



Global Alumina Increases Its Normal Course Issuer Bid

TORONTO, ON – December 18, 2008 – Global Alumina Corporation (TSX: GLA.U) (the "Company" or "Global Alumina"), a corporation participating in a joint venture to develop an alumina refinery, mine and associated infrastructure in the bauxite-rich region of the Republic of Guinea (the "Project"), announced that it has received approval from the Toronto Stock Exchange ("TSX") of an amended notice regarding Global Alumina's normal course issuer bid to repurchase its common shares through the facilities of the TSX. The number of common shares that may be repurchased pursuant to the bid has been increased by 904,207 to 10,904,207 common shares. All other terms of the normal course issuer bid will remain the same. The price paid for any common shares acquired will be the market price for the shares at the time of acquisition and all shares acquired will be cancelled. Since commencing the bid on November 25, 2008, the Company has repurchased a total of 10,000,000 common shares at an average price of \$0.48 per share. After cancellation of the repurchased shares, Global Alumina currently has 196,543,394 common shares outstanding. Global Alumina is engaging in a normal course issuer bid because it believes that the market price of its common shares does not fully reflect the underlying value of its business and its future business prospects. As a result, Global Alumina believes that its common shares currently represent an attractive investment.

About Global Alumina

Global Alumina and its joint venture partners are developing a 3.6 million metric tons per annum steady state capacity alumina refinery located in the bauxite-rich region of the Republic of Guinea. The joint venture partners in the Project are Global Alumina International, Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company, BHP Billiton, Dubai Aluminium Company Limited and Mubadala Development Company PJSC. The Project is one of the most advanced new projects in Guinea with the refinery already in feasibility stage and critical path infrastructure and site work already underway. The Company offers a first mover advantage over other projects in the region and an opportunity for socially responsible investing in a country that holds over one-third of the world's bauxite resources. Global Alumina is headquartered in Saint John, New Brunswick and has administrative offices in New York, London and Montreal. For further information visit the Company's website at www.globalalumina.com.

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