

COEUR D ALENE MINES CORP

Form 424B5

September 14, 2005

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As filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(5)
under the Securities Act of 1933
Registration No. 333-114671

Prospectus supplement (to prospectus dated October 14, 2004)
Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation

9,863,014 Shares
Common Stock

This is a public offering of common stock of Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation. We are offering 9,863,014 shares of our common stock. Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CDE and on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol CDM. On September 12, 2005, the last reported sale price of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange was \$3.95 per share and the last reported sale price of our common stock on the Toronto Stock Exchange was Can\$4.63 per share.

Investing in our common stock involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page S-4 of this prospectus supplement and Risk Factors beginning on page 5 of the accompanying prospectus. Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus supplement or the accompanying prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share		Total
Public offering price	\$3.70	\$	36,493,152
Underwriting discounts and commissions	\$0.05	\$	493,151
Proceeds, before expenses, to Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation	\$3.65	\$	36,000,001

Delivery of the shares of common stock will be made on or about September 15, 2005.

Deutsche Bank Securities

The date of this prospectus supplement is September 13, 2005.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

We provide information to you about this offering of shares of our common stock in:

this prospectus supplement, which provides the specific details regarding this offering; and

the accompanying base prospectus, which provides general information.

Generally, when we refer to this prospectus, we are referring to both documents combined. Some of the information in the base prospectus may not apply to this offering. If information in this prospectus supplement is inconsistent with the accompanying prospectus or the documents incorporated by reference herein, you should rely on this prospectus supplement.

A NOTE ABOUT FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including information incorporated into this document by reference, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Statements that are not historical facts, including statements about our beliefs or expectations, are forward-looking statements, and are contained throughout this prospectus, including under the sections entitled

Coeur d Alene Mines Corporation and Risk Factors, and in the information incorporated into this prospectus by reference. These statements are based on our management's beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to our management. Forward-looking statements include the information concerning our possible or assumed results of operations, business strategies, financing plans, competitive position and potential growth opportunities. Forward-looking statements include all statements that are not historical facts and can be identified by the use of forward-looking terminology such as the words believes, expects, anticipates, intends, plans or estimates, or similar expressions.

Forward-looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Actual results may differ materially from those expressed in these forward-looking statements. You should not put undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus are qualified by these cautionary statements and are made only as of the date of this prospectus. We undertake no obligation, other than as required by law, to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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COEUR D ALENE MINES CORPORATION

Business

Coeur d Alene Mines Corporation is the largest primary silver producer in North America and is engaged, through its subsidiaries, in the operation and/or ownership, development and exploration of silver and gold mining properties and companies located primarily within the United States (Nevada, Idaho and Alaska), South America (Chile, Argentina and Bolivia), Australia and Africa (Tanzania). In 2004, we produced approximately 14.1 million ounces of silver and 129,300 ounces of gold. In 2003, we produced approximately 14.2 million ounces of silver and 119,500 ounces of gold.

Our principal silver mines are located in Nevada (the Rochester Mine) in the Silver Valley region of northern Idaho (the Galena Mine), in southern Chile (the Cerro Bayo Mine) in Argentina (the Martha Mine) and in Australia (the Endeavor Mine). In addition, we own or lease, either directly or through our subsidiaries, silver and gold development projects in Bolivia (the San Bartolomé silver project) and in Alaska (the Kensington gold property). We also control strategic properties with significant exploration potential close to our existing mining operations. Our customers are bullion trading banks that purchase silver and gold from us and then sell these metals to end users for use in industry applications such as electronic circuitry, in jewelry and silverware production and in the manufacture and development of photographic film. In addition, we sell high grade gold and silver concentrates to smelters in Japan, Canada, Mexico and Australia.

Recent Developments

On September 8, 2005, we and CDE Australia Pty Ltd. (Coeur Australia), our wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into a Silver Sale Agreement (the Silver Sale Agreement) with Perilya Broken Hill Limited (PBH), a subsidiary of Perilya Limited, an Australian mining company. PBH owns and operates the Broken Hill Mine in Australia. Pursuant to the Silver Sale Agreement, Coeur Australia has agreed to buy, and PBH has agreed to sell, the silver contained in ore to be mined at the Broken Hill Mine for a total of US\$36.0 million. The transaction, which is scheduled to close concurrently with this offering, is subject to Coeur Australia receiving a maximum of 17.2 million payable silver ounces contained in ore to be mined by PBH at the Broken Hill Mine.

The Broken Hill Mine is located in New South Wales, Australia and is a zinc/lead/silver ore body that has produced approximately 500 million ounces of silver since its beginnings in 1885. Pursuant to the Silver Sale Agreement, the transaction is capped at approximately 24.5 million contained ounces (or 17.2 million payable ounces) of silver to be mined by PBH at Broken Hill on our behalf, providing us with approximately 10 million ounces of upside to the reserve base at Broken Hill. The transaction is expected to provide us with an additional 2.3 million ounces of average annual silver production at an estimated cash cost of approximately US\$2.75 per ounce and 15.0 million ounces of silver contained in proven and probable reserves. Coeur Australia will pay PBH an operating cost contribution of approximately US\$2.00 for each ounce of payable silver under the terms of the Silver Sale Agreement. In addition, PBH may earn up to an additional US\$6.0 million of consideration by meeting certain silver production thresholds over the next eight years. Based upon the acquisition price of US\$36.0 million and the currently reported reserves, we estimate the full cost of production to initially be approximately US\$5.90 per ounce. If the total production, based on existing reserves and resources, reaches the maximum threshold of 17.2 million payable ounces, we would expect the full cost of production to be approximately US\$4.85 per ounce.

We are using the net proceeds from this offering to fund the US\$36.0 million purchase price payable to PBH. See Use of Proceeds.

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General

We were incorporated in Idaho in 1928. Our principal executive office is located at 505 Front Avenue, P.O. Box I, Coeur d Alene, Idaho 83814 and our telephone number is (208) 667-3511. Our website is www.coeur.com. Information contained in the web site is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider information contained in the web site as part of this prospectus.

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RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risks described below and all other information set forth or incorporated by reference in this prospectus before making an investment decision. If any of the following risks, as well as other risks and uncertainties that are not yet identified or that we currently think are immaterial, actually occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected. In that event, the trading price of our shares could decline, and you may lose part of all of your investment. For a detailed discussion of these and other risks, see **Risk Factors** on page 5 of the base prospectus.

Risks Relating to Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock has been volatile and may decline.

The market price of our common stock has been volatile and may decline in the future. The high and low closing sale prices of our common stock on the New York Stock Exchange were \$2.36 and \$0.79 in 2002; \$5.78 and \$1.16 in 2003; \$7.67 and \$3.10 in 2004 and \$4.37 and \$2.75 for the eight months ended August 31, 2005. The closing sale price on the New York Stock Exchange at September 12, 2005 was \$3.95 per share.

The market price of our common stock historically has fluctuated widely and been affected by many factors beyond our control. These factors include:

the market prices of silver and gold;

general stock market conditions;

interest rates;

expectations regarding inflation;

currency values; and

global and regional political and economic conditions and other factors.

We do not anticipate paying dividends on our common stock, which limits the way in which you may realize any returns on your investment.

We do not anticipate paying any cash dividends on our common stock at this time. Therefore, holders of our common stock will likely not receive a dividend return on their investment and there is a significant likelihood that holders of our common stock will not realize any value through the receipt of cash dividends.

Our future operating performance may not generate cash flows sufficient to meet our debt payment obligations, and our indebtedness could negatively impact holders of our common stock.

Our ability to make scheduled debt payments on our outstanding indebtedness will depend on our future operating performance and cash flow. Our operating performance and cash flow, in part, are subject to economic factors beyond our control, including the market prices of silver and gold. We may not be able to generate enough cash flow to meet our obligations and commitments. If we cannot generate sufficient cash flow from operations to service our debt, we may need to further refinance our debt, dispose of assets, or issue equity to obtain the necessary funds. We cannot predict whether we will be able to refinance our debt, issue equity, or dispose of assets to raise funds on a timely basis or on satisfactory terms.

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We incurred net losses of \$3.5 million for the six months ended June 30, 2005, \$16.9 million in fiscal 2004, \$66.2 million in fiscal 2003, and \$80.8 million in fiscal 2002. These losses could continue.

Our indebtedness could negatively impact holders of our common stock in many ways, including:

reducing funds available to support our business operations and for other corporate purposes because portions of our cash flow from operations must be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on our debt;

impairing our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions or general corporate purposes; and

making us more vulnerable to a downturn in general economic conditions or in our business.

We are subject to anti-takeover provisions in our charter and in our contracts that could delay or prevent an acquisition of Coeur even if such an acquisition would be beneficial to our stockholders.

The provisions of our articles of incorporation and our contracts could delay or prevent a third party from acquiring us, even if doing so might be beneficial to our stockholders. Some of these provisions:

authorize the issuance of preferred stock which can be created and issued by the board of directors without prior stockholder approval, commonly referred to as blank check preferred stock, with rights senior to those of common stock; and

require that a fair price be paid in some business transactions.

We have also implemented a shareholder rights plan which could delay or prevent a third party from acquiring us.

Risks Relating to Our Business

We have incurred losses in the last five years due to several factors, including historically low gold and silver market prices, and may continue to incur losses in the future.

We have incurred net losses in the last five years, and have had losses from continuing operations in each of those periods. Factors that significantly contributed to our losses are:

until recently, historically low gold and silver market prices;

our deliberate pursuit of a growth policy prior to 2003 calling for the acquisition of mining properties and companies and financing such growth principally by incurring convertible indebtedness which had a high coupon rate, thereby increasing our interest expense to \$17.0 million in 2000, \$14.6 million in 2001, \$21.9 million in 2002, \$12.9 million in 2003 and \$2.8 million in 2004;

write-offs for impaired assets and other holding costs in 2000 (\$12.2 million), 2001 (\$6.1 million), and 2002 (\$19.0 million); and

losses on the early retirement of debt of \$19.1 million in 2002, and \$41.6 million in 2003.

If silver and gold prices decline and we are unable to reduce our production costs, our losses may continue. If lower silver and gold prices make mining at our properties

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uneconomical, we may be required to recognize additional impairment write-downs, which would increase our operating losses and negatively impact our results of operations.

We may be required to incur additional indebtedness to fund our capital expenditures.

We have historically financed our operations through the issuance of common stock and convertible debt, and may be required to incur additional indebtedness in the future. During 2004, we commenced construction at the San Bartolome project and we anticipate that we could reach a final decision to develop the Kensington project in 2005. Construction of both projects would require a total capital investment of approximately \$259.0 million. While we believe that our cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments combined with cash flow generated from operations will be sufficient for us to make this level of capital investment, no assurance can be given that additional capital investments will not be required to be made at these or other projects. If we are unable to generate enough cash to finance such additional capital expenditures through operating cash flow and the issuance of common stock, we may be required to issue additional indebtedness. Any additional indebtedness would increase our debt payment obligations, and may negatively impact our results of operations.

We have not had sufficient earnings to cover fixed charges in recent years and presently expect that situation to continue.

As a result of our net losses, our earnings have not been adequate to satisfy fixed charges (i.e., interest, preferred stock dividends and that portion of rent deemed representative of interest) in each of the last five years. The amounts by which earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges were approximately, \$47.5 million in 2000, \$3.1 million in 2001, \$80.8 million in 2002, \$63.9 million in 2003, \$22.7 million in 2004 and \$3.1 million in the first six months of 2005. As of June 30, 2005, we are required to make fixed payments on \$180 million principal amount of our 11¹/₄% Senior Convertible Notes due 2024, requiring annual interest payments of approximately \$2.25 million until their maturity.

We expect to satisfy our fixed charges and other expense obligations in the future from cash flow from operations and, if cash flow from operations is insufficient, from working capital, which amounted to approximately \$316.3 million at June 30, 2005. In the last five years, we have been experiencing negative cash flow from operating activities. The amount of net cash used in our operating activities amounted to approximately \$23.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, \$29.9 million in 2001, \$8.5 million in 2002, \$5.1 million in 2003, \$18.6 in 2004 and \$11.6 million in the first six months of 2005. The availability of future cash flow from operations or working capital to fund the payment of interest on the notes and other fixed charges will be dependent upon numerous factors, including our results of operations, silver and gold prices, levels and costs of production at our mining properties and the amount of our capital expenditures and expenditures for acquisitions, developmental and exploratory activities.

The market prices of silver and gold are volatile. If we experience low silver and gold prices it may result in decreased revenues and increased losses, and may negatively affect our business.

Silver and gold are commodities. Their prices fluctuate, and are affected by many factors beyond our control, including interest rates, expectations regarding inflation, speculation, currency values, governmental decisions regarding the disposal of precious metals stockpiles, global and regional demand and production, political and economic conditions and other factors. Because we currently derive approximately 65% of our revenues from sales of silver, our earnings are substantially related to the price of this metal.

