer, 1995; 5Laznicka, 2010) have characterised "World Class" deposits at prevailing commodity prices. The relevant criteria for "World Class" deposits, adjusted to current long run commodity prices, are considered to be those holding or likely to hold more than 5 million tonnes of copper and/or more than 6 million ounces of gold with a modelled net present value of greater than USD 1 Billion.

The Company cautions that the Cascabel Project remains an early exploration stage project at this time. Despite the relatively high copper and gold grades over long intersections and broad areas, and widespread surface mineralization discovered at the Cascabel Project to date, much of which has still not yet been drill tested, the Company has yet to prepare an initial mineral resource estimate at the Cascabel Project and any development or mining potential for the project remains speculative. There is inherent uncertainty relating to any project at an exploration stage, prior to the determination of a mineral resource estimate, preliminary economic assessment, pre-feasibility study and/or feasibility study. There is no certainty that future results will yield the results seen to date or that the project will continue to be considered to contain a "World Class" deposit. Accordingly, past exploration results may not be predictive of future exploration results.

From the drilling results at the growing Alcala Porphyry Copper Gold Deposit (only) within the Cascabel Project, the Company considers the deposit to have significant resource potential and the data gathered has provided the basis for the estimation of an exploration target over the area drilled to date. Initial 3D modelling and grade shell interpolants have outlined an approximate exploration target at Alcala that ranges from 621Mt at 1.09% copper equivalent using a cut-off grade of 0.4% copper equivalent, to 843Mt at 0.94% copper equivalent, using a cut-off of 0.3% copper equivalent. These estimates equate to an endowment of between 6.8-7.9Mt of contained copper equivalent (**Figure A**).



Copper equivalent grades used are calculated using a gold conversion factor of 0.63, determined using a copper price of USD 3.00/pound and a gold price of USD 1300/ounce. Drill hole intercepts are calculated using a data aggregation method, defined by copper equivalent cut-off grades and reported with up to 10m internal dilution, excluding bridging to a single sample. True widths of down hole intersections are estimated to be approximately 25-50%.

The Company cautions that the potential quantity and grade ranges (exploration target) disclosed above for the Alpala Porphyry Copper Gold Deposit within the Cascabel Project is conceptual in nature, and there has been insufficient exploration to define a mineral resource, and the Company is uncertain if further exploration will result in the exploration target being delineated within a mineral resource estimate.

On this basis, the reference to the Cascabel Project as "World Class" (or "Tier 1") is considered to be appropriate. Examples of global copper and gold discoveries since 2006 that are generally considered to be "World Class" are summarised in **Table 2**.

References cited in the text:

1. Singer, D.A. and Menzie, W.D., 2010. *Quantitative Mineral Resource Assessments: An Integrated Approach*. Oxford University Press Inc.
2. Schodde, R., 2006. *What do we mean by a world class deposit? And why are they special*. Presentation. AMEC Conference, Perth.
3. Schodde, R and Hronsky, J.M.A, 2006. *The Role of World-Class Mines in Wealth Creation*. Special Publications of the Society of Economic Geologists Volume 12.
4. Singer, D.A., 1995, *World-class base and precious metal deposits—a quantitative analysis*: Economic Geology, v. 90, no.1, p. 88–104.
5. Laznicka, P., 2010. *Giant Metallic Deposits: Future Sources of Industrial Metal, Second Edition*. Springer-Verlag Heidelberg.

