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8 January 2010

No. of Pages: 2

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50,952 OUNCE Q2 PRODUCTION FROM TRIDENT HERALDS THIRD SUCCESSIVE +50,000 oz QUARTER

Highlights

- **Strong December quarter production of 50,952 ounces recovered from the Trident underground gold mine.**
- **Site cash operating costs at Higginsville of A\$458 per ounce¹.**
- **The December quarter production result is the third successive +50,000 ounce quarter from Trident.**
- **Trident has produced 101,536 ounces in the first half of FY2010.**
- **Avoca remains on target for 190,000+ ounce production in FY2010 at estimated cash operating costs of A\$452 per ounce¹.**

ASX 200 mid-tier gold producer, Avoca Resources Ltd (ASX:AVO), is pleased to announce that it produced 50,952 ounces from its Trident underground gold mine during the December quarter. Trident lies within Avoca's 100% owned Higginsville Gold Project located 130km south of Kalgoorlie in Western Australia's Eastern Gold fields.

Cash operating costs for the Trident production during the December quarter amounted to A\$458 per ounce¹. Revenue for the 52,615 ounces sold during the quarter was A\$1,208 per ounce.

Total production for the first half of FY2010 is 101,536 ounces, and well in line with Avoca's 190,000+ production estimate for FY2010.

Total plant throughput for the December quarter was 300,030t @ 5.3 g/t gold for 50,952 recovered ounces. Plant recovery remained high at 97.0%. High grade mined production from Trident during the quarter was 235,438 tonnes at 6.2 g/t gold. The difference between total plant throughput and mined production from Trident was due to treating 52,193 tonnes of stockpiled low grade material.

Avoca's Managing Director, Mr Rohan Williams, said "we are very satisfied with the grade performance and production results from Trident delivering its third successive

plus 50,000 ounce quarter. **Trident is now firmly established as one of Australia's premier new underground gold mines."**

"Both the Trident mine and the Higginsville treatment plant continue to operate at above the 1 million tonne per annum design rates with the plant's current rate set to approximately 1.2 million tonnes per annum. We remain confident that Avoca will achieve its production guidance of 190,000+ ounces at a cash operating cost of A\$452 per ounce."

Avoca will release its December quarterly report detailing all activities and results later in January.

For further information please contact:

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Footnotes:

1. Cash operating costs reported are exclusive of royalties which for the December quarter amounted to A\$134 per ounce.

Avoca Background

Avoca is an ASX 200 gold mining and exploration company based in Perth, Western Australia. Avoca has grown rapidly since its listing in 2002, and its acquisition of the Higginsville exploration project in 2004, located 130km south of Kalgoorlie.

In the period of just four years following its acquisition of Higginsville, Avoca discovered the Trident ore deposit, completed a feasibility study, commenced mine development, constructed and commissioned a new 1 million tonne per annum CIL treatment facility (built on time and under budget) and poured its first gold bar.

Presently, Trident is Western Australia's third largest underground gold mine and is forecasting gold production of 190,000+ ounces in FY2010 at an operating cash cost of A\$452 per ounce (not including royalties).

Avoca has a highly credentialed management team with considerable expertise in exploration, project development and underground mining. Avoca's managing director, Rohan Williams, has more than 15 years experience in the region.

The Avoca Board is confident that its management team will continue to expand and develop the existing 1.45 million ounce Higginsville resource base into realising its goal of a +10 year mine life for Higginsville.