

## JOINT NEWS RELEASE



### Joint News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Pan Pacific Copper Co., Ltd. and Regalito Copper Corp. Announce Mailing of Offering Documents and Directors' Circular to Shareholders of Regalito Copper Corp.**

**Tokyo, Japan and Vancouver, Canada**, April 3, 2006 – Pan Pacific Copper Co., Ltd. (“PPC”) and Regalito Copper Corp. (“Regalito”) announced today that the offer and take-over bid circular of PPC’s wholly owned subsidiary, PPC Canada Enterprises Corp. (the “Offeror”), together with Regalito’s directors circular, have been mailed to the shareholders of Regalito in connection with PPC’s previously announced offer to acquire, through the Offeror, all of Regalito's outstanding common shares in a friendly, all-cash transaction for US\$6.00 per common share, or a total of approximately US\$137 million, on a fully diluted basis (the “Offer”).

The Board of Directors of Regalito has determined unanimously that the consideration under the Offer is fair to the shareholders of Regalito, and in the best interests of Regalito and its shareholders. The Board has unanimously recommended that shareholders accept the Offer and deposit their common shares into the Offer. Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., delivered to the Special Committee of Regalito its fairness opinion that, as of the date of such opinion and subject to the assumptions and limitations contained in such opinion, the consideration to be received by the shareholders pursuant to the Offer is fair, from a financial point of view, to the shareholders of Regalito (other than those shareholders who have executed a lock-up agreement with the Offeror).

Certain officers, directors and major shareholders of Regalito, representing 42% of the shares outstanding on a fully diluted basis, have entered into lock-up and support agreements with the Offeror under which they have agreed to tender their shares to the Offer and that they will not support any rival offer that represents less than a 5% premium above the Offer.

The Offer is subject to customary conditions including the acceptance by holders of at least two-thirds of Regalito’s common shares (on a fully diluted basis), excluding shares held by the Offeror and its affiliates, and the receipt of necessary regulatory approvals.

The Offer will be open for acceptance until 4:30 p.m. (Vancouver Time) on May 9, 2006, unless

extended or withdrawn.

This announcement is for informational purposes and is neither an offer to purchase nor a solicitation of an offer to sell securities of Regalito. The take-over bid circular, directors' circular and other materials filed with Canadian securities regulators and the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") contain important information. Regalito's shareholders should read this information carefully before making any decisions about the Offeror's take-over bid. Shareholders may obtain a copy of the take-over bid circular, directors' circular and other materials (when available) at the SEDAR web site at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com) and the SEC's web site at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

PPC has retained UBS Securities Canada Inc. to act as financial advisor and soliciting dealer in connection with the Offer, and Regalito has retained Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc. and ASSET Chile as financial advisors.

#### About PPC

PPC was established in October 2000 by Nippon Mining & Metals and Mitsui Mining & Smelting, and engages in a wide range of copper businesses including the procurement of copper concentrate, the production through tolling arrangement of, and the marketing of products such as, refined copper, precious metals and sulphuric acid. With the acquisition of Regalito, Pan Pacific intends to become a fully integrated copper producer whereby it will mine, process and fabricate copper and copper products.

As previously announced by the management of PPC, its business strategy is "establishing a copper business platform in regions with new resources of raw material, especially in Chile". PPC intends to establish overseas an integrated production platform that includes the production of all products from copper ore to copper cathode by utilizing SX/EW technology (see the note below). This will be the first and significant step in the development of PPC's new copper business and subsequent to this acquisition, PPC intends to further pursue expansion in line with this strategy.

#### About Regalito

Regalito is a publicly traded copper exploration company that controls the Regalito copper leach project located in Region III, Chile approximately 115 kilometers southeast of Copiapo, a major mining center. The Region contains numerous mining operations including the Candelaria and Mantoverde copper mines, and has the necessary infrastructure to support the development of a large-scale mining operation at Regalito. In 2004, the Company began an exploration drilling campaign that delineated a NI 43-101 compliant mineral resource of 628 million tonnes grading 0.43% copper in the measured and indicated category and 131 million tonnes grading 0.41% copper in the inferred category at 0.25% copper cut off grade. Subsequent to the delineation of the mineral resource, the Company has focused on evaluating the economic and technical merits of the project including completing a comprehensive metallurgical leaching test program and acquiring various surface and water rights.

#### Forward Looking Statements

This press release contains "forward-looking statements" that are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the control of PPC, the Offeror and Regalito, that could cause actual results to differ materially from those set forth in, or implied by, such forward looking statements. All statements other than statements of historical facts included in this press release are forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this press release. Neither PPC, the Offeror nor Regalito undertake any obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. There can be no assurance that any transaction between the Offeror and Regalito will occur, or will occur on the timetable contemplated hereby.