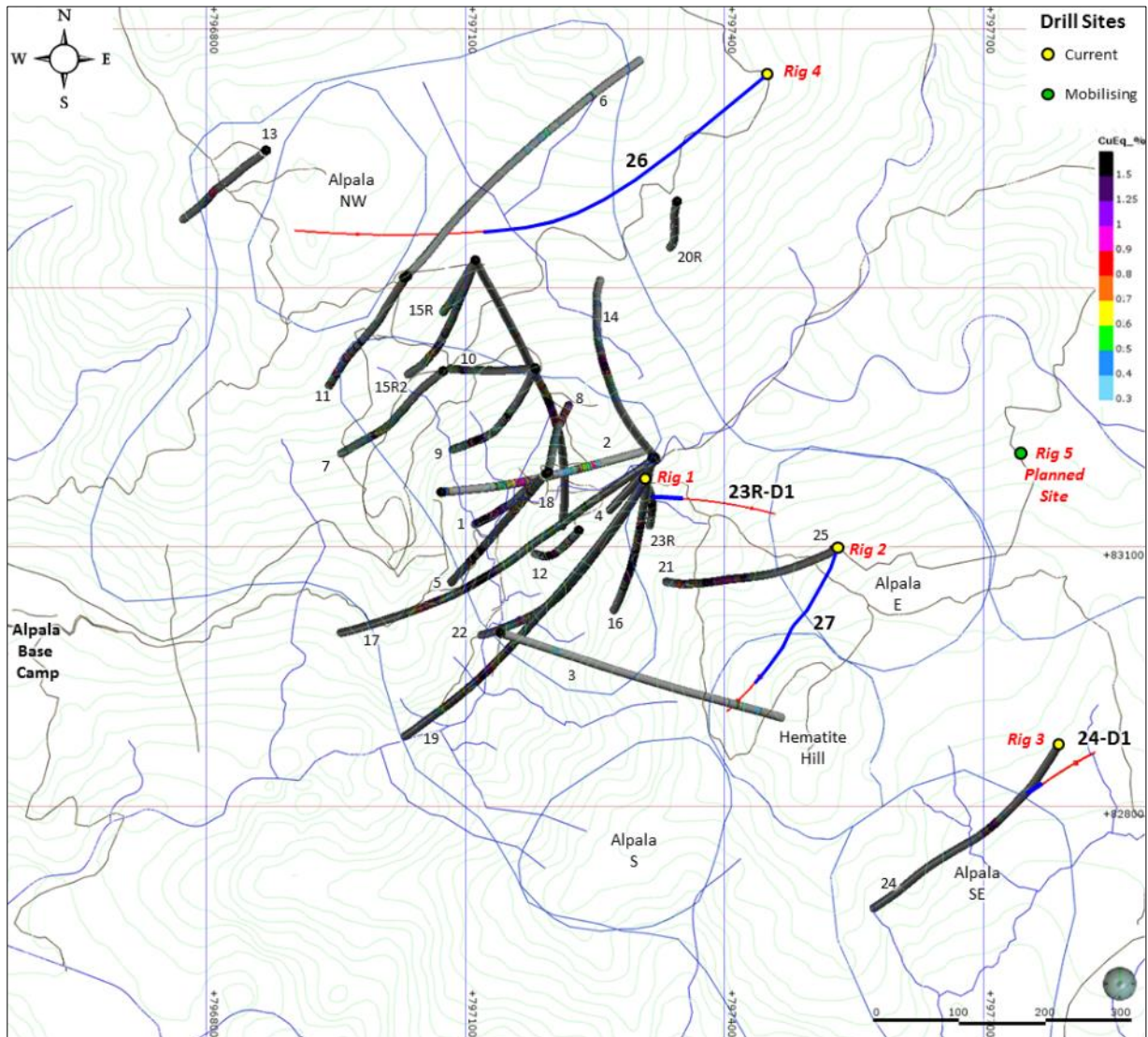


Figure 1: Drill hole location plan, displaying down hole copper equivalent results with current drill holes 23R-D1, 24-D1, 26 and 27 showing current hole paths (blue trace), and planned hole paths (red trace). The drill site prepared for Rig 5 imminent arrival also shown.

