

PERSONAL PROFILE

V.FRANK TIMIS

Name: Vasile Frank Timis

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CITIZENSHIP: Australia / Romania

STATUS: Divorced, with 2 children

Frank Timis is a successful mining entrepreneur of Romanian descent. He is the founder shareholder and former Executive Chairman of his **Gabriel Resources [GBU]**, a company that he founded and listed with a market capitalisation of less than C\$5million, and built to become operator of Europe's largest undeveloped gold mining project with a current market capitalisation of about C\$800 million on the TSA 300.

His other Canadian TSE listed exploration company, **European Goldfields [EGU]**, with a current market capitalisation of about C\$200million, is also active in South East Europe where it's developing four precious metal deposits.

Frank Timis also heads the executive team of London listed **Regal Petroleum [RPT]**, an international petroleum group, which he founded, with a large commercial gas and condensate reserves in the Ukraine, Greece, Romania and potential option concessions in Indonesia. Regal Petroleum is currently valued at more than GB£40 million.

One of his other successful ventures is **International Goldfields Limited [IGF]**, an aggressive international exploration Company with projects within world-class recognised mineral provinces, controlling two of the major gold and platinum belts in Australia. The Evanston Project in the Yilgarn Mineral Fields, Australia, contains a large resource of gold that provides potential exposure to an early cash flow. The company is the dominant tenement holder in the under-explored Mara-Diemals Greenstone belt. Also, Sacu Project in Romania is a large project area (in excess of 1,200 square kilometres) in an area deemed prospective for both gold and base metal mineralization. Currently, International Goldfields has a market cap of AU\$150million, having Frank Timis as the largest private shareholder with 20% of the share capital.

Africa Diamonds Corporation is one of the latest and more prominent investments that Frank has acquired. African Diamonds hold exploration and production rights for 25 years to the 25,000 sq km richest diamond, gold, platinum, palladium and copper grounds in north east and north west of Sierra Leone, one of the richest resources in the African country. The venture company has as strategic shareholders both the Government of Great Britain and the Government of Sierra Leone, with 10% of the total equity each, and more than 16 international financial institutions and banks. Frank Timis, through Timis Diamond Corporation, Frank's personal holding vehicle, is the largest shareholder of the Company and holds over 51% of the

controlling interest. Although not a listed entity, African Diamonds may currently sustain a valuation of over US\$750million, due to its high-class assets within its portfolio.

Mr Timis' established business and government connections in Romania, Ukraine, Greece and West Africa and the surrounding states are of particular value as Regal Petroleum, Gabriel Resources and European Goldfields and Africa Diamonds Corporation compete for new concession contracts, reserves and investment opportunities in these markets.

EARLY BEGINNINGS

But the early beginnings were not easy for Frank...and his story of a desperate flight into the unknown and triumphant return takes some beating.

Frank Timis spent his childhood in Baia Mare region, Romania, where he started his education in Borsa. In 1979, he was 16 and penniless when he escaped from Romania by walking for 40 nights over the border and through the former Yugoslavia, finally reaching Trieste, Italy. After escaping from communist Romania, Timis found his way to Australia, a soft approach asylum seeker's country by then and started labouring on mining sites. Timis' father had been a mining engineer, so it was natural for the son to seek work in the booming Australian mining industry.

With no formal education, Frank, trained in Perth, got also his first experience of working in mining exploration. He started working in East Pilbara desert, WA, with **Matanas Resources**, a gold and diamonds exploration company, initially as labourer, field assistant, project drilling manager and later as project supervisor. He went into business contracting earth-moving with **TSC Transport Company** and supplying drilling equipment to the Australian mining industry.

By early nineties he was managing a small mineral exploration company located in Western Australia, Riverdale Mining Pty Ltd, where he acquired the skills of running a mining contracting business with **Pneumatic Systems International Pty Ltd**, a pneumatic systems manufacturing company located in Perth.

1996, and after the revolution in Romania, Frank returned to the country looking for mining opportunities just as the former-Communist country was embarking on a privatisation program. Together with his Australian business partners that funded him at this early stage, (among which Tony Sage and Michael van Rens - see list of references) he formed a team of geologists and did a geological survey of Romania and Bulgaria.

