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Crescent pours first gold

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WITH the pour of the first gold bar from its Laverton project, Crescent Gold has become the newest gold producer in Australia, the company reported yesterday.

The company said in a market announcement that first ore from mining had also been delivered to its Laverton Barnicoat plant in preparation for the transition from commissioning on low-grade heap leach stocks to operating on ore from the mine.

The company has a forecast production of 90,000oz of gold per year over five years.

The company also said its mill expansion to 1.5 million tonnes per annum capacity was "making good progress", with key components due next month.

The mill is currently operation at 70% capacity, or 83t per hour, with recovery rates of at least 90%, Crescent said. So far, the plant has been processing low-grade material prior to crushing and mining scaling up to full production rates.

Additionally, Crescent is in the process of commissioning a hired mobile crushing plant, which will enable it to meet its production schedule until the final components of its own mobile crusher from Malaysia are released from quarantine and delivered.

Crescent chief financial officer and company secretary Julian Tambyrajah told *MiningNews.Net* that the mobile crusher had been delayed in Malaysia and again at Fremantle port due to quarantine, so the company hired another crusher to meet its commitments.

He said now that the hired crusher was up and running, the company expected to move from processing the heap leach material to ore from the mine some time this week.

The Laverton project hosts a resource of 20.1Mt at 1.5 grams per tonne gold for 953,000oz gold, and an inferred resource of 10.4Mt at 1.4gpt gold for 479,000oz gold.

Tambyrajah also said the company was conducting further exploration drilling at the project as part of its reserve extension.

Shares in Crescent closed up 1c or 3% up at 37c yesterday and were unchanged in morning trading.



First gold pour for Crescent Gold from its Laverton project.

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