

ASX Release

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METALLIUM SECURES FIRST U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE SBIR CONTRACT TO ADVANCE DOMESTIC GALLIUM RECOVERY

HIGHLIGHTS

- **First direct U.S. Federal Government contract** – formal entry into the U.S. Department of Defense innovation and funding system under a ‘Phase I’ SBIR contract.
- **Phase I is the entry point into the U.S. federal system, following the same pathway that has led other companies to secure multi-million-dollar DoD contracts under Phase II (up to ~US\$1M) and Phase III (US\$10M–100M+)**
- **Focused on gallium recovery from gallium-rich waste streams using proprietary Flash Joule Heating (FJH) chlorination technology, with potential recovery of germanium and other high-value metals.**
- **Phase I entails an initial six-month program – a shorter timeline than standard SBIR programs, reflecting the advanced readiness of Metallium’s technology for rapid transition.**
- **Directly supports U.S. strategic objectives to secure domestic supply chains for defence-critical minerals**

Metallium Limited (“Metallium” or the “Company”) (ASX: **MTM**; OTCQX: **MTMCF**) is pleased to announce that Flash Metals Texas Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Flash Metals USA Inc. (itself a wholly owned subsidiary of Metallium Ltd), has been awarded a Phase I Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) contract by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) through the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).

The program, titled “*Domestic Recovery of Gallium from Waste through Flash Electrothermal Chlorination*”, will apply Metallium’s proprietary Flash Joule Heating process to recover gallium from waste streams, including LED scrap and gallium-rich waste streams. These feedstocks also contain germanium and other valuable metals, broadening the project’s strategic impact.

The program will be executed by Flash Metals Texas as prime contractor, with Rice University’s Tour Group engaged under a resource and cost-sharing arrangement. Its accelerated timeline reflects the advanced readiness of Metallium’s FJH technology for rapid transition. **Phase I SBIR** funding of ~A\$100,000 supports an initial six-month program and confirms Metallium’s U.S. subsidiary as eligible for U.S. Government grant programs. Successful completion will position the Company to apply immediately for **Phase II funding** of up to **US\$1 million** to advance pilot-scale deployment at Metallium’s existing Chambers County site in Texas, with **Phase III** enabling full commercial implementation to reinforce U.S. supply chain resilience for gallium and other critical metals.

Metallium Managing Director & CEO, Michael Walshe, commented: “*This award is a milestone for Metallium as our first direct contract with the U.S. Department of Defense. More than the initial dollar value, it signals our formal entry into the DoD system and follows the proven SBIR pathway that has enabled other ASX companies to progress from Phase I to substantial multi-year, multi-million-dollar contracts.*”

“*By demonstrating our technology for gallium recovery, we are building U.S.-based solutions that reduce reliance on foreign supply chains and directly support national security priorities.*”

Strategic Importance

Gallium is a U.S.-designated critical material essential for defence, semiconductors, and communications. Current supply is dominated by non-allied nations, creating national security risks. Metallium’s project provides a domestic pathway for gallium recovery while also building infrastructure to recover additional high-value metals such as germanium.

The Phase I program will progress across five key technical workstreams: thermodynamic modelling, chlorination trials and optimisation, real-time monitoring and control development, materials characterisation and yield analysis, and

technoeconomic and environmental assessment. These deliverables will de-risk the transition to Phase II and position Metallium for rapid scale-up into pilot and commercial operations.

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Directors.

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ABOUT METALLIUM LIMITED



Metallium Ltd (ABN 27 645 885 463), is pioneering a low-carbon, high-efficiency approach to recovering critical and precious metals from mineral concentrates and high-grade waste streams. The company's patented **Flash Joule Heating (FJH)** technology enables the extraction of high-value materials - including **gallium, germanium, antimony, rare earth elements, and gold** - from feedstocks such as refinery scrap, e-waste, and monazite.

Aligned with U.S. strategic supply chain objectives, Metallium has recently secured its first commercial site in Texas via its wholly owned subsidiary, **Flash Metals USA Inc.**, marking a major step toward near-term production and revenue generation.

To learn more, visit:

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