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[← BACK](#)

## SEMAFO Receives Mining Permit for Boulon Jounga Zone, Niger

August 26, 2009

**Montreal, Quebec, August 26, 2009** - SEMAFO (TSX: SMF) today announced that it has received the mining permit for the Boulon Jounga zone at its Samira Hill mine in Niger.

The Boulon Jounga permit covers 7 km<sup>2</sup>, with estimated reserves of 570,300 tonnes at an average grade of 2.38 g/t or 43,600 ounces of gold all in saprolite ore. More precisely it contains 516,800 tonnes of proven reserves at an average grade of 2.40 g/t or 39,900 ounces and 53,500 tonnes of probable reserves at 2.13 g/t or 3,700 ounces of gold, as stated in the last technical report dated March 30, 2009.

“The Samira Hill operation team has been pro-active in preparing for the receipt of this permit,” said Benoit Desormeaux, SEMAFO’s Executive Vice-President and COO. “Pre-stripping and hauling roads have been completed, facilitating the commencement of mining activities in the Boulon Jounga pit.”

SEMAFO has been the operator of the Samira Hill mine since 2004, during which time the mine has produced more than 342,900 ounces of gold. Samira Hill production is sold at spot market gold prices; with its hedge book having been retired earlier this year.

Michel Crevier, P. Geo MScA, Geology Manager and Semafo’s Qualified Person, has duly reviewed this press release with regard to its accuracy as well as its conformity with the Canadian National Instrument 43-101.

### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This press release may contain forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the Company’s expectations as to the market price of gold, strategic plans, future commercial production, production targets, timetables, mining operating expenses, capital expenditures, and mineral reserve and resource estimates. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties and accordingly, actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such statements. Factors that could cause future results or events to differ materially from current expectations expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, fluctuations in the market price of precious metals, mining industry risks, uncertainty as to calculation of mineral reserves and resources, risks related to hedging strategies, risks of delays in construction, requirements of additional financing and other risks described in the Company’s documents filed from time to time with Canadian securities regulatory authorities. Although the Company is of the opinion that these forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, those assumptions may prove to be incorrect. Accordingly, readers should not place

undue reliance on forward-looking statements. Readers can find further information with respect to risks in the Company's Annual Information Form and other filings with Canadian securities regulatory authorities available at [www.sedar.com](http://www.sedar.com). The Company disclaims any obligation to update or revise these forward-looking statements, except as required by applicable law.

### **About SEMAFO**

SEMAFO is a Canadian-based mining company with gold production and exploration activities in West Africa. The Company currently operates three gold mines in Burkina Faso, Niger and Guinea. SEMAFO is committed to evolve in a conscientious manner to become a major player in its geographical area of interest. SEMAFO's strategic focus is to maximize shareholder value by effectively managing its existing assets as well as pursuing organic and strategic growth opportunities in West Africa.

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More extensive information on SEMAFO can be found on our home page at <http://www.semafo.com>

[← BACK](#)

-  Financial Highlights
-  Corporate Presentations
-  Message to Shareholders
-  Email Alerts

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