The reason he stopped in Romania was he simply saw the best gold prospects and there have been no modern exploration.

During this period, Frank started to develop institutional relationships with the financial community, firstly in Australia, followed by Canada and London, where the main resource markets are located. His early entry into Romania also enabled him to secure some of the most lucrative mining licenses in the country.

MATURE DEVELOPMENTS

1996 – Frank returned to Romania, where he set up a resource exploration company that acquired development contracts for a group of mining properties, which later would become part of Gabriel Resources Limited.

1996 – Frank was persuaded to visit neighbouring Ukraine and to undertake concessions of fully explored reserves ready for development. In 1996 he formed Regal Petroleum to exploit the opportunities.

1997 – Frank listed Gabriel Resources in Canada, when it was valued at C\$5million. With the development of the Rosia Montana project in Romania, along with other prospects nearby, it has so far been proven to contain 14.3m oz of gold and 50m oz of silver. Gabriel has since raised nearly C\$200m to finance a drilling programme to explore the extent of Rosia Montana deposit and under Frank's Chairmanship it is now capitalised at C\$800m, with Timis holding an 8% stake.

A great deal of publicity has been circulated about Rosia Montana especially on the Internet by the Greenpeace and similar organisations in Romania. Environmentalists have made a series of accusations about the project, claiming that it will cause massive ecological damage, particularly with plans to build a 600ha cyanide storage pond. They also say there is a huge opposition from residents to a "forced resettlement" programme.

These claims are contradicted at the mine itself. Gabriel Resources has long since abandoned plans to build the cyanide storage pond following environmental concerns. They will install a \$4million cyanide destruction machine that removes the chemical during production. The resettlement programme has full support in local villages with many welcoming the chance to move to larger towns or to nearby custom-made houses as part of the generous compensation package.

The IFC has also announced that it is satisfied with Gabriel Resources' environmental and social programme concerning the proposed \$400million investment. IFC officials have stated that the World Bank was given a misleading impression that is supported the environmentalists' complaints.

The initial capital investment for the Rosia Montana mine is expected to be between \$350million and \$400million, which includes the cost of building a new town to relocate the village currently situated on it. Gabriel has agreed to pay \$30,000 compensation to each of the dislocated villagers, a sum far greater than the average equivalent landed property in Romania.

1999 – Together with a few investment houses from Canada and London, Frank formed European Goldfields Limited, a precious metal exploration company, to explore and develop new concessions in Europe's historic and prolific precious metal region of Transylvania, Romania and South East Europe.

2000 – He listed its European Goldfields Limited on the Canadian Ventures Exchange, now capitalised at C\$200million, of which Frank owns 26 percent.

September 2002 – Frank successfully floated Regal Petroleum on London Stock Exchange, valuing the company at £40million which today is valued on the National Stock Exchange at £340million or US\$620million, of which he owns 15.5 percent.

These days Frank is happy to wave the flag for the country in which he was born.

- He was able to help the Democratic Party, which came into power following the 1989 revolution, to rationalise the country's mining industry which was in a shambles, and advise on the legislation of new mining laws to encourage foreign participation. Also with his contribution, a Western-based mining law was introduced in June 1998.
- Frank is well-known as an active promoter of the country to the international financial community in London, Toronto, Sydney, Geneva, Zurich and Paris, succeeding to raise about half of the \$400million capital investment for the Rosia Montana mine. The project is considered one of the biggest foreign investments in Romania.
- Frank is also an important and active supporter of Romanian integration into NATO and European Community. He was one of the main financial sponsors of the NATO reunion in Bucharest in September 2002, the first time NATO had accepted private sponsorship. In Frank's opinion, the sponsoring by businessmen of actions designed to improve security has become a necessity when the costs of anti-terrorism have increased and businessmen and their investments are more and more targeted by organised crime and terrorism.
- - Countless charities and **humanitarian donations** have been undertaken by Frank and his companies in Romania, since their inception:
 - The establishment of a charity donation for the ones who were left without homes in the Bucium area in 2002;
 - Financial support for the Rosia Montana football team (balls, equipment, transport)
 - Donation of 50m ROL for the CD "Cantece de tulnic in tara motilor", the first such CD in Romania and bought 7 more "tulnice" for the "tulnice" players in Tarsa village, Avram Iancu commune;
 - Donation of 90m ROL to the scientist Ioan Morar from Abrud, to finish constructing his "mot" helicopter, which the old man is so proud of;
 - Donation for the restoration of the churches in the region;
 - Every year in Romania, the fireworks display in his homeland on December 1, Romanian National Day is supported by Frank;
 - Financial support for the editing of poems and prose books of Alba county writers; the Alba county monograph was also elaborated with financial support from Rosia Montana Gold Corporation;
 - Donation of money for local schools, buses and children's school tools;
 - Frank is a godfather and participated at many weddings in the region because he is a really popular man;
 - The roads in Abrud have not been repaired for 50 years, now they look better thanks to the material donated by Rosia Montana Gold Corporation;
 - Sponsorships for seminars organised by state institutions in Alba county.