The market price of silver (Handy & Harman) and gold (London Final) on September 12, 2005 was \$7.03 and \$448.35 per ounce, respectively. The price of silver and gold may decline

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in the future. Factors that are generally understood to contribute to a decline in the price of silver include sales by private and government holders, and a general global economic slowdown.

If the prices of silver and gold are depressed for a sustained period, our net losses will continue, we may be forced to suspend mining at one or more of our properties until the price increases, and record additional asset impairment write-downs. Any lost revenues, continued or increased net losses or additional asset impairment write-downs would affect our results of operations.

We have recorded significant write-downs of mining properties in recent years and may have to record additional write-downs, which could negatively impact our results of operations

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets* (SFAS 144) established accounting standards for impairment of the value of long-lived assets such as mining properties. SFAS 144 requires a company to review the recoverability of the cost of its assets by estimating the future undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the asset. Impairment must be recognized when the carrying value of the asset exceeds these cash flows, and recognizing impairment write-downs has negatively impacted our results of operations in recent years.

If silver or gold prices decline or we fail to control production costs or realize the mineable mineral reserves at our mining properties, we may recognize further asset write-downs. We also may record other types of additional mining property write-downs in the future to the extent a property is sold by us for a price less than the carrying value of the property, or if liability reserves have to be created in connection with the closure and reclamation of a property. Additional write-downs of mining properties could negatively impact our results of operations.

The estimation of mineral reserves is imprecise and depends upon subjective factors. Estimated mineral reserves may not be realized in actual production. Our operating results may be negatively affected by inaccurate estimates.

The ore reserve figures presented in our public filings are estimates made by our technical personnel. Reserve estimates are a function of geological and engineering analyses that require us to make assumptions about production costs and silver and gold market prices. Reserve estimation is an imprecise and subjective process and the accuracy of such estimates is a function of the quality of available data and of engineering and geological interpretation, judgment and experience. Assumptions about silver and gold market prices are subject to great uncertainty as those prices have fluctuated widely in the past. Declines in the market prices of silver or gold may render reserves containing relatively lower grades of uneconomic to exploit, and we may be required to reduce reserve estimates, discontinue development or mining at one or more of our properties, or write down assets as impaired. Should we encounter mineralization or geologic formations at any of our mines or projects different from those we predicted, we may adjust our reserve estimates and alter our mining plans. Either of these alternatives may adversely affect our actual production and operating results.

We based our reserve determinations as of December 31, 2004 on a long-term silver price average of \$6.00 per ounce and a long-term gold price average of \$390 per ounce except for the Kensington reserves which are estimated using a gold price of \$375. On September 12, 2005 silver and gold prices were \$7.03 per ounce and \$448.35 per ounce, respectively.

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The estimation of the ultimate recovery of metals contained within the heap leach pad inventory is inherently inaccurate and subjective and requires the use of estimation techniques. Actual recoveries can be expected to vary from estimations.

The Rochester mine utilizes the heap leach process to extract silver and gold from ore. The heap leach process is a process of extracting silver and gold by placing ore on an impermeable pad and applying a diluted cyanide solution that dissolves a portion of the contained silver and gold, which are then recovered in metallurgical processes.

The key stages in the conversion of ore into silver and gold are (i) the blasting process in which the ore is broken into large pieces; (ii) the processing of the ore through a crushing facility that breaks it into smaller pieces; (iii) the transportation of the crushed ore to the leach pad where the leaching solution is applied; (iv) the collection of the leach solution; (v) subjecting the leach solution to the precipitation process, in which gold and silver is converted back to a fine solid; (vi) the conversion of the precipitate into doré; and (vii) the conversion by a third party refinery of the doré into refined silver and gold bullion.

We use several integrated steps to scientifically measure the metal content of ore placed on the leach pads during the key stages of the conversion process. As the ore body is drilled in preparation for the blasting process, samples of the drill residue are assayed to determine estimated quantities of contained metal. We estimate the quantity of ore by utilizing global positioning satellite survey techniques. We then process the ore through a crushing facility where the output is again weighed and sampled for assaying. A metallurgical reconciliation with the data collected from the mining operation is completed with appropriate adjustments made to previous estimates. We then transport the crushed ore to the leach pad for application of the leaching solution. As the leach solution is collected from the leach pads, we continuously sample for assaying. We measure the quantity of leach solution with flow meters throughout the leaching and precipitation process. After precipitation, the product is converted to doré, which is the final product produced by the mine. We again weigh, sample and assay the doré. Finally, a third party smelter converts the doré so we are able to determine final ounces of silver and gold available for sale. We then review this end result and reconcile it to the estimates we developed and used throughout the production process. Based on this review, we adjust our estimation procedures when appropriate.

Our reported inventories include metals estimated to be contained in the ore on the leach pads of \$53.9 million as of June 30, 2005. Of this amount, \$15.5 million is reported as a current asset and \$38.4 million is reported as a noncurrent asset. The distinction between current and noncurrent is based upon the expected length of time necessary for the leaching process to remove the metals from the crushed ore. The historical cost of the metal that is expected to be extracted within twelve months is classified as current and the historical cost of metals contained within the crushed ore that will be extracted beyond twelve months is classified as noncurrent.

The estimate of both the ultimate recovery expected over time, and the quantity of metal that may be extracted relative to such twelve month period, requires the use of estimates which are inherently inaccurate since they rely upon laboratory test work. Test work consists of 60 day leach columns from which we project metal recoveries into the future. The quantities of metal contained in the ore are based upon actual weights and assay analysis. The rate at which the leach process extracts gold and silver from the crushed ore is based upon laboratory column tests and actual experience occurring over approximately eighteen years of leach pad operation at the Rochester mine. The assumptions we use to measure metal content during each stage of the inventory conversion process includes estimated recovery rates based on laboratory testing and assaying. We periodically review our estimates compared to actual experience and revise our estimates when appropriate. The length of time necessary to achieve our currently estimated ultimate recoveries of between 59% and 61.5%, depending on the area

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being leached, for silver and 93% for gold is estimated to be between 5 and 10 years. However, the ultimate recovery will not be known until leaching operations cease, which is currently estimated for 2011.

When we began leach operations in 1986, based solely on laboratory testing, we estimated the ultimate recovery of silver and gold at 50% and 80%, respectively. Since 1986, we have adjusted the expected ultimate recovery three times (once in each of 1989, 1997 and 2003) based upon actual experience gained from leach operations. In 2003, we revised our estimated recoveries for silver and gold of between 59% and 61.5%, depending on the area being leached, and 93%, respectively, which increased the estimated recoverable ounces of silver and gold contained in the heap by 1.8 million ounces and 41,000 ounces, respectively.

If our estimate of ultimate recovery requires adjustment, the impact upon our inventory valuation and upon our income statement would be as follows:

	Positive/Negative Change in Silver Recovery			Positive/Negative Change in Gold Recovery		
	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%
Quantity of recoverable ounces	1.6 million	3.2 million	4.7 million	11,300	22,600	33,900
Positive impact on future cost of production per silver equivalent ounce for increases in recovery rates	\$0.67	\$1.18	\$1.58	\$0.30	\$0.57	\$0.81
Negative impact on future cost of production per silver equivalent ounce for decreases in recovery rates	\$0.90	\$2.18	\$4.16	\$0.34	\$0.74	\$1.19

Inventories of ore on leach pads are valued based upon actual costs incurred to place such ore on the leach pad, less costs allocated to minerals recovered through the leach process. The costs consist of those production activities occurring at the mine site and include the costs, including depreciation, associated with mining, crushing and precipitation circuits. In addition, refining is provided by a third party refiner to place the metal extracted from the leach pad in a saleable form. These additional costs are considered in the valuation of inventory. Negative changes in our inventory valuations and correspondingly on our income statement would have an adverse impact on our results of operations.

Our estimates of current and non-current inventories may not be realized in actual production and operating results, which may negatively affect our business.

We use estimates, based on prior production results and experiences, to determine whether heap leach inventory will be recovered more than one year in the future, and is non-current inventory, or will be recovered within one year, and is current inventory. The estimates involve assumptions that may not prove to be consistent with our actual production and operating results. We cannot determine the amount ultimately recoverable until leaching is completed. If our estimates prove inaccurate, our operating results may be less than anticipated.

Significant investment risks and operational costs are associated with our exploration, development and mining activities, such as San Bartolome and Kensington. These risks and costs

may result in lower economic returns and may adversely affect our business.

Our ability to sustain or increase our present production levels depends in part on successful exploration and development of new ore bodies and/or expansion of existing mining operations. Mineral exploration, particularly for silver and gold, involves many risks and is frequently unproductive. If mineralization is discovered, it may take a number of years until production is possible, during which time the economic viability of the project may change. Substantial expenditures are required to establish reserves, extract metals from ores and, in the

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case of new properties, to construct mining and processing facilities. The economic feasibility of any development project is based upon, among other things, estimates of the size and grade of reserves, proximity to infrastructures and other resources (such as water and power), metallurgical recoveries, production rates and capital and operating costs of such development projects, and metals prices. Development projects are also subject to the completion of favorable feasibility studies, issuance of necessary permits and receipt of adequate financing.

Development projects, such as San Bartolome and Kensington, have no operating history upon which to base estimates of future operating costs and capital requirements. Particularly for development projects items such as estimates of reserves, metal recoveries and cash operating costs are to a large extent based upon the interpretation of geologic data obtained from a limited number of drill holes and other sampling techniques and feasibility studies. Estimates of cash operating costs are then derived based upon anticipated tonnage and grades of ore to be mined and processed, the configuration of the orebody, expected recovery rates of metals from the ore, comparable facility and equipment costs, anticipated climate conditions and other factors. As a result, actual cash operating costs and economic returns of any and all development projects may materially differ from the costs and returns estimated, and accordingly, our business results of operations may be negatively affected.

Our marketing of metals concentrates could be adversely affected if there were to be a significant delay or disruption of purchases by its third party smelter customers.

We currently markets our silver and gold concentrates to third party smelters in Japan, Canada and Mexico. In April 2005, we concluded contracts which allow for 50% of the concentrate from Cerro Bayo previously being sold to a smelter in Japan to be sold to a Mexican smelter. The smelter in Japan will continue to be obligated to take the remaining 50%. The loss of any one smelter customer could have a material adverse effect on us in the event of the possible unavailability of alternative smelters. No assurance can be given that alternative smelters would be timely available if the need for them were to arise, or that delays or disruptions in sales could not be experienced that would result in a materially adverse effect on our operations.

In July 2005, we were notified by Teck Cominco Metals, Ltd., owner of the smelter located in Trail, British Columbia, Canada which purchases approximately 60% of the silver concentrate from the Coeur Silver Valley operation, of a labor strike which will temporarily shut down the facility. Teck Cominco has notified us that it will continue to purchase Coeur Silver Valley's concentrates during the plant shutdown; however, it may declare a force majeure and terminate its services pursuant to the terms of the concentrate purchase agreement. We have located an alternative smelter to purchase the concentrates if Teck Cominco declares force majeure. If Teck Cominco declares force majeure and one or more alternative smelters do not take the concentrate delivery, we may suffer an adverse impact.

Our silver and gold production may decline, reducing our revenues and negatively impacting our business.

Our future silver and gold production may decline as a result of an exhaustion of reserves and possible closure of mines. It is our business strategy to conduct silver and gold exploratory activities at our existing mining and exploratory properties as well as at new exploratory projects, and to acquire silver and gold mining properties and businesses that possess mineable reserves and are expected to become operational in the near future. We can provide no assurance that our silver and gold production in the future will not decline. Accordingly, our revenues from the sale of silver and gold may decline, negatively affecting our results of operations.

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There are significant hazards associated with our mining activities, not all of which are fully covered by insurance. To the extent we must pay the costs associated with such risks, our business may be negatively affected.

The mining business is subject to risks and hazards, including environmental hazards, industrial accidents, the encountering of unusual or unexpected geological formations, cave-ins, flooding, earthquakes and periodic interruptions due to inclement or hazardous weather conditions. These occurrences could result in damage to, or destruction of, mineral properties or production facilities, personal injury or death, environmental damage, reduced production and delays in mining, asset write-downs, monetary losses and possible legal liability. Although we maintain insurance in an amount that we consider to be adequate, liabilities might exceed policy limits, in which event we could incur significant costs that could adversely affect our results of operation. Insurance fully covering many environmental risks (including potential liability for pollution or other hazards as a result of disposal of waste products occurring from exploration and production) is not generally available to us or to other companies in the industry. The realization of any significant liabilities in connection with our mining activities as described above could negatively affect our results of operations.

We are subject to significant governmental regulations, and their related costs and delays may negatively affect our business.

