

Heron Explorer

A quarterly communication from Heron Resources, keeping you informed of our latest projects, initiatives and business opportunities.

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Technology

Heron is always looking at better more efficient ways of increasing their success in exploration projects. Outlined below are some of the latest pieces of technology and research which Heron is utilizing.

CSIRO has been developing a Hylogger instrument to log chips and drill core using infrared spectra to directly identify mineralogy.

Heron is a co-sponsor of a research project using the instrument to provide in field confirmation of results found by the Hylogger using traditional geological methods.

It is believed that this technology will lead to rapid characterisation of laterite ore samples and consequently is of great value to Heron's nickel laterite Projects.



Right: Hylogger Instrument



Above: The Niton XRF Analyser at work in the field

Last year Heron purchased a Niton handheld X-Ray Fluorescence (XRF) analyser which allows rapid chemical analysis of samples in the field. This analyser provides real-time on-site results, eliminating delays and costs associated with traditional laboratory analysis. The instrument uses X-Rays to determine the chemical composition of the sample.

The use of this equipment has been invaluable to our geologists in the field and saved money and time by identifying chemically anomalous samples quickly.

The Niton has seen action in Heron's recent Marloo Dam and Rocky Gully projects.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS) are not new, but the increase in the availability of open-file mineral exploration data (WAMEX) managed by the Geological Survey of Western Australia offers Heron the opportunity to make the most of its GIS applications at a very low cost. When an explorer relinquishes a tenement all their Reports and data become available for future explorers as "open file".

Datasets and images from WAMEX reports are downloaded free of charge and are manipulated in a GIS environment to allow overlap and comparison of various data.

Heron open file data, when integrated into the GIS, allows staff to make better-informed decisions when assessing the mineral prospectivity of area and planning field exploration.

This process of reviewing overlapping historical geochemical data, elevation data and aeromagnetic imagery in a GIS often leads to the discovery of geochemically interesting areas, sources of mineralised soils and areas worthy of field checking or further geophysical investigations.