These are just a part of the things Frank, as a great miner's son, did for his peers.

"ST VASILE" MONASTERY, Poiana Handarului, Baia Borsa – it was a long awaited desire that he make it true and he is proud to have donated his land, the land of his ancestors, at Poiana Handarului, Baia Borsa and financed the building of the monastery in respect of Saint Vasile, including the church – the only church in that area. After the blessing of the Maramures Mitropolit Iustinian, the founder was started on the 25th May 2001 by the protopope Grigore Andreica with a congregation of priests. The works were finalised on 31st September 2002.

EXPERTISE AND KEY STRENGTHS

Over 12 years mining experience exploration, mud logging and well site mining, lost circulation, coring points, casing points, fluid sampling, drill stem testing, coring and description, deepwater air/foam drilling, interpretive log reports, basic mining & petroleum operations geology, project generation, basic basin analysis, logistics, engineering technical support and remote area operations, considerable technical sales management, general management of mining contracting business, joint venture and contract negotiation, project financing and fund raising, know-how in funding a mining venture.

Management Expertise:

- Significant practical experience and understands high-grade gold resources
- Relevant business contacts and considerable experience of operating in Romania and Eastern Europe
- Excellent track record on resource business and in-deep analytical knowledge about the resource market
- Successful in acquiring and building excellent management team and attracting high profile board of directors to help him continue to establish his businesses as major corporations
- Building consistent substantial value for its shareholders over the years
- Excellent sense of aggressive acquisitions opportunities
- One of the most successful entrepreneurial dealings with governments of Australia, Canada, West Africa and South East Europe.

PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYMENT

1980-1986

Position: Labourer, field assistant, project drilling manager, project supervisor

Matanas Resources, East Pilbara, Western Australia

A gold and diamonds exploration company with operations in East Pilbara WA desert

1986-1993

Position: Manager, **TSC Transport Company**, Australia

A contracting earth-moving drilling equipment company to the Australian mining industry

April 1993-June 1996

Position: Managing Director, **Riverdale Mining Pty Ltd**

A mineral exploration company located in Australia

January 1994-December 1996

Position: Chairman of the Board of Directors, **Pneumatic Systems International Pty Ltd**

A pneumatic systems manufacturing company located in Australia

REFERENCES

TONY SAGE, Executive Chairman, International Goldfields Ltd
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CURRENT EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

November, 1996 – present

Position: **Executive Chairman, Regal Petroleum Ltd**

Regal is an international petroleum group with a large commercial gas and condensate reserve in the Ukraine, off-shore oil commercial reserves in Kavala, Greece and oil & gas exploration, development and production concession rights in Romania. The Company has been active in the Ukraine and other Eastern European countries since 1996, and exploring lucrative production sharing agreements in rich oil Indonesia.

Frank Timis founded Regal Jersey in November 1996 to seek opportunities in the oil & gas industry in Eastern Europe. Currently, he is heading the executive team. Under the terms of his service agreement Mr Timis will devote up to 50 hours per week to his duties as Executive Chairman of the Company. Regal Petroleum has the benefit of key man life and disability insurance in respect of Mr Timis.