Our mining activities are subject to extensive federal, state, local and foreign laws and regulations governing environmental protection, natural resources, prospecting, development, production, post-closure reclamation, taxes, labor standards and occupational health and safety laws and regulations including mine safety, toxic substances and other matters related to our business. Although these laws and regulations have never required us to close any mine, the costs associated with compliance with such laws and regulations are substantial. Possible future laws and regulations, or more restrictive interpretations of current laws and regulations by governmental authorities could cause additional expense, capital expenditures, restrictions on or suspensions of our operations and delays in the development of our properties. Moreover, governmental authorities and private parties may bring lawsuits based upon damage to property and injury to persons resulting from the environmental, health and safety impacts of our past and current operations, which could lead to the imposition of substantial fines, penalties and other civil and criminal sanctions. Substantial costs and liabilities, including for restoring the environment after the closure of mines, are inherent in our operations. Although we believe we are in substantial compliance with applicable laws and regulations, we cannot assure you that any such law, regulation, enforcement or private claim will not have a negative effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Some of our mining wastes are currently exempt to a limited extent from the extensive set of federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations governing hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). If the EPA designates these wastes as hazardous under RCRA, we would be required to expend additional amounts on the handling of such wastes and to make significant expenditures to construct hazardous waste disposal facilities. In addition, if any of these wastes causes contamination in or damage to the environment at a mining facility, such facility may be designated as a

Superfund site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Under CERCLA, any owner or operator of a Superfund site since the time of its contamination may be held liable and may be forced to undertake extensive remedial cleanup action or to pay for the government's cleanup efforts. Additional regulations or requirements are also imposed upon our tailings and waste disposal areas in Idaho and Alaska under the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and in Nevada under the Nevada Water Pollution Control Law which implements the CWA. Airborne emissions are subject to controls under air pollution statutes implementing the Clean Air Act in Nevada, Idaho and Alaska. Compliance with CERCLA, the CWA and state

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environmental laws could entail significant costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

In the context of environmental permits, including the approval of reclamation plans, we must comply with standards and regulations which entail significant costs and can entail significant delays. Such costs and delays could have a dramatic impact on our operations.

We are required to obtain government permits to expand operations or begin new operations. The costs and delays associated with such approvals could affect our operations, reduce our revenues, and negatively affect our business as a whole.

Mining companies are required to seek governmental permits for expansion of existing operations or for the commencement of new operations such as the Kensington development project. Obtaining the necessary governmental permits is a complex and time-consuming process involving numerous jurisdictions and often involving public hearings and costly undertakings. The duration and success of permitting efforts are contingent on many factors that are out of our control. The governmental approval process may increase costs and cause delays depending on the nature of the activity to be permitted, and could cause us to not proceed with the development of a mine. Accordingly, this approval process could harm our results of operations.

On February 2, 2005, the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC) and a group of other community and private environmental groups filed an appeal of the U.S. Forest Service Record of Decision for the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements for the Kensington Gold Project, alleging numerous ecological, cultural and recreational value threats posed by the project under various environmental and other laws and regulations. On March 23, 2005, the US Forest Service upheld its decision to approve the FSEIS. On September 12, 2005, SEACC announced that it has filed a lawsuit against the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Forest Service in connection with the permit for the Kensington project. We unable to predict what the outcome of the suit will be, or its impact upon the Kensington project, if any.

We are an international company and are exposed to risks in the countries in which we have significant operations or interests. Foreign instability or variances in foreign currencies may cause unforeseen losses, which may affect our business.

Chile, Argentina and Bolivia are the most significant foreign countries in which we directly or indirectly own or operate mining properties or developmental projects. We also conduct exploratory projects in these countries. Argentina, while currently economically and politically stable, has experienced political instability, currency value fluctuations and changes in banking regulations in recent years. Although the governments and economies of Chile and Argentina have been relatively stable in recent years, property ownership in a foreign country is generally subject to the risk of expropriation or nationalization with inadequate compensation. During the second quarter of 2005, the government of Bolivia experienced political unrest which resulted in the resignation of that country's President and the appointment of a temporary President. The country has scheduled a new election for December 2005. As a result of this political uncertainty, we are continuing the development of the project but have lengthened the construction period pending the outcome of the scheduled election. As a result, it is possible that the previously estimated construction period of 20 months will be impacted. We will continue to monitor the events in Bolivia and will update the expected construction period and the estimated date of commercial production as future events unfold. Any foreign operations or investment may also be adversely affected by exchange controls, currency fluctuations, taxation and laws or policies of particular countries as well as laws and policies of the United States affecting foreign trade investment and taxation. We may enter into agreements which require us to purchase currencies of foreign countries in which we do business in order to ensure fixed exchange rates. In the event that actual exchange rates vary from those set forth in the hedge

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contracts, we will experience U.S. dollar-denominated currency gains or losses. Future economic or political instabilities or changes in the laws of foreign countries in which we have significant operations or interests and unfavorable fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates could negatively impact our foreign operations and our business as whole.

Any of our future acquisitions may result in significant risks, which may adversely affect our business.

An important element of our business strategy is the opportunistic acquisition of silver and gold mines, properties and businesses. While it is our practice to engage independent mining consultants to assist in evaluating and making acquisitions, any mining properties we may acquire may not be developed profitably or, if profitable when acquired, that profitability might not be sustained. In connection with any future acquisitions, we may incur indebtedness or issue equity securities, resulting in dilution of the percentage ownership of existing shareholders. We intend to seek shareholder approval for any such acquisitions to the extent required by applicable law, regulations or stock exchange rules. We cannot predict the impact of future acquisitions on the price of our business or our common stock. Unprofitable acquisitions, or additional indebtedness or issuances of securities in connection with such acquisitions, may impact the price of our common stock and negatively affect our results of operations.

Our ability to find and acquire new mineral properties is uncertain. Accordingly, our prospects are uncertain for the future growth of our business.

Because mines have limited lives based on proven and probable reserves, we are continually seeking to replace and expand our reserves. Identifying promising mining properties is difficult and speculative. Furthermore, we encounter strong competition from other mining companies in connection with the acquisition of properties producing or capable of producing silver and gold. Many of these companies have greater financial resources than we do. Consequently, we may be unable to replace and expand current reserves through the acquisition of new mining properties on terms we consider acceptable. As a result, our revenues from the sale of silver and gold may decline, resulting in lower income and reduced growth.

Third parties may dispute our unpatented mining claims, which could result in losses affecting our business.

The validity of unpatented mining claims, which constitute a significant portion of our property holdings in the United States, is often uncertain and may be contested. Although we have attempted to acquire satisfactory title to undeveloped properties, we, in accordance with mining industry practice, do not generally obtain title opinions until a decision is made to develop a property. As a result, some titles, particularly titles to undeveloped properties, may be defective. Defective title to any of our mining claims could result in litigation, insurance claims, and potential losses affecting our business as a whole.

Previously Announced Internal Control Findings.

In our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2004, the report of KPMG LLP on management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004 expressed an opinion that we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004 because of the effect of material weaknesses on the achievement of the objectives of the control criteria and contained explanatory paragraphs describing that (1) we did not have policies and procedures in place to ensure that the initial determination and subsequent monitoring of factors affecting the realization of deferred tax assets, including the associated deferred tax asset valuation allowances, were sufficient to result in the reporting of deferred tax assets, including the related deferred tax asset valuation allowances, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting

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principles, and we did not have effective review procedures associated with its accounting for income taxes and related disclosures, (2) we did not have effective review procedures in place to ensure that our Chilean operations properly applied accounting principles relative to depletion, and (3) we did not have effective policies and procedures in place to review and approve the propriety of non-standard journal entries and accounting for our foreign non-routine transactions. We have implemented actions to address these issues and do not expect them to be raised again, but if these or other such issues were raised again, the trading price of our common stock could be adversely affected.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We estimate that the net proceeds after expenses from the offering will be approximately \$35.8 million. We intend to use the net proceeds of this offering to fund the purchase price due under the Silver Sale Agreement and, if any net proceeds remain after such funding, for general corporate purposes. In addition to the description contained under the heading Coeur d Alene Mines Corporation Recent Developments in this prospectus supplement, a description of the Silver Sale Agreement was included in our Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 8, 2005, which is incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The closing of this offering is conditioned upon the simultaneous or immediately subsequent closing of the transactions under the Silver Sale Agreement.

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Table of Contents**UNDERWRITING**

Subject to the terms and conditions of the underwriting agreement, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. has agreed to purchase from us 9,863,014 of shares of common stock at the public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions set forth on the cover page of this prospectus supplement.

The underwriting agreement provides that the obligations of the underwriter to purchase the shares of common stock offered hereby are subject to certain conditions precedent and that the underwriter will purchase all of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement if any of these shares are purchased.

We have been advised by the underwriter that the underwriter proposes to offer the shares of common stock to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover of this prospectus supplement and to dealers at a price that represents a concession not in excess of \$0.05 per share under the public offering price. After the public offering, the underwriter may change the offering price and other selling terms.

The underwriting discounts and commissions per share are equal to the public offering price per share of common stock less the amount paid by the underwriters to us per share of common stock. The underwriting discounts and commissions are 1.35% of the public offering price. We have agreed to pay the underwriter the following discounts and commissions:

	Fees per Share	Total Fees
Discounts and commissions paid by us	\$ 0.05	\$ 493,150.70

In addition, we estimate that our share of the total expenses of this offering, excluding underwriting discounts and commissions, will be approximately \$200,000.

We have agreed to indemnify the underwriter against some specified types of liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act, and to contribute to payments the underwriter may be required to make in respect of any of these liabilities.

We and each of our executive officers and directors has agreed not to offer, sell, contract to sell or otherwise dispose of, or enter into any transaction that is designed to, or could be expected to, result in the disposition of any shares of our common stock or other securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for shares of our common stock or derivatives of our common stock owned by these persons prior to this offering or common stock issuable upon exercise of options or warrants held by these persons for a period of 90 days after the date of this prospectus supplement without the prior written consent of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. This consent may be given at any time without public notice. However, this agreement does not apply to: (i) the sale of shares of common stock in this offering; (ii) an executive officer or director's bona fide transfer by gift or gifts of shares of common stock; provided that each transferee agrees in writing to be bound by the restrictions; (iii) the exercise by the executive officer or director of outstanding stock options issued to that individual prior to the date of the lock-up agreement under our stock option plan; or (iv) the sale of shares of common stock upon the exercise of stock options outstanding on the date hereof; provided that such sales do not exceed 500,000 shares of common stock in the aggregate among all individuals executing lock-up agreements.

In connection with the offering, the underwriter may purchase and sell shares of our common stock in the open market. These transactions may include short sales, purchases to cover positions created by short sales and stabilizing transactions. Short sales involve the sale by the underwriter of a greater number of shares than they are required to purchase in the offering. The underwriter must close out any short position by purchasing shares in the open

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market. A short position is more likely to be created if the underwriter is concerned that there may be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market prior to completion of the offering.

Stabilizing transactions consist of various bids for or purchases of our common stock made by the underwriters in the open market prior to the completion of the offering. Purchases to cover a short position and stabilizing transactions may have the effect of preventing or slowing a decline in the market price of our common stock. Additionally, these purchases may stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the market price of our common stock. As a result, the price of our common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the New York Stock Exchange, on the Toronto Stock Exchange, in the over-the-counter market or otherwise and may be discontinued at any time.

We expect that delivery of the shares of common stock will be made against payment for the shares on or about the closing date specified on the cover page of this prospectus supplement, which will be the second business day following the date of the pricing of this offering (the settlement cycle being referred to as T+2). Under Rule 15c6-1 of the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, trades in the secondary market generally are required to settle in three business days unless the parties to any such trade expressly agree otherwise. Purchasers of shares should consult their own advisors as to the impact of the T+2 settlement cycle.

A prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format may be made available on Internet web sites maintained by the underwriter. Other than the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus in electronic format, the information on the underwriter's web site and any information contained in any other web site maintained by the underwriter is not part of the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus or the registration statement of which the prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus form a part.

The underwriter and its affiliates have provided financial advisory and investment banking services to us in the past and may do so in the future. They receive customary fees and commissions for these services. Alex Vitale, a managing director of the underwriter, is a member of our board of directors.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus supplement will be passed upon for us by Kelli Kast, Esq., General Counsel of the Company, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Certain legal matters will be passed upon for us by Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher LLP. The underwriter is represented by Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP, New York, New York.

EXPERTS

Our consolidated financial statements as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, and for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2004, and management's assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004 have been incorporated by reference herein and in the registration statement in reliance upon the reports of KPMG LLP, independent registered public accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The report of KPMG LLP on the aforementioned consolidated financial statements contains an explanatory paragraph referring to the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligation*, as of January 1, 2003. The report of KPMG LLP on the aforementioned management's assessment of the effectiveness of

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internal control over financial reporting and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004, expresses an opinion that we did not maintain effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 31, 2004 because of the effect of material weaknesses on the achievement of the objectives of the control criteria and contains explanatory paragraphs describing that (1) we did not have policies and procedures in place to ensure that the initial determination and subsequent monitoring of factors affecting the realization of deferred tax assets, including the associated deferred tax asset valuation allowances, were sufficient to result in the reporting of deferred tax assets, including the related deferred tax asset valuation allowances, in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, and we did not have effective review procedures associated with its accounting for income taxes and related disclosures, (2) we did not have effective review procedures in place to ensure that our Chilean operations properly applied accounting principles relative to depletion, and (3) we did not have effective policies and procedures in place to review and approve the propriety of non-standard journal entries and accounting for our foreign non-routine transactions.

