

## **Michael Ryan Hollomon II**

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Mr. Michael Hollomon is the Commercial Director of North America's largest primary cobalt mine and Green Battery metals processing platform US Strategic Metals and a member of the Board of Managers. He has 25 years of international business, global commodities trading and mining experience with most of that time as a trader for the world's largest commodities trader Glencore. Mr. Hollomon also played a key role in the transition of Swiss-based commodities group Gunvor from oil and gas trading company to fully integrated, multiple commodity mining group with the implementation of strategic M&A plan across the coal, coking coal and anthracite space. Mr. Hollomon was promoted to the board of various Gunvor entities. Mr. Hollomon also served as CEO of Dreamphone Trading Ltd., an Africa focused telecom business.

**2021 - PRESENT US Strategic Metals LLC, St. Louis, Missouri / Princeton, NJ USA**  
Commercial Director / Board of Managers

- Led the reorganization of Missouri Cobalt into the significantly larger scope company US Strategic Metals
- Negotiated and finalized the multi year offtake agreement with Glencore Intl. AG
- Initiated the strategy to expand into recycling and finalized the multi-year recycling agreement with Interco Metaltronics
- Identified the strategy to go into PCAM including identifying and recruiting the existing team

**2018 - 2021 MISSOURI COBALT LLC, St. Louis, Missouri / Princeton, NJ USA**  
CEO / Board of Managers

- Consulted on the effort to acquire the Madison Mine from Anschutz Corporation
- Established the new LLC Missouri Cobalt and wrote the business plan to convert former SUPERFUND site into North America's leading Cobalt producer
- Oversaw the ongoing environmental clean up, above ground mining operations and process plant construction including identifying and hiring of world's best process management team from Congo's leading Cobalt mine
- Executed business plan to date including surface mining and construction of 300 ton per day flotation plant, currently producing cobalt/copper/nickel concentrate for sale to Canadian smelters

- Organized successful effort to fund mine expansion and plant upgrades through 2022 including introduction of onsite Hydrometallurgical plant for material upgrade and sale to the Lithium Ion Battery industry
- Overseeing ongoing underground mine restart and resource expansion drill programs
- Set up Environmental Committee which hosted US EPA Director Andrew Wheeler in Summer 2019 to receive commendation as example of repurposing environmentally challenged resource for commercial use

**2016 - 2018                    DREAMPHONE AFRICA, Dubai, U.A.E.**

CEO / Board of Directors

- Founded and led boutique communications company in Dubai in partnership with AT&T offering cell phone chips and service to government officials and CEO's throughout Africa and the Middle East
- Managed 17 employees
- Grew the customer base to over 150 VIP customers with monthly turnover of \$250k

**2010 - 2015    Gunvor SA, Geneva, Switzerland**

Head of Coal / Board of Directors

- Appointed to the Board of Directors of 3 Gunvor owned companies Pinesdale Ltd. USA / Signal Peak Coal Mine, Montana, USA / OAO Kolmar, Yakutia, Russia
- Built a Coal Division from scratch implemented a business plan that saw Gunvor grow from zero traded tons to 12 mio mts per year of physical coal and iron ore and over 15 mio screen traded mts
- Originated and executed the strategy to transition from pure trader to fully integrated mining and logistics company establishing paper trading and shipping divisions as well as evaluating, acquiring and project managing mining assets.
- Oversaw purchase and operation of three major operating mines in Russia, USA and South Africa, encompassing the full range of coal products, Coking coal, Steam coal and Anthracite.
- Reported directly to Torbjorn Tornquist the CEO and Gennady Timchenko the majority shareholder

**1996 - 2008    Glencore International AG Baar, Switzerland / Moscow, Russia**

Trader

- Head of Moscow Coal division, consistently the most profitable division in Glencore Coal Department, from 2004 to 2007 with extensive working relationships with all of Russia's major coal miners and traders and opened many new markets for Russia, helping the country grow its coal exports to 90 million metric tons
- Wrote the internal Glencore book on Russian Coal with deep dive statistical breakdown of all suppliers, endusers and logistics statistics
- Promoted to Trader in 2000 and moved to Russia as member of coal trading team in Moscow Office where travelled extensively growing the business from 2 million metric tons of exports to over 20 million metric tons in 5 years including extensive stays in Kuzbass, Irkutsk, Yakutia at the major mines and extensive time at every single port in Russia and Ukraine that exports coal, where personally introduced the concept of metal removal from incoming railcars by mobile and fixed magnets and screens which became the industry standard all around the country
- Worked in the Coal Traffic Department in Baar, Switzerland learned the business of trading by following contracts from draft through to execution and final completion, i.e., dealing with all responsible parties including surveyors, logistics operators, banks, ship brokers and producers/suppliers
- Hired as Junior Trader in the Traffic Department at Glencore with extensive training and practical work experience in global commodities trading specifically in coal, coking coal and coke and shipping contracting and laytime calculations

## **EDUCATION**

Florida State University - Tallahassee, FL USA (1985 - 1989)

Bachelor of Science in Political Science

Minor in English Literature

St. Thomas University School of Law - North Miami, FL USA (1990 - 1991)

Completed two years of Law School

Languages: English (mother tongue), Italian (fluent), Russian (business), German (conversational)