Among the contractual technical partners of Regal Petroleum are reputable oil & gas service companies such as Halliburton Group, Troy Ikoda and McDaniel & Associates.

As at 31st December 2003, the institutional investment banks and financial institutions holding equity capital of Regal Petroleum plc are:

Institutional Financial Shareholder (1)	
Henderson Global Investors	Commonwealth Bank Colonial First State
Schroder Investment Management Ltd	Integrated Financial Group Investors
Artemis Investment Management Ltd	Rothschild Bank – Golden Arrow Fund
Commerzbank	Deutsche Bank Investment Management
Gartmore Fund Management	Quest Financial Group
New Star Asset Management Ltd	Dundee Bank Corp Sprott Asset Management
ISIS Asset Management	Government of Quebec Pension Fund
Avenger Investment Holdings	Altamira Asset Management
Landsowne Partners	Royal Bank of Canada Investments
Eastern European Fund	Tuscarora Asset Management
RAB Capital Limited	National Bank of Canada
Morley Fund Management	Toronto Dominion Bank Asset Management
Canada Life Limited	Mackenzie Finance
Capital International	Capital Reef Finance
Strategic Capital Super Services	Global Resources California
INVESCO Asset Management	American Century Investment Management
Morgan Stanley asset Management	Mariner Finance Fund

Frank Timis holds 15.5% of the share capital of Regal Petroleum and is the biggest controlling private shareholder of the Company.

Mr. Timis, the Executive Chairman, already has considerable experience of operating in South East Europe. He has already built two mining companies in Romania to a combined capitalisation of over US\$800million. His business contracts within the region provide a valuable entrée to securing additional gas sales contracts and gaining further development opportunities for Regal Petroleum.

April, 1997 – May, 2003

Position: **Executive Chairman & Director, Gabriel Resources Limited**

Also **Chief Executive Officer** from April 1999 to May 2003.

Gabriel Resources is a gold mining company listed in the Toronto stock exchange and a member of TSE 300 Composite Index.

Gabriel is one of the first active mining development and exploration companies in Romania, where a western based mining law was introduced in June 1998. Gabriel is operator and the controlling shareholder in the joint ventures with Minvest S.A. state company, having an 80% interest in Rosia Montana Gold Corporation S.A. Other advanced exploration projects include Corabia, Bucium Tarnita, Frasin and Bucium Rodu.

As at 31st October 2003 Gabriel Resources Limited has a market capitalisation in excess of C\$800million and has grown from C\$5million under the Chairmanship of Mr Timis since listing in the Vancouver Block Exchange in 1997.

Rosia Montana is expected to produce about 600,000oz of gold a year, at a total production cost of \$144 per oz, compared with the current gold price of \$365. Those figures rank the mine as one of the largest and lowest-cost producers in the world.

In September 2003, Gabriel Resources successfully closed a C\$50million share replacement in order to finance its Rosia Montana project. As a result, its share price appreciated significantly. Since then Gabriel Resources is seen as one of the main acquisition targets within the radar of the big-four international resources corporations.

2000 – October, 2003

Position: **Chairman, CEO & Director, European Goldfields Limited**

European Goldfields, a precious exploration company, was listed on the Canadian Stock Exchange on June 13th 2000 and its business is to explore and develop its concessions in Europe's historic and prolific precious metal regions of Transylvania, Romania and South East Europe.

The company has four concessions in Romania: Certej, Baita, Bolcana and Zlatna.

European Goldfields Limited controls the Certej gold project with a current resource base of 2.5Moz and a market capitalisation today in excess of Canadian \$200m.

OTHER LISTED BUSINESS VENTURES

International Goldfields Limited [IGF]

An aggressive international exploration Company with projects within world-class recognised mineral provinces.

The Evanston Project in the Yilgarn Mineral Field, Australia, contains a large resource of gold that provides potential exposure to an early cash flow. The Company is the dominant tenement holder in the under-explored Mara-Diemals Greenstone belt.

Sacu Project in Romania is a large project area (in excess of 1,200 square kilometres) in an area deemed prospective for both gold and base metal mineralization.

Currently, the Company has a market cap of AU\$150million, having Frank Timis as the largest private shareholder with 21% of the share capital.