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PROSPECTUS

\$250,000,000

Coeur d Alene Mines Corporation

COMMON STOCK, PREFERRED STOCK,

DEBT SECURITIES

AND

**WARRANTS TO PURCHASE THE
ABOVE SECURITIES**

This prospectus provides a general description of the debt securities, preferred stock, common stock and warrants we may offer from time to time with an aggregate public offering price of up to \$250,000,000. Each time we sell securities, we will provide a supplement to this prospectus that contains specific information about the offering and the specific terms of the securities offered. You should read this prospectus and the applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest in our securities. This prospectus may not be used to consummate a sale of securities unless accompanied by the applicable prospectus supplement.

Our common stock is listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CDE.

Investing in our securities involves a high degree of risk. See Risk Factors beginning on page 5 and contained in the Business section of our filings with the SEC and the applicable prospectus supplement.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

This prospectus is dated October 14, 2004

We have not authorized anyone to give any information or make any representation about us that is different from or in addition to, that contained in this prospectus or in any of the materials that we have incorporated by reference into this document. Therefore, if anyone does give you information of this sort, you should not rely on it. If you are in a jurisdiction where offers to sell, or solicitations of offers to purchase, the securities offered by this document are unlawful, or if you are a person to whom it is unlawful to direct these types of activities, then the offer presented in this document does not extend to you. The information contained in this document speaks only as of the date of this document, unless the information specifically indicates that another date applied.

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

(Cautionary Statements Under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995)

Some of the information included in this prospectus and other materials filed or to be filed by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") (as well as information included in statements made or to be made by us or our representatives) contains or may contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"). These statements can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts and may include the words "may," "could," "should," "would," "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "estimate," "intend," "plan" or other words or expressions. We have based these forward-looking statements on our current expectations about future events. The forward-looking statements include statements that reflect management's beliefs, plans, objectives, goals, expectations, anticipations and intentions with respect to our financial condition, results of operations, future performance and business, including statements relating to our business strategy and our current and future development plans.

Forward-looking statements are included in this prospectus and other materials filed or to be filed by us with the SEC (as well as information included in other statements made or to be made by us or our representatives). Although we believe, at the time made, that the expectations reflected in all of these forward-looking statements are and will be reasonable, any or all of the forward-looking statements in this prospectus, our Annual Report on Form 10-K and in any other public statements that are made may prove to be incorrect. This may occur as a result of inaccurate assumptions or as a consequence of known or unknown risks and uncertainties. Many factors discussed in this prospectus, some of which are beyond our control, will be important in determining our future performance. Consequently, actual results may differ materially from those that might be anticipated from forward-looking statements. In light of these and other uncertainties, you should not regard the inclusion of a forward-looking statement in this prospectus or other public communications that we might make as a representation by us that our plans and objectives will be achieved, and you should not place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements.

We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. However, your attention is directed to any further disclosures made on related subjects in our subsequent reports filed with the SEC on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K.

ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a registration statement we filed with the SEC using a "shelf" registration process. The aggregate offering prices of all securities that may be sold under this prospectus will not exceed \$250,000,000. Of that amount, we may sell any combination of the securities described in this prospectus from time to time.

The types of securities that we may offer and sell from time to time by this prospectus are:

debt securities, which may include guarantees of the debt securities by some or all of our subsidiaries;

preferred stock;

common stock; and

warrants entitling the holders to purchase common stock, preferred stock or debt securities.

We may sell these securities either separately or in units. We may issue debt securities convertible into shares of our common stock or preferred stock. The preferred stock issued may also be convertible into shares of our common stock or another series of preferred stock. This prospectus provides a general description of the securities that may be offered. Each time we sell securities pursuant to this prospectus, we will describe in a prospectus supplement, which we will deliver with this prospectus, specific information about the offering and

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the terms of the particular securities offered. In each prospectus supplement we will include the following information:

the type and amount of securities that we propose to sell;

the initial public offering price of the securities;

the names of any underwriters or agents through or to which we will sell the securities;

any compensation of those underwriters or agents; and

information about any securities exchanges or automated quotation systems on which the securities will be listed or traded.

In addition, the prospectus supplement may also add, update or change the information contained in this prospectus.

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THE COMPANY

Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation, the world's largest primary silver producer and a growing gold producer, is engaged in the exploration, development and operation of silver and gold mining properties located in the United States, Chile, Argentina and Bolivia. In 2003, we produced approximately 14.2 million ounces of silver and 119,500 ounces of gold. In 2002, we produced approximately 14.8 million ounces of silver and 117,000 ounces of gold.

Our principal silver mines are located in Nevada (the Rochester Mine) in the Silver Valley region of northern Idaho (the Galena Mine), in southern Chile (the Cerro Bayo Mine) and in Argentina (the Martha Mine). In addition, we own or lease, either directly or through our subsidiaries, silver and gold development projects in Bolivia (the San Bartolomé silver project) and in Alaska (the Kensington gold property). We also control strategic properties with significant exploration potential close to our existing mining operations. Our customers are bullion trading banks that purchase silver and gold from us and then sell these metals to end users for use in industry applications such as electronic circuitry, in jewelry and silverware production and in the manufacture and development of photographic film. In addition, we sell high grade gold and silver concentrates to smelters in Japan and Canada.

We were incorporated in Idaho in 1928. Our principal executive office is located at 505 Front Avenue, P.O. Box I, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814 and our telephone number is (208) 667-3511. Our website is www.coeur.com. Information contained in the web site is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider information contained in the web site as part of this prospectus.

USE OF PROCEEDS

We will determine the use of proceeds of any offering of securities at the time of any such offering, but we currently expect to use any proceeds for general corporate purposes, for the financing of our expansion activities, including the expansion and development of our existing operations, possible acquisitions of mining properties or other mining companies and working capital to support our growth. Other than as previously disclosed, we currently have no agreements, commitments or understandings with respect to any potential acquisition.

Table of Contents**RATIO OF EARNINGS TO FIXED CHARGES**

The following table sets forth our ratio of earnings to fixed charges for the periods indicated:

	Six Months Ended June 30,	Years Ended December 31,				
	2004	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Ratio of earnings to fixed charges	\$N/A	\$N/A	\$N/A	\$N/A	\$N/A	\$N/A
	■	■	■	■	■	■

Our earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges for each of the last five years. Earnings were insufficient to cover fixed charges in the following amounts: \$29.3 million in 1999; \$47.5 million in 2000; \$3.1 million in 2001; \$80.8 million in 2002; \$63.9 million in 2003; and \$7.1 million for the six months ended June 30, 2004.

For purposes of calculating the ratio of earnings to fixed charges, earnings consist of income from continuing operations before income taxes and gains/(losses) on the early retirement of debt and fixed charges, and fixed charges consist of interest and that portion of rent deemed representative of interest. Fixed charges consist of interest, preferred stock dividends and that portion of rent deemed representative of interest.

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RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the following factors and other information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus before deciding to invest in the securities offered hereby.

Risks Relating to our Business

We have incurred losses in the last five years due to several factors, including historically low gold and silver market prices, and may continue to incur losses in the future. Such losses would negatively affect the price of our common stock and affect our business as a whole.

We have incurred net losses in the last five years, and have had losses from continuing operations in each of those periods. Factors that significantly contributed to our losses are:

until recently, historically low gold and silver market prices;

our deliberate pursuit of a growth policy calling for the acquisition of mining properties and companies and financing such growth principally by incurring convertible indebtedness, thereby increasing our interest expense;

write-offs for impaired assets and other holding costs in 1999 (\$16.2 million), 2000 (\$12.2 million), 2001 (\$6.1 million), 2002 (\$19.0 million) and 2003 (\$0.0 million); and

losses on the early retirement of debt of \$19.1 million in 2002, and \$41.6 million in 2003.

If silver and gold prices decline and we are unable to reduce our production costs, our losses may continue. If lower silver and gold prices make mining at our properties uneconomical, we may be required to recognize additional impairment write-downs, which would increase our operating losses and negatively impact the price of our common stock.

We may be required to incur additional indebtedness to fund our capital expenditures. Additional indebtedness will restrict our operations, and may affect the price of our common stock and negatively impact our business.

We have historically financed our operations through the issuance of common stock and convertible debt, and may be required to incur additional indebtedness in the future. In particular, we anticipate that we could reach a final decision to develop the San Bartolomé and Kensington projects in 2004, which would require a capital investment of approximately \$197 million. While we believe that our cash on hand will be sufficient for us to make this level of capital investment, no assurance can be given that additional capital investments will not be required to be made at these or other projects. If we are unable to generate enough cash to finance such additional capital expenditures through operating cash flow and the issuance of common stock, we may be required to issue additional indebtedness. Any additional indebtedness would increase our debt payment obligations, and may negatively impact our business and the price of our common stock.

We have not had sufficient earnings to cover fixed charges in recent years and presently expect that situation to continue.

As a result of our net losses, our earnings have not been adequate to satisfy fixed charges (i.e., interest, preferred stock dividends and that portion of rent deemed representative of interest) in each of the last five years. The amounts by which earnings were inadequate to cover fixed charges were approximately \$29.3 million in 1999, \$47.5 million in 2000, \$3.1 million in 2001, \$80.8 million in 2002 and \$63.9 million in 2003, respectively. As of September 30, 2004, we are required to make fixed payments on \$180 million principal amount of our 1 1/4% Senior Convertible Notes due 2024, requiring annual interest payments of approximately \$2.25 million until their maturity.

We expect to satisfy our fixed charges and other expense obligations in the future from cash flow from operations and, if cash flow from operations is insufficient, from working capital, which amounted to approximately \$250.9 million at June 30, 2004. In the last five years, we have been experiencing negative cash

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flow from operating activities. The amount of net cash used in our operating activities amounted to approximately \$5.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2003, \$8.5 million in 2002 and \$29.9 million in 2001. The availability of future cash flow from operations or working capital to fund the payment of interest on the notes, our debentures and other fixed charges will be dependent upon numerous factors, including our results of operations, silver and gold prices, levels and costs of production at our mining properties, the amount of our capital expenditures and expenditures for acquisitions, developmental and exploratory activities, and the extent to which we are able to reduce the amount of our indebtedness through additional exchanges.

The market prices of silver and gold are volatile and until recently have been near historically low levels. Low silver and gold prices may result in decreased revenues and increased losses, and may negatively affect our business.

Silver and gold are commodities. Their prices fluctuate, and are affected by many factors beyond our control, including interest rates, expectations regarding inflation, speculation, currency values, governmental decisions regarding the disposal of precious metals stockpiles, global and regional demand and production, political and economic conditions and other factors. Because we currently derive approximately 65% of our revenues from sales of silver, our earnings are primarily related to the price of this metal.

The market price of silver (Handy & Harman) and gold (London Final) on October 12, 2004 was \$7.03 and \$414.70 per ounce, respectively. The price of silver and gold may decline in the future. Factors that are generally understood to contribute to a decline in the price of silver include sales by private and government holders, and a general global economic slowdown.

If the prices of silver and gold are depressed for a sustained period, our net losses will continue, we may be forced to suspend mining at one or more of our properties until the price increases, and record additional asset impairment write-downs. Any lost revenues, continued or increased net losses or additional asset impairment write-downs would affect the price of our common stock and have a negative impact on our business.

We have recorded significant write-downs of mining properties in recent years and may have to record additional write-downs, which could negatively impact our results of operations and the price of our common stock.

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, *Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets* (SFAS 144) established accounting standards for impairment of the value of long-lived assets such as mining properties. SFAS 144 requires a company to review the recoverability of the cost of its assets by estimating the future undiscounted cash flows expected to result from the use and eventual disposition of the asset. Impairment must be recognized when the carrying value of the asset exceeds these cash flows, and recognizing impairment write-downs has negatively impacted our results of operations in recent years.

While we do not believe that any of our other properties presently requires a write-down pursuant to SFAS 144, if silver or gold prices decline or we fail to control production costs or realize the mineable ore reserves at our mining properties, we may recognize further asset write-downs. We also may record other types of additional mining property write-downs in the future to the extent a property is sold by us for a price less than the carrying value of the property, or if liability reserves have to be created in connection with the closure and reclamation of a property. Additional write-downs of mining properties could negatively impact our results of operations and accordingly, the price of our common stock.

