



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE TO THE MARKET

PPK Group Limited – ASX Code: PPK

Tuesday 5 October 2021

White Graphene and Sun Metals enter into a collaboration agreement to develop protective coatings

PPK Group Limited (ASX Code: PPK) announces that its subsidiary White Graphene Limited (**WGL**) has entered into a collaboration agreement with Sun Metals Corporation Pty Ltd (**Sun Metals**). Sun Metals is an Australian subsidiary of Korea Zinc Company Limited, the largest zinc, lead and silver producer in the world. Korea Zinc owns and operates a zinc refinery near Townsville, Queensland. See <https://www.koreazinc.co.kr> for more information.

In addition to zinc production, Sun Metals also produces approximately 450,000 tonnes per annum of 98% sulphuric acid at its Townsville refinery, which it sells to domestic and international customers. The production and handling of this volume of sulphuric acid creates substantial challenges, with pumps and other equipment subject to rapid degradation, often having to be replaced within months of installation.

Sun Metals and WGL have entered into a research and development collaboration agreement to explore the creation of new composite protective coatings using boron nitride nano sheets (white graphene). These coatings are being developed to protect the interior surfaces of sulphuric acid pumps and other equipment to enhance their lifespan in extremely adverse operating conditions. Under the collaboration agreement, WGL will retain ownership of all intellectual property rights developed during the project.

The project will include a full-scale in-situ testing stage on sulphuric acid pumps installed into the production facility at the Sun Metals refinery in Townsville.

This announcement has been made and authorised by the PPK Group Board.

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