## Eramet in Argentina Centenario-Ratones Lithium Project

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## A momentum of mega boost for lithium demand with a long-term consensus price close to \$18k/t LCE

Half of the cars sold globally in 2030 should be fully or partially electric<sup>1</sup>...



## ...with batteries requiring significant amount of lithium







 <sup>1</sup> Electric cars = Battery Electric Vehicles + Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles + Hybrid Electric Vehicles
<sup>2</sup> NMC: Nickel Manganese Cobalt <sup>3</sup> LCE (Lithium Carbonate Equivalent) <sup>4</sup> Source: Eramet analysis



### Centenario: a world-class asset on track to start production early 2024

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<sup>1</sup> Based on proven and probable reserves at the Ratones deposit (1.1Mt LCE), and on a project designed for 24ktpa LCE

- Life-of-Mine of 40 years<sup>1</sup>
- **Resources** estimated at c. 10 Mt LCE
- Eramine Sudamerica (50.1% Eramet) owns 100% of the entire salar with perpetual mining rights
- Construction in **partnership with** Tsingshan

### **Top-notch sustainability standards**



Building long-lasting and constructive relationships with local stakeholders

- Solid local content: employment (c. 95% of workforce) and sourcing (49% of procurement)
- Contributing to local community development (Quinoa Project developed by Eramet<sup>1</sup>) over the past 4 years



## Robust environmental programme

- Strong water recycling rate limiting freshwater consumption
- Significantly lower incidence on hydric balance vs. conventional process



- Meeting the needs of **global** economic development
- Participating in the challenges of the ecological and energy transition

### In line with the UN SUSTAINABLE GCALS

Continuously consolidating our social license to operate



## Developed in-house, Eramet's Direct Lithium Extraction technology combines strong competitiveness...





#### Much higher performances than conventional process

#### **Direct lithium Extraction (DLE)**

- Proven industrial process over the past 20-years (aluminum-based lithium sorbent)
- Proprietary lithium sorbent working at native temperature of the brine (20°C)
- 90%<sup>1</sup> lithium recovery yield of the DLE unit
- Industry leading yield much higher than traditional evaporation process (c. 40-50%)
- > Almost **twice less** brine pumped<sup>2</sup>
- Thus, optimized management of the deposit's hydric balance



<sup>1</sup> 87% process yield overall

<sup>2</sup> Vs. conventional process, based on the same brine characteristics (notably Li concentration)

### ... as well as high sustainability standards



#### Aligned with the Group's strategy to create sustainable value

#### Water recycling

- Regeneration of the lithium sorbent only by water (DLE based on titanium or manganese sorbents use acid) and at 20°C
- Water recycling by reverse osmosis & forced evaporation
- 60% process water recycling rate

#### **Efficient purification**

- High selectivity of the DLE unit
- Nanofiltration and ion exchange for solid waste minimization

#### **Swift production**

1 week lead time vs. 12-18 months on evaporation process



## Full production process tested on site in real conditions over the past 3 years



**Eramine Training Center:** Pilot Plant at 3,900 meters above sea, on the Andean highlands – startup in December 2019

- Full process tested on site, from brine pumping to battery grade Li<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> production
- 600 L/h of raw brine feeding the DLE unit
- 3 years of continuous operation 24/7 demonstrated the performance and the robustness of the process

Highly trained team and solid return of experience



## All conditions are met to achieve a short-term ramp up at full capacity



#### **Training Center**

- Full process validated
- Equipment testing
- Team training

Expected quick time-to-market Battery Grade quality

#### **Equipment providers**

- Recognized expertise
- Strong industrial experience
- Involved in Training Center



**Project Team** 

record in Lithium industry

Robust design

Expert team with solid track-

Experienced in construction







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<sup>1</sup> Lithium Carbonate Equivalent

# Appendices



## Lithium project in Alsace: partnering with Électricité de Strasbourg to sustainably develop lithium in Alsace





- developed for the Centenario project in Argentina
- ÉS will provide its knowledge of the geology in Alsace and its expertise in the sustainable production of high-temperature geothermal energy
- Experiments on ÉS' two operating geothermal power plants in Alsace
- Production could start before end-of-decade if FID made within 4 years





#### CONTACTS

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