The estimation of ore reserves is imprecise and depends upon subjective factors. Estimated ore reserves may not be realized in actual production. Our operating results, and accordingly the price of our common stock and our business as a whole, may be negatively affected by inaccurate estimates.

The ore reserve figures presented in our public filings are estimates made by our technical personnel. Reserve estimates are a function of geological and engineering analyses that require us to make assumptions about production costs and silver and gold market prices. Reserve estimation is an imprecise and subjective

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process and the accuracy of such estimates is a function of the quality of available data and of engineering and geological interpretation, judgment and experience. Assumptions about silver and gold market prices are subject to great uncertainty as those prices have fluctuated widely in the past. Declines in the market prices of silver or gold may render reserves containing relatively lower grades of ore uneconomic to exploit, and we may be required to reduce reserve estimates, discontinue development or mining at one or more of our properties, or write down assets as impaired. Should we encounter mineralization or geologic formations at any of our mines or projects different from those we predicted, we may adjust our reserve estimates and alter our mining plans. Either of these alternatives may adversely affect our actual production and operating results, which in turn would impact the price of our common stock and affect our business.

We based our ore reserve determinations as of December 31, 2003 on a long-term silver price average of \$5.25 per ounce and a long-term gold price average of \$375 per ounce. On October 12, 2004 silver and gold prices were \$7.03 per ounce and \$414.70 per ounce, respectively.

The estimation of the ultimate recovery of metals contained within the heap leach pad inventory is inherently inaccurate and subjective and requires the use of estimation techniques. Actual recoveries can be expected to vary from estimations, which may adversely effect our operating results, and consequently our business and the price of our common stock.

The Rochester mine utilizes the heap leach process to extract silver and gold from ore. The heap leach process is a process of extracting silver and gold by placing ore on an impermeable pad and applying a diluted cyanide solution that dissolves a portion of the contained silver and gold, which are then recovered in metallurgical processes.

The key stages in the conversion of ore into silver and gold are (i) the blasting process in which the ore is broken into large pieces; (ii) the processing of the ore through a crushing facility that breaks it into smaller pieces; (iii) the transportation of the crushed ore to the leach pad where the leaching solution is applied; (iv) the collection of the leach solution; (v) subjecting the leach solution to the precipitation process, in which gold and silver is converted back to a fine solid; (vi) the conversion of the precipitate into doré; and (vii) the conversion by a third party refinery of the doré into refined silver and gold bullion.

We use several integrated steps to scientifically measure the metal content of ore placed on the leach pads during the key stages. As the ore body is drilled in preparation for the blasting process, samples of the drill residue are assayed to determine estimated quantities of contained metal. We estimate the quantity of ore by utilizing global positioning satellite survey techniques. We then process the ore through a crushing facility where the output is again weighed and sampled for assaying. A metallurgical reconciliation with the data collected from the mining operation is completed with appropriate adjustments made to previous estimates. We then transport the crushed ore to the leach pad for application of the leaching solution. As the leach solution is collected from the leach pads, we continuously sample for assaying. We measure the quantity of leach solution with flow meters throughout the leaching and precipitation process. After precipitation, the product is converted to doré, which is the final product produced by the mine. We again weigh, sample and assay the doré. Finally, a third party smelter converts the doré into refined silver and gold bullion. At this point we are able to determine final ounces of silver and gold available for sale. We then review this end result and reconcile it to the estimates we developed and used throughout the production process. Based on this review, we adjust our estimation procedures when appropriate.

Our reported inventories include metals estimated to be contained in the ore on the leach pads of \$39.8 million as of June 30, 2004. Of this amount, \$17.1 million is reported as a current asset and \$22.7 million is reported as a noncurrent asset. The distinction between current and noncurrent is based upon the expected length of time necessary for the leaching process to remove the metals from the broken ore. The historical cost of the metal that is expected to be extracted within twelve months is classified as current and the historical cost of metals contained within the broken ore that will be extracted beyond twelve months is classified as noncurrent.

The estimate of both the ultimate recovery expected over time, and the quantity of metal that may be extracted relative to such twelve month period, requires the use of estimates which are inherently inaccurate

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since they rely upon laboratory test work. Test work consists of 60 day leach columns from which we project metal recoveries up to five years in the future. The quantities of metal contained in the ore are based upon actual weights and assay analysis. The rate at which the leach process extracts gold and silver from the crushed ore is based upon laboratory column tests and actual experience occurring over approximately fifteen years of leach pad operation at the Rochester mine. The assumptions we use to measure metal content during each stage of the inventory conversion process includes estimated recovery rates based on laboratory testing and assaying. We periodically review our estimates compared to actual experience and revise our estimates when appropriate. The length of time necessary to achieve our currently estimated ultimate recoveries of 61.5% for silver and 93% for gold is estimated to be between 5 and 10 years. However, the ultimate recovery will not be known until leaching operations cease, which is currently estimated for 2011.

When we began leach operations in 1986, based solely on laboratory testing, we estimated the ultimate recovery of silver and gold at 50% and 80%, respectively. Since 1986, we have adjusted the expected ultimate recovery three times (once in each of 1989, 1997 and 2003) based upon actual experience gained from leach operations. In 2003, we revised our estimated recoveries for silver and gold to 61.5% and 93%, respectively, which increased the estimated recoverable ounces of silver and gold contained in the heap by 1.8 million ounces and 41,000 ounces, respectively.

If our estimate of ultimate recovery requires adjustment, the impact upon our inventory valuation and upon our income statement would be as follows:

	Positive/Negative Change in Silver Recovery			Positive/Negative Change in Gold Recovery		
	1%	2%	3%	1%	2%	3%
Quantity of recoverable ounces	1.4 million	2.7 million	4.0 million	9,100	18,200	27,300
Positive impact on future cost of production per equivalent silver ounce for increases in recovery rates	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.81	\$ 1.09	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.44	\$ 0.63
Negative impact on future cost of production per equivalent silver ounce for decreases in recovery rates	\$ 0.62	\$ 1.50	\$ 2.85	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.97

Inventories of ore on leach pads are valued based upon actual costs incurred to place such ore on the leach pad, less costs allocated to minerals recovered through the leach process. The costs consist of those production activities occurring at the mine site and include the costs, including depreciation, associated with mining, crushing and precipitation circuits. In addition, refining is provided by a third party refiner to place the metal extracted from the leach pad in a saleable form. These additional costs are considered in the valuation of inventory. Negative changes in our inventory valuations and correspondingly on our income statement would have an adverse impact on the market price of our common stock.

Our estimates of current and non-current inventories may not be realized in actual production and operating results, which may impact the price of our common stock and negatively affect our business.

We use estimates, based on prior production results and experiences, to determine whether heap leach inventory will be recovered more than one year in the future, and is non-current inventory, or will be recovered within one year, and is current inventory. The estimates involve assumptions that may not prove to be consistent with our actual production and operating results. We cannot determine the amount ultimately recoverable until leaching is completed. If our estimates prove inaccurate, our operating results may be less than anticipated, and the market price of our common stock would be affected, affecting our business overall.

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Significant investment risks and operational costs are associated with our exploration, development and mining activities, such as San Bartolomé and Kensington. These risks and costs may result in lower economic returns and may adversely affect our business and our common stock.

Our ability to sustain or increase our present production levels depends in part on successful exploration and development of new ore bodies and/or expansion of existing mining operations. Mineral exploration, particularly for silver and gold, involves many risks and is frequently unproductive. If mineralization is discovered, it may take a number of years until production is possible, during which time the economic viability of the project may change. Substantial expenditures are required to establish ore reserves, extract metals from ores and, in the case of new properties, to construct mining and processing facilities. The economic feasibility of any development project is based upon, among other things, estimates of the size and grade of ore reserves, proximity to infrastructures and other resources (such as water and power), metallurgical recoveries, production rates and capital and operating costs of such development projects, and metals prices. Development projects are also subject to the completion of favorable feasibility studies, issuance of necessary permits and receipt of adequate financing.

Development projects, such as San Bartolomé and Kensington, may have no operating history upon which to base estimates of future operating costs and capital requirements. Particularly for development projects items such as estimates of reserves, metal recoveries and cash operating costs are to a large extent based upon the interpretation of geologic data obtained from a limited number of drill holes and other sampling techniques and feasibility studies. Estimates of cash operating costs are then derived based upon anticipated tonnage and grades of ore to be mined and processed, the configuration of the orebody, expected recovery rates of metals from the ore, comparable facility and equipment costs, anticipated climate conditions and other factors. As a result, actual cash operating costs and economic returns of any and all development projects may materially differ from the costs and returns estimated, and accordingly, our business results and the price of our common stock may be negatively affected.

Our silver and gold production may decline, reducing our revenues and negatively impacting our business and our common stock.

Our future silver and gold production may decline as a result of an exhaustion of reserves and possible closure of mines. It is our business strategy to conduct silver and gold exploratory activities at our existing mining and exploratory properties as well as at new exploratory projects, and to acquire silver and gold mining properties and businesses that possess mineable ore reserves and are expected to become operational in the near future. We can provide no assurance that our silver and gold production in the future will not decline. Accordingly, our revenues from the sale of silver and gold may decline, negatively affecting our business and the price of our common stock.

There are significant hazards associated with our mining activities, not all of which are fully covered by insurance. To the extent we must pay the costs associated with such risks, our business may be negatively affected as well as the price of our common stock.

The mining business is subject to risks and hazards, including environmental hazards, industrial accidents, the encountering of unusual or unexpected geological formations, cave-ins, flooding, earthquakes and periodic interruptions due to inclement or hazardous weather conditions. These occurrences could result in damage to, or destruction of, mineral properties or production facilities, personal injury or death, environmental damage, reduced production and delays in mining, asset write-downs, monetary losses and possible legal liability. Although we maintain insurance in an amount that we consider to be adequate, liabilities might exceed policy limits, in which event we could incur significant costs that could adversely affect our results of operation. Insurance fully covering many environmental risks (including potential liability for pollution or other hazards as a result of disposal of waste products occurring from exploration and production) is not generally available to us or to other companies in the industry. The realization of any significant liabilities in connection with our mining activities as described above could negatively impact the price of our common stock and of our business as a whole.

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We are subject to significant governmental regulations, and their related costs and delays may negatively affect our business and our common stock.

Our mining activities are subject to extensive federal, state, local and foreign laws and regulations governing environmental protection, natural resources, prospecting, development, production, post-closure reclamation, taxes, labor standards and occupational health and safety laws and regulations including mine safety, toxic substances and other matters related to our business. Although these laws and regulations have never required us to close any mine, the costs associated with compliance with such laws and regulations are substantial. Possible future laws and regulations, or more restrictive interpretations of current laws and regulations by governmental authorities could cause additional expense, capital expenditures, restrictions on or suspensions of our operations and delays in the development of our properties. Moreover, governmental authorities and private parties may bring lawsuits based upon damage to property and injury to persons resulting from the environmental, health and safety impacts of our past and current operations, which could lead to the imposition of substantial fines, penalties and other civil and criminal sanctions. Substantial costs and liabilities, including for restoring the environment after the closure of mines, are inherent in our operations. Although we believe we are in substantial compliance with applicable laws and regulations, we cannot assure you that any such law, regulation, enforcement or private claim will not have a negative effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations, or our common stock.

Some of our mining wastes are currently exempt to a limited extent from the extensive set of federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations governing hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). If the EPA designates these wastes as hazardous under RCRA, we would be required to expend additional amounts on the handling of such wastes and to make significant expenditures to construct hazardous waste disposal facilities. In addition, if any of these wastes causes contamination in or damage to the environment at a mining facility, such facility may be designated as a Superfund site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA). Under CERCLA, any owner or operator of a Superfund site since the time of its contamination may be held liable and may be forced to undertake extensive remedial cleanup action or to pay for the government's cleanup efforts. Additional regulations or requirements are also imposed upon our tailings and waste disposal areas in Idaho and Alaska under the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and in Nevada under the Nevada Water Pollution Control Law which implements the CWA. Airborne emissions are subject to controls under air pollution statutes implementing the Clean Air Act in Nevada, Idaho and Alaska. Compliance with CERCLA, the CWA and state environmental laws could entail significant costs, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations and, accordingly, on our business as a whole and our common stock.

In the context of environmental permits, including the approval of reclamation plans, we must comply with standards and regulations which entail significant costs and can entail significant delays. Such costs and delays could have a dramatic impact on our operations and accordingly on our business as a whole and our common stock.

We are required to obtain government permits to expand operations or begin new operations. The costs and delays associated with such approvals could affect our operations, reduce our revenues, and negatively affect our common stock and our business as a whole.

Mining companies are required to seek governmental permits for expansion of existing operations or for the commencement of new operations. Obtaining the necessary governmental permits is a complex and time-consuming process involving numerous jurisdictions and often involving public hearings and costly undertakings. The duration and success of permitting efforts are contingent on many factors that are out of our control. The governmental approval process may increase costs and cause delays depending on the nature of the activity to be permitted, and could cause us to not proceed with the development of a mine. Accordingly, this approval process could harm our operations, reduce our revenues, and negatively affect our common stock and our business as a whole.