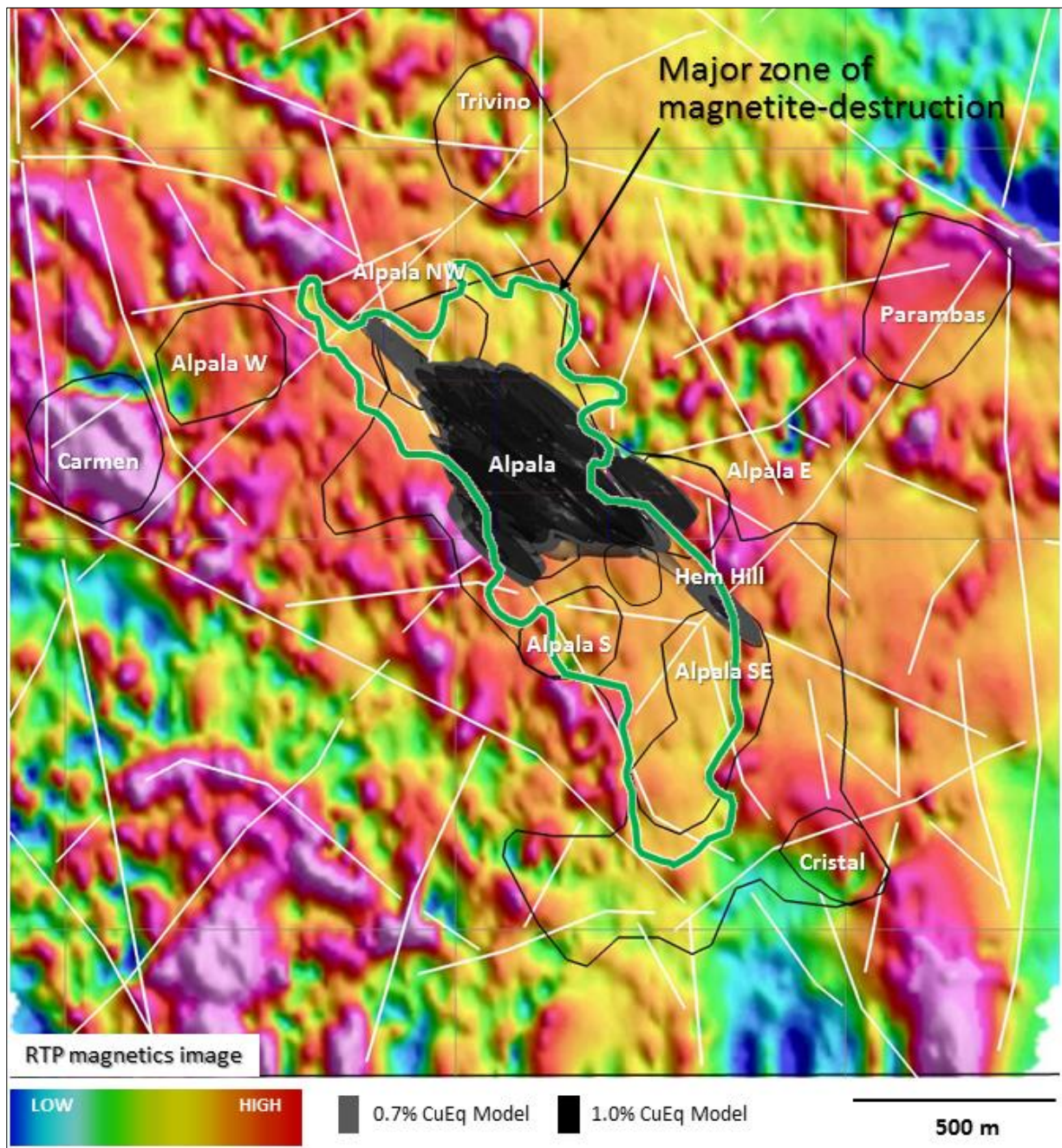


Figure 2: The area drilled at Alcala to date defined by 0.7 % and 1.0 % copper equivalent models. Major zone of magnetite-destruction occurs over much of the Alcala porphyry cluster (green outline). This zone of magnetite-destruction is related to intense hydrothermal (phyllic and advanced argillic) alteration from surface to depths of more than 750m as determined from drilling. Below this depth, high-grade copper and gold mineralization occurs with magnetite-rich, hydrothermally altered intrusions that form the core of the Alcala deposit. The surface projection of the copper equivalent models for 0.7 % and 1.0 % coincide with the zone of magnetite-destruction, which suggests that similar high-grade mineralization may exist along strike in areas where magnetite-destructive alteration occurs.

