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**Sahara Mining Services Limited and MS Risk Limited
Announce Joint Venture for Services to the Extractive Sector in West Africa**

London, UK: MS Risk, a leading security and crisis response company serving the Lloyd's of London specialty risk market, has announced it has last month signed a joint venture agreement with West African based Sahara Mining Services Limited to deliver security management and consultancy services to the extractive sector across the Sahel region of Africa. The agreement formalises pre-existing relationships that both businesses utilise. MS Risk has been performing tasks for clients across the turbulent Sahel region of West Africa for several years delivering security solutions to exploration, mining and energy clients throughout countries such as Mali, Niger, Burkina Faso, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire. Sahara has been operating in the exploration and mining sector across West Africa since 1996 and offers MS Risk an extensive logistical base to enhance and support existing projects. Sahara is also able to offer opportunities for the JV with its growing client base.

Highlights:

- MS Risk has deployed experienced expatriate consultants into the region permanently, using the Sahara logistics network for complete support centred from Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. MS Risk suppliers and key local service providers will benefit from increased mentoring as part of the agreement. Having these qualified and experienced consultants in theatre will dramatically improve response times to serious incidents, enhance the operational planning processes for events such as evacuations and other dynamic security tasks, and mitigate all risks through informed local insight and preventative procedures.
- A central feature to the new and enhanced joint service is the introduction of the MS Risk Security Alert Database which will be used externally for the first time to provide up-to-date alerts to client subscribers on security conditions in their localities to aid planning and monitoring of security atmospherics. Developed over the previous six years it contains the details of some 8,700 known security incidents in the region involving terrorism, banditry, kidnapping and civil disorder threat events. It has been painstakingly compiled by the analyst team at MS Risk. The industry links of Sahara along with their internal GIS mapping and GPS tracking capabilities has propelled the benefits even further for commercial client advantage.

About Sahara Mining Services: A West African based group, Sahara Mining Services has been providing specialist exploration and mining services internationally since 1996. It offers a range of mining services aimed at providing local support at an international standard. It maintains permanent bases in Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and Ghana and has field offices across a half dozen countries. Services include Exploration, Drilling (auger), Geotechnical, Surveying, Hydrogeology, Telematics, Training, Mining Consulting, and Logistics Support. Further contact: Beau Nicholls, CEO, beau@saharaminingservices.com , www.saharaminingservices.com.

About MS Risk Limited: domiciled in Douglas, the Isle of Man, the company is retained as a crisis responder and security adviser by leading insurers at Lloyd's of London. MS Risk's consultants have been working in West Africa supporting the extractive sector for 20 years. The company provides Security Consulting, Project Management, Advisory, Due Diligence, Investigations, Training and Crisis Response Services. This is done directly for corporates and also through specialty risk insurance. This marks the second planned expansion in this calendar year after it established a permanent office in Mexico City in Q1 to support the growth of sales and assist on-going projects in Latin America. Further contact: Liam Morrissey, CEO, liam.morrissey@msrisk.com, www.msrisk.com.

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