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We are an international company and are exposed to risks in the countries in which we have significant operations or interests. Foreign instability or variances in foreign currencies may cause unforeseen losses, which may affect our business and the price of our common stock.

Chile, Argentina and Bolivia are the most significant foreign countries in which we directly or indirectly own or operate mining properties or developmental projects. We also conduct exploratory projects in these countries. Argentina, while currently economically and politically stable, has experienced political instability, currency value fluctuations and changes in banking regulations in recent years. Although the governments and economies of Chile and Bolivia have been relatively stable in recent years, property ownership in a foreign country is generally subject to the risk of expropriation or nationalization with inadequate compensation. Any foreign operations or investment may also be adversely affected by exchange controls, currency fluctuations, taxation and laws or policies of particular countries as well as laws and policies of the United States affecting foreign trade investment and taxation. We may enter into agreements which require us to purchase currencies of foreign countries in which we do business in order to ensure fixed exchange rates. In the event that actual exchange rates vary from those set forth in the hedge contracts, we will experience U.S. dollar-denominated currency gains or losses. Future economic or political instabilities or changes in the laws of foreign countries in which we have significant operations or interests and unfavorable fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates could negatively impact our foreign operations and our business as whole. The price of our common stock could be affected as a result.

Any of our future acquisitions may result in significant risks, which may adversely affect our business and our common stock.

An important element of our business strategy is the opportunistic acquisition of silver and gold mines, properties and businesses. While it is our practice to engage independent mining consultants to assist in evaluating and making acquisitions, any mining properties we may acquire may not be developed profitably or, if profitable when acquired, that profitability might not be sustained. In connection with any future acquisitions, we may incur indebtedness or issue equity securities, resulting in dilution of the percentage ownership of existing shareholders. We intend to seek shareholder approval for any such acquisitions to the extent required by applicable law, regulations or stock exchange rules. We cannot predict the impact of future acquisitions on the price of our business or our common stock. Unprofitable acquisitions, or additional indebtedness or issuances of securities in connection with such acquisitions, may impact the price of our common stock and negatively affect our business.

Our ability to find and acquire new mineral properties is uncertain. Accordingly, our prospects are uncertain for the future growth of our business and the ongoing price of our common stock.

Because mines have limited lives based on proven and probable ore reserves, we are continually seeking to replace and expand our ore reserves. Identifying promising mining properties is difficult and speculative. Furthermore, we encounter strong competition from other mining companies in connection with the acquisition of properties producing or capable of producing silver and gold. Many of these companies have greater financial resources than we do. Consequently, we may be unable to replace and expand current ore reserves through the acquisition of new mining properties on terms we consider acceptable. As a result, our revenues from the sale of silver and gold may decline, resulting in lower income, reduced growth and a decrease in the market price of our common stock.

Third parties may dispute our unpatented mining claims, which could result in losses affecting our business and the market price of our common stock.

The validity of unpatented mining claims, which constitute a significant portion of our property holdings in the United States, is often uncertain and may be contested. Although we have attempted to acquire satisfactory title to undeveloped properties, we, in accordance with mining industry practice, do not generally obtain title opinions until a decision is made to develop a property. As a result, some titles, particularly titles to undeveloped properties, may be defective. Defective title to any of our mining claims could result in litigation,

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insurance claims, and potential losses affecting our business as a whole. The price of our common stock could be affected as a result.

We are unable to obtain required consents from Arthur Andersen, our prior independent public accountants. As a result, you may be unable to recover damages from Arthur Anderson for any Securities Act or other claims.

On July 24, 2002, we changed our independent auditors from Arthur Andersen LLP to KPMG LLP. We are generally required to obtain a written consent from our prior independent public accountants in order to include their audit report covering the audited financial statements for our 2001 and 2000 fiscal years incorporated by reference in the accompanying prospectus.

The SEC has provided relief for companies that are unable to obtain consents from Arthur Andersen due to their ceasing operations. We have filed the registration statement of which the accompanying prospectus forms a part in reliance on the relief provided by the SEC. However, because Arthur Andersen has not provided consent in connection with such registration statement, you may not be able to recover against Arthur Andersen under Section 11 of the Securities Act.

It is unlikely you would be able to recover damages from Andersen for a claim under Section 11 of the Securities Act or any other claim.

Risks Relating to Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock has been volatile and may decline.

The market price of our common stock has been volatile and may decline in the future. The high and low closing sale prices of our common stock were \$1.95 and \$0.65 in 2001, \$2.36 and \$0.79 in 2002; \$5.78 and \$1.16 in 2003 and \$7.67 and \$3.10 for the nine months ended September 30, 2004. The closing sale price at October 12, 2004 was \$4.46 per share.

The market price of our common stock historically has fluctuated widely and been affected by many factors beyond our control. These factors include:

- the market prices of silver and gold;
- general stock market conditions;
- interest rates;
- expectations regarding inflation;
- currency values; and
- global and regional political and economic conditions and other factors.

We do not anticipate paying dividends on our common stock, which limits the way in which you may realize any returns on your investment.

We do not anticipate paying any cash dividends on our common stock at this time. Therefore, holders of our common stock will likely not receive a dividend return on their investment and there is a significant likelihood that holders of our common stock will not realize any value through the receipt of cash dividends.

Our future operating performance may not generate cash flows sufficient to meet our debt payment obligations, and our indebtedness could negatively impact holders of our common stock.

Our ability to make scheduled debt payments on our outstanding indebtedness will depend on our future operating performance and cash flow. Our operating performance and cash flow, in part, are subject to economic factors beyond our control, including the market prices of silver and gold. We may not be able to generate enough cash flow to meet our obligations and commitments. If we cannot generate sufficient cash flow from operations to service our debt, we may need to further refinance our debt, dispose of assets, or issue

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equity to obtain the necessary funds. We cannot predict whether we will be able to refinance our debt, issue equity, or dispose of assets to raise funds on a timely basis or on satisfactory terms.

We incurred net losses of \$66.2 million in fiscal 2003, \$80.8 million in fiscal 2002, and \$3.1 million in fiscal 2001. These losses could continue.

Our indebtedness could negatively impact holders of our common stock in many ways, including:

reducing funds available to support our business operations and for other corporate purposes because portions of our cash flow from operations must be dedicated to the payment of principal and interest on our debt;

impairing our ability to obtain additional financing for working capital, capital expenditures, acquisitions or general corporate purposes; and

making us more vulnerable to a downturn in general economic conditions or in our business.

We are subject to anti-takeover provisions in our charter and in our contracts that could delay or prevent an acquisition of Coeur even if such an acquisition would be beneficial to our stockholders.

The provisions of our articles of incorporation and our contracts could delay or prevent a third party from acquiring us, even if doing so might be beneficial to our stockholders. Some of these provisions:

authorize the issuance of preferred stock which can be created and issued by the board of directors without prior stockholder approval, commonly referred to as "blank check" preferred stock, with rights senior to those of common stock; and

require that a "fair price" be paid in some business transactions.

We have also implemented a shareholder rights plan which could delay or prevent a third party from acquiring us.

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DESCRIPTION OF DEBT SECURITIES

The following sets forth certain general terms and provisions of the indentures under which the debt securities are to be issued. The particular terms of the debt securities to be sold by us will be set forth in a prospectus supplement relating to such debt securities.

The debt securities will represent unsecured general obligations of the Company, unless otherwise provided in the prospectus supplement. As indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, the debt securities will either be senior debt, senior to all future subordinated indebtedness of the Company and pari passu with other current and future unsecured, unsubordinated indebtedness of the Company or, in the alternative, subordinated debt subordinate in right of payment to current and future senior debt and pari passu with other future subordinated indebtedness of the Company. The debt securities will be issued under an indenture in the form that has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part, subject to such amendments or supplemental indentures as are adopted from time to time. The indentures will be executed by the Company and one or more trustees. The following summary of certain provisions of the indentures does not purport to be complete and is subject to, and qualified in its entirety by, reference to all the provisions of the indentures, including the definitions therein of certain terms. Wherever particular sections or defined terms of the indentures are referred to, it is intended that such sections or defined terms shall be incorporated herein by reference.

General

The indentures will not limit the amount of debt securities that may be issued thereunder. Reference is made to the prospectus supplement of the following terms of the debt securities offered pursuant thereto: (i) designation (including whether they are senior debt or subordinated debt and whether such debt is convertible), aggregate principal amount, purchase price and denomination; (ii) the date of maturity; (iii) interest rate or rates (or method by which such rate will be determined), if any; (iv) the dates on which any such interest will be payable and the method of payment (cash or common stock); (v) the place or places where the principal of and interest, if any, on the debt securities will be payable; (vi) any redemption or sinking fund provisions; (vii) any rights of the holders of debt securities to convert the debt securities into other securities or property of the Company; (viii) the terms, if any, on which such debt securities will be subordinate to other debt of the Company; (ix) if other than the principal amount hereof, the portion of the principal amount of the debt securities that will be payable upon declaration of acceleration of the maturity thereof or provable in bankruptcy; (x) any events of default in addition to or in lieu of those described herein and remedies therefor; (xi) any trustees, authenticating or paying agents, transfer agents or registrars or any other agents with respect to the debt securities; (xii) listing (if any) on a securities exchange; (xiii) whether such debt securities will be certificated or in book-entry form; and (xiv) any other specific terms of the debt securities, including any additional events of default or covenants provided for with respect to debt securities, and any terms that may be required by or advisable under United States laws or regulations.

Debt securities may be presented for exchange, conversion or transfer in the manner, at the places and subject to the restrictions set forth in the debt securities and the prospectus supplement. Such services will be provided without charge, other than any tax or other governmental charge payable in connection therewith, but subject to the limitations provided in the indentures.

Debt securities will bear interest at a fixed rate or a floating rate. Debt securities bearing no interest or interest at a rate that, at the time of issuance, is below the prevailing market rate, will be sold at a discount below its stated principal amount. Special United States federal income tax considerations applicable to any such discounted debt securities or to any debt securities issued at par that is treated as having been issued at a discount for United States income tax purposes will be described in the relevant prospectus supplement.

The indentures will not contain any covenant or other specific provision affording protection to holders of the debt securities in the event of a highly leveraged transaction or a change in control of the Company, except to the limited extent described below under Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets. The Company's Articles of Incorporation also contains other provisions which may prevent or limit a change of control. See Description of Capital Stock.

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Modification and Waiver

Each indenture will provide that modifications and amendments of such indenture may be made by the Company and the applicable trustee, with the consent of the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities issued under such indenture that are affected by the modification or amendment voting as one class; provided that no such modification or amendment may, without the consent of the holder of each such debt security affected thereby, among other things: (a) extend the final maturity of such debt securities, or reduce the principal amount thereof, or reduce the rate or extend the time of payment of interest thereon, or reduce any amount payable on redemption thereof, or reduce the amount of the principal of debt securities issued with original issue discount that would be due and payable upon an acceleration of the maturity thereof or the amount thereof provable in bankruptcy, or extend the time or reduce the amount of any payment to any sinking fund or analogous obligation relating to such debt securities, or materially and adversely affect any right to convert such debt securities in accordance with such indenture or impair or affect the right of any holder of debt securities to institute suit for the payment thereof or, if such debt securities provide therefor, any right of repayment at the option of the holder, (b) reduce the aforesaid percentage of such debt securities of any series, the consent of the holders of which is required for any such supplemental indenture, (c) reduce the percentage of such debt securities of any series necessary to consent to waive any past default under such indenture to less than a majority, or (d) modify any of the provisions of the sections of such indenture relating to supplemental indentures with the consent of the holders, except to increase any such percentage or to provide that certain other provisions of such indenture cannot be modified or waived without the consent of each holder affected thereby, provided, however, that this clause shall not be deemed to require the consent of any holder with respect to changes in the references to the trustee and concomitant changes in such section or the deletion of this proviso.

Each indenture will provide that a supplemental indenture that changes or eliminates any covenant or other provision of such indenture that has expressly been included solely for the benefit of one or more particular series of debt securities, or that modifies the rights of the holders of such series with respect to such covenant or other provision, shall be deemed not to affect the rights under such indenture of the holders of debt securities of any other series.