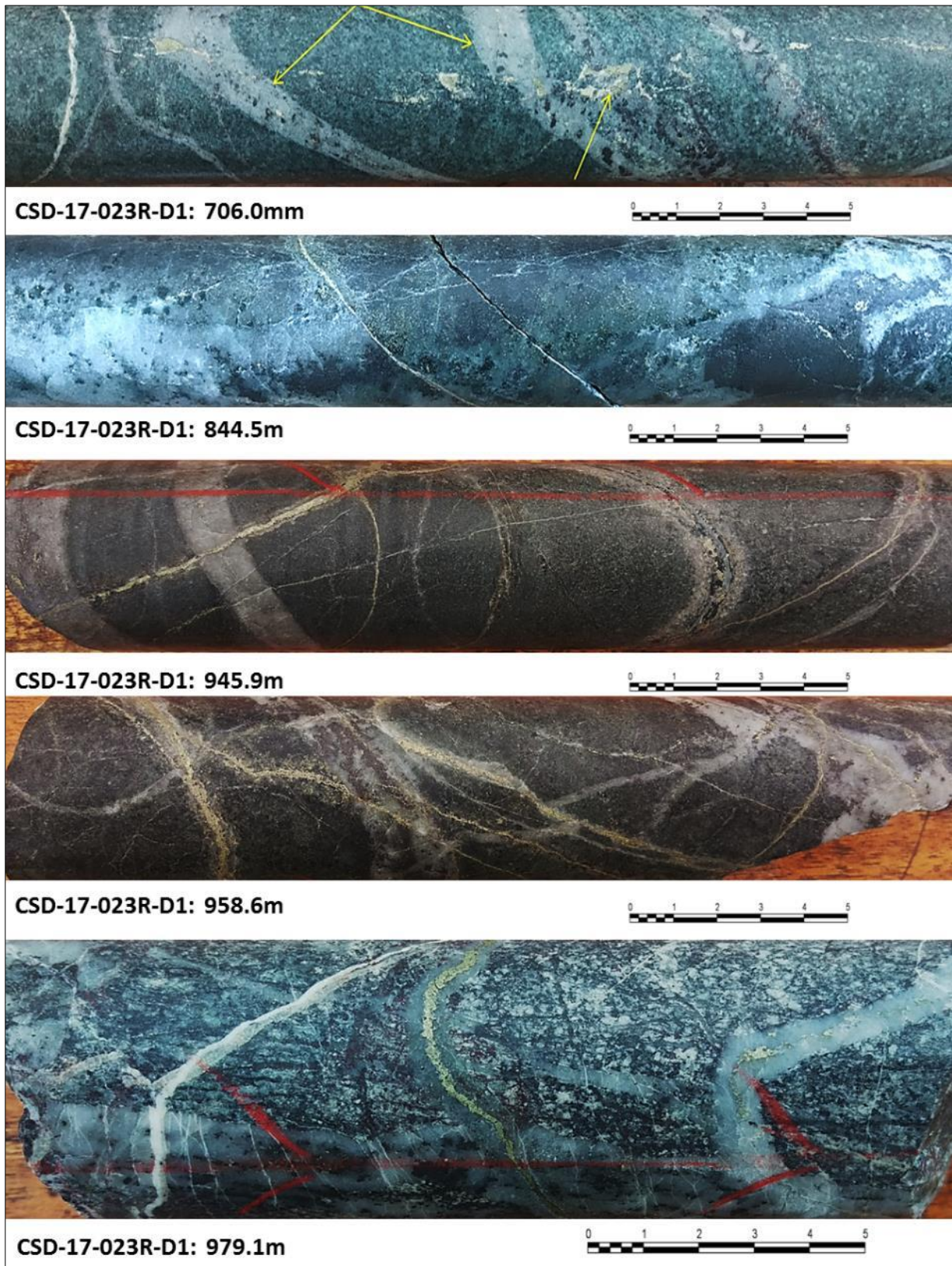


Figure 3: Selected examples of mineralisation encountered in Hole 23R-D1.

