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Kang Dian Option Agreement Share Issuance

VANCOUVER, BRITISH COLUMBIA — March 3, 2006 -- New Pacific Metals Corp. ("NUX") reports that a second tranche of 2,000,000 shares have been issued to Silvercorp Metals Inc. pursuant to the option agreement announced March 4, 2004. Under the option agreement the Company agreed to issue Silvercorp a total of 6,500,000 shares as consideration for the Kang Dian property, located in Sichuan Province China. Silvercorp now holds 4,500,000 shares of the Company, representing 24.86% of the Company's issued and outstanding shares.

For Further Information:

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The TSX Venture Exchange has not reviewed and does not accept responsibility for the adequacy or accuracy of the release.