The indenture in the form that has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part and each supplemental indenture entered into thereunder will provide that the Company and the applicable trustee may, without the consent of the holders of any series of debt securities issued thereunder, enter into additional supplemental indentures for one of the following purposes: (1) to secure any debt securities issued thereunder; (2) to evidence the succession of another corporation to the Company and the assumption by any such successor of the covenants, agreements and obligations of the Company in such indenture and in the debt securities issued thereunder; (3) to add to the covenants of the Company or to add any additional events of default; (4) to cure any ambiguity, to correct or supplement any provision in such indenture that may be inconsistent with any other provision of such indenture or to make any other provisions with respect to matters or questions arising under such indenture, provided that such action shall not adversely affect the interests of the holders of any series of debt securities issued thereunder in any material respect; (5) to establish the form and terms of debt securities issued thereunder; (6) to evidence and provide for a successor trustee under such indenture with respect to one or more series of debt securities issued thereunder or to provide for or facilitate the administration of the trusts under such indenture by more than one trustee; (7) to permit or facilitate the issuance of debt securities in global form or bearer form or to provide for uncertificated debt securities to be issued thereunder; (8) to change or eliminate any provision of such indenture, provided that any such change or elimination shall become effective only when there are no debt securities outstanding of any series created prior to the execution of such supplemental indenture that are entitled to the benefit of such provision; or (9) to amend or supplement any provision contained in such indenture, which was required to be contained in the indenture in order for the indenture to be qualified under the Trust indenture Act of 1939, if the Trust indenture Act of 1939 or regulations thereunder change what is so required to be included in qualified indentures, in any manner not inconsistent with what then may be required for such qualification.

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Events of Default

Unless otherwise provided in any prospectus supplement, the following will be events of default under each indenture with respect to each series of debt securities issued thereunder: (a) failure to pay principal (or premium, if any) on any series of the debt securities outstanding under such indenture when due; (b) failure to pay any interest on any series of the debt securities outstanding under such indenture when due, continued for 30 days; (c) default in the payment, if any, of any sinking fund installment when due, payable by the terms of such series of debt securities; (d) failure to perform any other covenant or warranty of the Company contained in such indenture or such debt securities continued for 90 days after written notice; (e) certain events of bankruptcy, insolvency or reorganization of the Company; and (f) any other event of default provided in a supplemental indenture with respect to a particular series of debt securities. In case an event of default described in (a), (b) or (c) above shall occur and be continuing with respect to any series of such debt securities, the applicable trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of such series then outstanding (each such series acting as a separate class) may declare the principal (or, in the case of discounted debt securities, the amount specified in the terms thereof) of such series to be due and payable. In case an event of default described in (d) above shall occur and be continuing, the applicable trustee or the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of all debt securities of each affected series then outstanding under such indenture (treated as one class) may declare the principal (or, in the case of discounted debt securities, the amount specified in the terms thereof) of all debt securities of all such series to be due and payable. If an event of default described in (e) above shall occur and be continuing then the principal amount (or, in the case of discounted debt securities, the amount specified in the terms thereof) of all the debt securities outstanding shall be and become due and payable immediately, without notice or other action by any holder or the applicable trustee, to the full extent permitted by law. Any event of default with respect to particular series of debt securities under such indenture may be waived by the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the outstanding debt securities of such series (voting as a class), except in each case a failure to pay principal of or premium, if any, or interest on such debt securities or a default in respect of a covenant or provision which cannot be modified or amended without the consent of each holder affected thereby.

Each indenture will provide that the applicable trustee may withhold notice to the holders of any default with respect to any series of debt securities (except in payment of principal of or interest or premium on, or sinking fund payment in respect of, the debt securities) if the applicable trustee considers it in the interest of holders to do so.

The Company will be required to furnish to each trustee annually a statement as to its compliance with all conditions and covenants in the applicable indenture.

Each indenture will contain a provision entitling the applicable trustee to be indemnified by the holders before proceeding to exercise any trust or power under such indenture at the request of such holders. Each indenture will provide that the holders of a majority in aggregate principal amount of the then outstanding debt securities of any series may direct the time, method and place of conducting any proceedings for any remedy available to the applicable trustee or of exercising any trust or power conferred upon the applicable trustee with respect to the debt securities of such series; *provided, however*, that the applicable trustee may decline to follow any such direction if, among other reasons, the applicable trustee determines in good faith that the actions or proceedings as directed may not lawfully be taken, would involve the applicable trustee in personal liability or would be unduly prejudicial to the holders of the debt securities of such series not joining in such direction. The right of a holder to institute a proceeding with respect to the applicable indenture will be subject to certain conditions precedent including, without limitation, that the holders of not less than 25% in aggregate principal amount of the debt securities of such series then outstanding under such indenture make a written request upon the applicable trustee to exercise its powers under such indenture, indemnify the applicable trustee and afford the applicable trustee reasonable opportunity to act, but the holder has an absolute right to receipt of the principal of, premium, if any, and interest when due on the debt securities, to require conversion of debt securities if such indenture provides for convertibility at the option of the holder and to institute suit for the enforcement thereof.

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Consolidation, Merger and Sale of Assets

Each indenture will provide that the Company may not consolidate with, merge into or sell, convey or lease all or substantially all of its assets to any person unless the Company is the surviving corporation or the successor person is a corporation organized under the laws of any domestic jurisdiction and assumes the Company's obligations on the debt securities issued thereunder, and under such indenture, and after giving effect thereto no event of default, and no event that, after notice or lapse of time or both, would become an event of default shall have occurred and be continuing, and that certain other conditions are met.

Certain Covenants

Existence. Except as permitted under Consolidation, Merger or Sale of Assets, the indentures will require the Company to do or cause to be done all things necessary to preserve and keep in full force and effect its corporate existence, rights (by Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws and statute) and franchises; *provided, however*, that the Company will not be required to preserve any right or franchise if its board of directors determines that the preservation thereof is no longer desirable in the conduct of its business.

Maintenance of Properties. The indentures will require the Company to cause all of its material properties used or useful in the conduct of its business or the business of any subsidiary to be maintained and kept in good condition, repair and working order and supplied with all necessary equipment and will cause to be made all necessary repairs, renewals, replacements, betterments and improvements thereof, all as in the judgment of the Company may be necessary so that the business carried on in connection therewith may be properly and advantageously conducted at all times; *provided, however*, that the Company and its subsidiaries will not be prevented from selling or otherwise disposing of their properties for value in the ordinary course of business.

Insurance. The indentures will require the Company to cause each of its and its subsidiaries' insurable properties to be insured against loss or damage with insurers of recognized responsibility and, if described in the applicable prospectus supplement, in specified amounts and with insurers having a specified rating from a recognized insurance rating service.

Payment of Taxes and Other Claims. The indentures will require the Company to pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged, before the same shall become delinquent, (i) all taxes, assessments and governmental charges levied or imposed upon it or any subsidiary or upon the income, profits or property of the Company or any subsidiary and (ii) all lawful claims for labor, materials and supplies which, if unpaid, might by law become a lien upon the property of the Company or any subsidiary; *provided, however*, that the Company shall not be required to pay or discharge or cause to be paid or discharged any tax, assessment, charge or claim whose amount, applicability or validity is being contested in good faith.

Provision of Financial Information. Whether or not the Company is subject to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), the indentures will require the Company, within 15 days of each of the respective dates by which the Company would have been required to file annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents with the SEC if the Company were so subject, (i) to transmit by mail to all holders of debt securities, as their names and addresses appear in the applicable register for such debt securities, without cost to the holders, copies of the annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents that the Company would have been required to file with the SEC pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act if the Company were subject to such sections, (ii) to file with the applicable trustee copies of the annual reports, quarterly reports and other documents that the Company would have been required to file with the Commission pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act if the Company were subject to such sections and (iii) to supply, promptly upon written request and payment of the reasonable cost of duplication and delivery, copies of the documents to any prospective holder.

Additional Covenants. Any additional covenants of the Company with respect to any series of debt securities will be set forth in the prospectus supplement relating thereto.

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Conversion Rights

The terms and conditions, if any, upon which the debt securities are convertible into Common Stock will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement relating thereto. Such terms will include the conversion price (or manner of calculation thereof), the conversion period, provisions as to whether conversion will be at the option of the holders or the Company, the events requiring an adjustment of the conversion price and provisions affecting conversion in the event of redemption of such debt securities and any restrictions on conversion.

Discharge, Defeasance and Covenant Defeasance

Each indenture will provide with respect to each series of debt securities issued thereunder that the Company may terminate its obligations under such debt securities of a series and such indenture with respect to debt securities of such series if: (i) all debt securities of such series previously authenticated and delivered, with certain exceptions, have been delivered to the applicable trustee for cancellation and the Company has paid all sums payable by it under the indenture; or (ii) (A) the debt securities of such series mature within one year or all of them are to be called for redemption within one year under arrangements satisfactory to the applicable trustee for giving the notice of redemption, (B) the Company irrevocably deposits in trust with the applicable trustee, as trust funds solely for the benefit of the holders of such debt securities, for that purpose, money or U.S. government obligations or a combination thereof sufficient (unless such funds consist solely of money, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants expressed in a written certification thereof delivered to the applicable trustee), without consideration of any reinvestment, to pay principal of and interest on the debt securities of such series to maturity or redemption, as the case may be, and to pay all other sums payable by it under such indenture, and (C) the Company delivers to the applicable trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, in each case stating that all conditions precedent provided for in such indenture relating to the satisfaction and discharge of such indenture with respect to the debt securities of such series have been complied with. With respect to the foregoing clause (i), only the Company's obligations to compensate and indemnify the applicable trustee under the indenture shall survive. With respect to the foregoing clause (ii) only the Company's obligations to execute and deliver debt securities of such series for authentication, to maintain an office or agency in respect of the debt securities of such series, to have moneys held for payment in trust, to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of such series, to deliver debt securities of such series for replacement or to be canceled, to compensate and indemnify the applicable trustee and to appoint a successor trustee, and its right to recover excess money held by the applicable trustee shall survive until such debt securities are no longer outstanding. Thereafter, only the Company's obligations to compensate and indemnify the applicable trustee and its right to recover excess money held by the applicable trustee shall survive.

Each indenture will provide that the Company (i) will be deemed to have paid and will be discharged from any and all obligations in respect of the debt securities issued thereunder of any series, and the provisions of such indenture will, except as noted below, no longer be in effect with respect to the debt securities of such series and (ii) may omit to comply with any term, provision, covenant or condition of such indenture, and such omission shall be deemed not to be an event of default under clause (d) of the first paragraph of Events of Default with respect to the outstanding debt securities of such series; provided that the following conditions shall have been satisfied: (A) the Company has irrevocably deposited in trust with the applicable trustee as trust funds solely for the benefit of the holders of the debt securities of such series, for payment of the principal of and interest of the debt securities of such series, money or U.S. Government Obligations or a combination thereof sufficient (unless such funds consist solely of money, in the opinion of a nationally recognized firm of independent public accountants expressed in a written certification thereof delivered to the applicable trustee) without consideration of any reinvestment and after payment of all federal, state and local taxes or other charges and assessments in respect thereof payable by the applicable trustee, to pay and discharge the principal of and accrued interest on the outstanding debt securities of such series to maturity or earlier redemption (irrevocably provided for under arrangements satisfactory to the applicable trustee), as the case may be; (B) such deposit will not result in a breach or violation of, or constitute a default under, such indenture or any other material agreement or instrument to which the Company is a party or by which it is

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bound; (C) no default with respect to such debt securities of such series shall have occurred and be continuing on the date of such deposit; (D) the Company shall have delivered to such trustee an opinion of counsel that (1) the holders of the debt securities of such series will not recognize income, gain or loss for Federal income tax purposes as a result of the Company's exercise of its option under this provision of such indenture and will be subject to federal income tax on the same amount and in the same manner and at the same times as would have been the case if such deposit and defeasance had not occurred, and (2) the holders of the debt securities of such series have a valid security interest in the trust funds subject to no prior liens under the Uniform Commercial Code; and (E) the Company has delivered to the applicable trustee an officers' certificate and an opinion of counsel, in each case stating that all conditions precedent provided for in such indenture relating to the defeasance contemplated have been complied with. In the case of legal defeasance under clause (i) above, the opinion of counsel referred to in clause (D)(1) above may be replaced by a ruling directed to the applicable trustee received from the Internal Revenue Service to the same effect. Subsequent to a legal defeasance under clause (i) above, the Company's obligations to execute and deliver debt securities of such series for authentication, to maintain an office or agency in respect of the debt securities of such series, to have moneys held for payment in trust, to register the transfer or exchange of debt securities of such series, to deliver debt securities of such series for replacement or to be canceled, to compensate and indemnify the applicable trustee and to appoint a successor trustee, and its right to recover excess money held by the applicable trustee shall survive until such debt securities are no longer outstanding. After such debt securities are no longer outstanding, in the case of legal defeasance under clause (i) above, only the Company's obligations to compensate and indemnify the applicable trustee and its right to recover excess money held by the applicable trustee shall survive.

Applicable Law

The indentures will provide that the debt securities and the indentures will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New York.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants for the purchase of our debt securities, preferred stock, or common stock or units of two or more of these types of securities. Warrants may be issued independently or together with debt securities, preferred stock or common stock and may be attached to or separate from these securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement. We will distribute a prospectus supplement with regard to each issue or series of warrants.