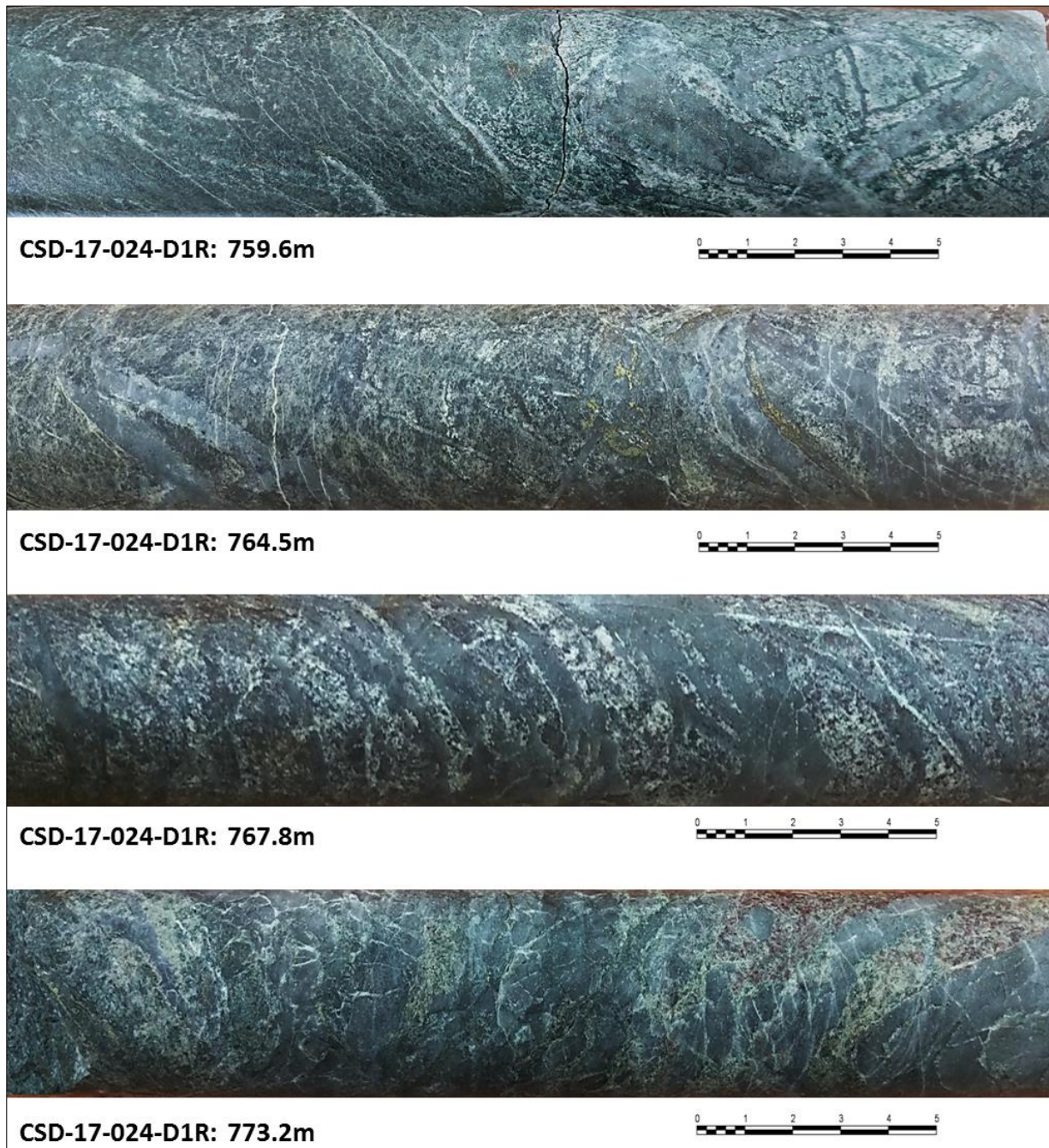


Figure 4: Selected examples of mineralisation encountered in Hole 24-D1R.

