



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 9, 2004

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INMET MINING ANNOUNCES BILL JAMES TO RETIRE AS CHAIRMAN

TORONTO, December 9, 2004 — **Inmet Mining Corporation (IMN:TSX)** announced today that Bill James has decided to retire as a director of the Company and will be stepping down as Chairman of the Board. Bill has advised the Company that his retirement will coincide with his 76th birthday on February 5, 2005.

Bill has been with Inmet Mining since 1996. His contributions to Inmet Mining as an officer and director have been immeasurable and he has been a valued and trusted colleague, friend and mentor. Bill is, of course, also a fixture within the Canadian mining community, as reflected by his induction in 2002 into the Canadian Mining Hall of Fame. All of those within the Inmet Mining family are very grateful and deeply proud to have been associated with Bill during his tenure with the Company.

To continue its tradition of strong board leadership, Inmet's Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Richard Ross, currently President and Chief Executive Officer, will be appointed as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer. David Beatty, currently a member of the Inmet Board of Directors, and the Managing Director of the Canadian Coalition for Good Governance, will be appointed as Lead Director. Also in keeping with Inmet's plans to foster and encourage strong leadership within its organization, Jochen Tilk, currently Executive Vice-President and Chief Operating Officer, will be appointed as President and Chief Operating Officer. These appointments will take effect on Bill's retirement.

About Inmet - Inmet is a Canadian based international mining company. Inmet's operations and investments produce copper, zinc and gold, and Inmet's growth strategy is focused on finding quality base metal reserves. Inmet's operating base consists of four competitive mining operations: Çayeli, Pyhäsalmi, Troilus and Ok Tedi.

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