Warrants to Purchase Debt Securities

Each prospectus supplement for warrants to purchase debt securities will describe:

the title of the debt warrants;

the aggregate number of the debt warrants;

the price or prices at which the debt warrants will be issued;

the designation, aggregate principal amount and terms of the debt securities purchasable upon exercise of the debt warrants, and the procedures and conditions relating to the exercise of the debt warrants;

if applicable, the number of the warrants issued with a specified principal amount of our debt securities or each share of our preferred stock or common stock;

if applicable, the date on and after which the debt warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;

the principal amount of and exercise price for debt securities that may be purchased upon exercise of each debt warrant;

the maximum or minimum number of the debt warrants which may be exercised at any time;

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if applicable, a discussion of any material federal income tax considerations; and

any other material terms of the debt warrants and terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exercise of the debt warrants.

Certificates for warrants to purchase debt securities will be exchangeable for new debt warrant certificates of different denominations. Warrants may be exercised at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement.

Warrants to Purchase Preferred Stock and Common Stock

Each prospectus supplement for warrants to purchase preferred stock or common stock, will describe:

the title of the warrants;

the securities for which the warrants are exercisable;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

if applicable, the number of the warrants issued with a specified principal amount of our debt securities or each share of our preferred stock or common stock;

if applicable, the date on and after which such warrants and the related securities will be separately transferable;

any provisions for adjustment of the number or amount of shares of our preferred stock or common stock receivable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;

if applicable, a discussion of material federal income tax considerations; and

any other material terms of such warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of such warrants.

Exercise of Warrants

Each warrant will entitle the holder of the warrant to purchase the principal amount of debt securities or shares of preferred stock or common stock at the exercise price as shall in each case be set forth in, or be determinable as set forth in, the prospectus supplement relating to the warrants offered in the applicable prospectus supplement. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void.

Upon receipt of payment and the warrant certificate properly completed and duly executed at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as practicable, forward the debt securities or shares of preferred stock or common stock to be purchased upon such exercise. If less than all of the warrants represented by a warrant certificate are exercised, a new warrant certificate will be issued for the remaining warrants.

Prior to the exercise of any warrants to purchase debt securities, preferred stock or common stock, holders of the warrants will not have any of the rights of holders of the debt securities, preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise, including:

in the case of warrants for the purchase of debt securities, the right to receive payments of principal of, or any premium or interest on, the debt securities purchasable upon exercise or to enforce covenants in the applicable indenture; or

in the case of warrants for the purchase of preferred stock or common stock, the right to vote or to receive any payments of dividends on the preferred stock or common stock purchasable upon exercise.

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DESCRIPTION OF CAPITAL STOCK

Common Stock

We are authorized to issue up to 500,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, of which, at September 30, 2004:

213,260,559 shares were outstanding and 1,059,211 shares were held as treasury stock;

23,684,211 shares were reserved for issuance upon the conversion of our \$180 million principal amount of outstanding 1.25% Convertible Senior Notes due 2024;

7,658,551 shares were reserved for issuance under our Executive Compensation Program; and

1,109,706 shares were reserved for issuance under our Non-Employee Directors Stock Option Plan.

The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote for each share held of record on each matter submitted to a vote of shareholders. Holders may not cumulate their votes in elections of directors. Subject to preferences that may be applicable to any shares of preferred stock outstanding at the time, holders of common stock are entitled to receive ratably such dividends as may be declared by the Board of Directors out of funds legally available therefor and, in the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up, are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities. Holders of common stock have no preemptive rights and have no rights to convert their common stock into any other security. The outstanding common stock is fully-paid and non-assessable.

Our Articles of Incorporation include in effect a fair price provision, applicable to some business combination transactions in which we may be involved. The provision requires that an interested shareholder (defined to mean a beneficial holder of 10% or more of our outstanding shares of common stock) not engage in specified transactions (e.g., mergers, sales of assets, dissolution and liquidation) unless one of three conditions is met:

a majority of the directors who are unaffiliated with the interested shareholder and were directors before the interested shareholder became an interested shareholder approve the transaction;

holders of 80% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock approve the transaction; or

the shareholders are all paid a fair price, i.e., generally the higher of the fair market value of the shares or the same price as the price paid to shareholders in the transaction in which the interested shareholder acquired its block.

By discouraging some types of hostile takeover bids, the fair price provision may tend to insulate our current management against the possibility of removal. We are not aware of any person or entity proposing or contemplating such a transaction.

The transfer agent and registrar for our common stock, which is listed on the New York Stock Exchange, is ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, L.L.C., Ridgefield Park, N.J.

Preferred Stock

We are authorized to issue up to 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$1.00 per share, no shares of which are outstanding. The Board of Directors has the authority to determine the dividend rights, dividend rates, conversion rights, voting rights, rights and terms of redemption and liquidation preferences, redemption prices, sinking fund terms on any series of preferred stock, the number of shares constituting any such series and the designation thereof. Holders of preferred stock have no preemptive rights. The Company reserves for issuance a sufficient number of Series B Preferred Stock for operation of its rights plan, as described below.

On May 11, 1999, the Board of Directors of the Company declared a dividend distribution of one right for each outstanding share of our common stock. Each right entitles the registered holder to purchase from us one one-hundredth of a share of Series B Preferred Stock at a purchase price of \$100 in cash, subject to adjustment. The description and terms of the rights are set forth in a Rights Agreement, dated as of May 11,

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1999, between us and ChaseMellon Shareholder Services, L.L.C., as rights agent. The rights are not exercisable or detachable from the common stock until ten days after any person or group acquires 20% or more (or commences a tender offer for 30% or more) of our common stock. If any person or group acquires 30% or more of our common stock or acquires us in a merger or other business combination, each right (other than those held by the acquiring person) will entitle the holder to purchase preferred stock of Coeur d Alene Mines or common stock of the acquiring company having a market value of approximately two times the \$100 exercise price. The rights expire on May 24, 2009, and can be redeemed by us at any time prior to their becoming exercisable. Shares of common stock issued prior to the expiration date of the rights upon conversion of our debentures will be accompanied by rights.

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PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The securities being offered by this prospectus may be sold by us:

through agents,

to or through underwriters,

through broker-dealers (acting as agent or principal),

directly by us to purchasers, through a specific bidding or auction process or otherwise, or

through a combination of any such methods of sale.

The distribution of securities may be effected from time to time in one or more transactions, including block transactions and transactions on the New York Stock Exchange or any other organized market where the securities may be traded. The securities may be sold at a fixed price or prices, which may be changed, or at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices relating to the prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices. The consideration may be cash or another form negotiated by the parties. Agents, underwriters or broker-dealers may be paid compensation for offering and selling the securities. That compensation may be in the form of discounts, concessions or commissions to be received from us or from the purchasers of the securities. Dealers and agents participating in the distribution of the securities may be deemed to be underwriters, and compensation received by them on resale of the securities may be deemed to be underwriting discounts. If such dealers or agents were deemed to be underwriters, they may be subject to statutory liabilities under the Securities Act.

Agents may from time to time solicit offers to purchase the securities. If required, we will name in the applicable prospectus supplement any agent involved in the offer or sale of the securities and set forth any compensation payable to the agent. Unless otherwise indicated in the prospectus supplement, any agent will be acting on a best efforts basis for the period of its appointment. Any agent selling the securities covered by this prospectus may be deemed to be an underwriter, as that term is defined in the Securities Act, of the securities.

If underwriters are used in a sale, securities will be acquired by the underwriters for their own account and may be resold from time to time in one or more transactions, including negotiated transactions, at a fixed public offering price or at varying prices determined at the time of sale, or under delayed delivery contracts or other contractual commitments. Securities may be offered to the public either through underwriting syndicates represented by one or more managing underwriters or directly by one or more firms acting as underwriters. If an underwriter or underwriters are used in the sale of securities, an underwriting agreement will be executed with the underwriter or underwriters at the time an agreement for the sale is reached. The applicable prospectus supplement will set forth the managing underwriter or underwriters, as well as any other underwriter or underwriters, with respect to a particular underwritten offering of securities, and will set forth the terms of the transactions, including compensation of the underwriters and dealers and the public offering price, if applicable. The prospectus and prospectus supplement will be used by the underwriters to resell the securities.

If a dealer is used in the sale of the securities, we, or an underwriter will sell the securities to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell the securities to the public at varying prices to be determined by the dealer at the time of resale. To the extent required, we will set forth in the prospectus supplement the name of the dealer and the terms of the transactions.

We may directly solicit offers to purchase the securities and we may make sales of securities directly to institutional investors or others. These persons may be deemed to be underwriters within the meaning of the Securities Act with respect to any resale of the securities. To the extent required, the prospectus supplement will describe the terms of any such sales, including the terms of any bidding or auction process, if used.

Agents, underwriters and dealers may be entitled under agreements which may be entered into with us to indemnification by us against specified liabilities, including liabilities incurred under the Securities Act, or to contribution by us to payments they may be required to make in respect of such liabilities. If required, the prospectus supplement will describe the terms and conditions of such indemnification or contribution. Some of

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the agents, underwriters or dealers, or their affiliates may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for us or our subsidiaries in the ordinary course of business.

Under the securities laws of some states, the securities offered by this prospectus may be sold in those states only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers.

Any person participating in the distribution of common stock registered under the registration statement that includes this prospectus will be subject to applicable provisions of the Exchange Act, and the applicable SEC rules and regulations, including, among others, Regulation M, which may limit the timing of purchases and sales of any of our common stock by any such person. Furthermore, Regulation M may restrict the ability of any person engaged in the distribution of our common stock to engage in market-making activities with respect to our common stock. These restrictions may affect the marketability of our common stock and the ability of any person or entity to engage in market-making activities with respect to our common stock.

Certain persons participating in an offering may engage in over-allotment, stabilizing transactions, short-covering transactions and penalty bids in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of the offered securities. For a description of these activities, see the information under the heading "Underwriting" in the applicable prospectus supplement.

LEGAL MATTERS

The legality of the debt securities offered hereby will be passed upon for us by Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher, LLP, Los Angeles, California. The legality of the common stock, preferred stock and warrants offered hereby will be passed upon for us by William F. Boyd.

EXPERTS

The consolidated financial statements of Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation as of December 31, 2003 and 2002, and for the years then ended have been incorporated by reference in this prospectus, and elsewhere in the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, in reliance upon the report of KPMG LLP, independent registered accounting firm, incorporated by reference herein, and upon the authority of said firm as experts in accounting and auditing.

The audit report covering the December 31, 2003 financial statements refers to the adoption of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 143, *Accounting for Asset Retirement Obligations*, as of January 1, 2003.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. Our SEC filings are available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's web site at <http://www.sec.gov>. You may also read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference facilities at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549; The Woolworth Building, 233 Broadway, New York, New York 10279; and 175 W. Jackson Boulevard, Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60604. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference facilities.

We filed a registration statement on Form S-3 with the SEC to register the securities being offered in this prospectus. This is a part of that registration statement. As allowed by SEC rules, this prospectus does not contain all the information you can find in the registration statement or the exhibits to the registration statement.

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INCORPORATION OF CERTAIN DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC allows us to incorporate by reference information into this prospectus. This means that we can disclose important information about us and our financial condition to you by referring you to another document filed separately with the SEC. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, except for any information that is superseded by information that is included directly in this document. This prospectus incorporates by reference the documents listed below that we have previously filed with the SEC:

Our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2003, filed with the SEC on March 9, 2004, as amended on August 16, August 19 and August 25, 2004;

Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2004, filed with the SEC on August 16, 2004, as amended on August 19, 2004;

Our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2004, filed with the SEC on May 10, 2004, as amended on August 16 and August 19, 2004;

Our Current Reports on Form 8-K filed on August 10, September 3 and September 9, 2004; and

The description of our common stock contained in our Registration Statement on Form 8-A (File No. 1-08641), filed March 28, 1990, and any amendments or reports filed for the purpose of updating that description.

Whenever after the date of this prospectus, we file reports or documents under Sections 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act, as amended, those reports and documents will be deemed to be part of this prospectus from the time they are filed. If anything in a report or document we file after the date of this prospectus changes anything in it, this prospectus will be deemed to be changed by that subsequently filed report or document beginning on the date the report or document is filed.

You may request a copy of these filings incorporated herein by reference, including exhibits to such documents that are specifically incorporated by reference, at no cost, by writing or calling us at the following address or telephone number:

Corporate Secretary

Coeur d'Alene Mines Corporation
400 Coeur d'Alene Mines Building
505 Front Avenue
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho 83814

Statements contained in this prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other documents are not necessarily complete, and in each instance investors are referred to the copy of the contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the registration statement, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference and the exhibits and schedules thereto.

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You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information provided by this prospectus supplement and the accompanying prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the respective dates on the front of these documents.

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9,863,014 Shares

Common Stock

Deutsche Bank Securities

Prospectus Supplement

(to Prospectus dated October 14, 2004)

September 13, 2005