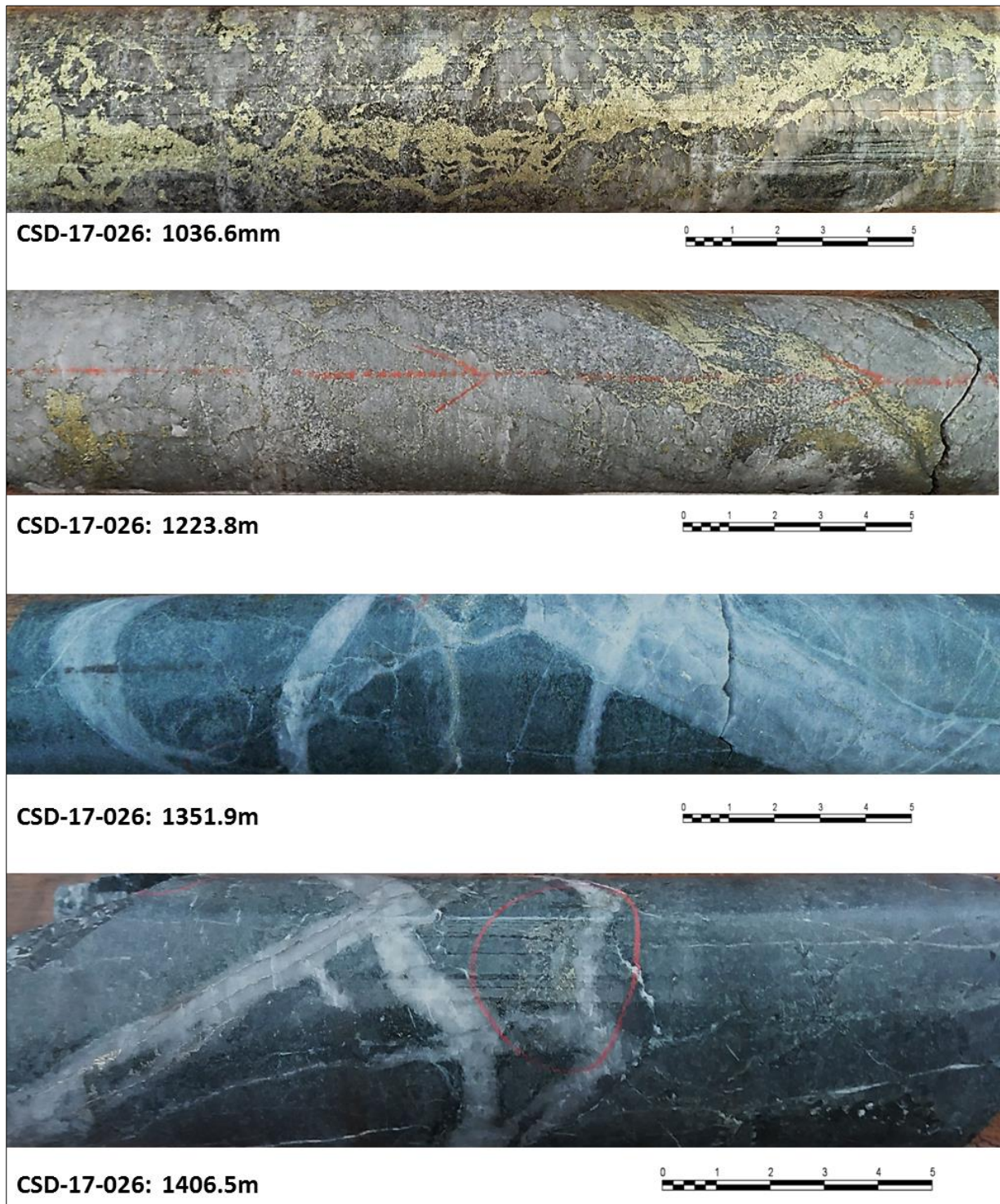
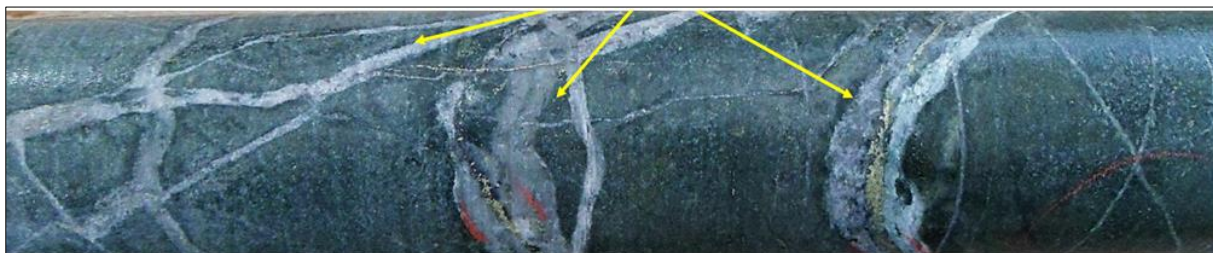


Figure 5: Selected examples of mineralisation encountered in Hole 26.



CSD-17-027: 967.6m



CSD-17-027: 1066.4m



CSD-17-027: 1253.2m



Figure 6: Selected examples of mineralisation encountered in Hole 27.