

FOCUS N A M

NOVEMBER 2024

SGS



Introduction

Leading the energy transition in North America, SGS delivers comprehensive testing, inspection, and certification services essential for sustainable mining operations.

North America is leading the charge in the global energy transition, equipped with the resources, innovation, and commitment needed to deliver clean energy safely and securely. Addressing this challenge requires visionary and courageous leadership to pave the way for a sustainable energy future. Both Canada and the United States exemplify this leadership with initiatives such as Canada's Critical Minerals List and the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act. These efforts demonstrate a steadfast commitment to ensuring a robust supply of critical minerals, meeting both immediate and future demands.

We provide the world's most comprehensive range of testing, inspection and certification services, powered by the latest technology and digital tools. Mining operators face increasingly complex business environments, with high stakeholder expectations, including a focus on automation and sustainability.

At SGS, we pride ourselves on enabling you to ensure sustainable operations and compliance throughout the project life cycle, while enhancing productivity, quality and consumer trust.

Our technical expertise, driven by our people, help us remain the leader in the TIC marketplace. Our expertise spans a broad range of commodities including base metals, precious and platinum group metals, critical and industrial minerals, recycling, non-ferrous metals, coal, coke, petroleum coke, fertilizers, dry chemicals, sulfur, solid biofuels and steel/steel-making raw materials. The investments we've made and planning on incorporating over the next several months will re-enforce our team as trusted advisors who not only provide fit-for-purpose solutions but also reduce supply chain risk across the entire project life cycle.

Read on in our newsletter to gain insights into our operations and learn more about:

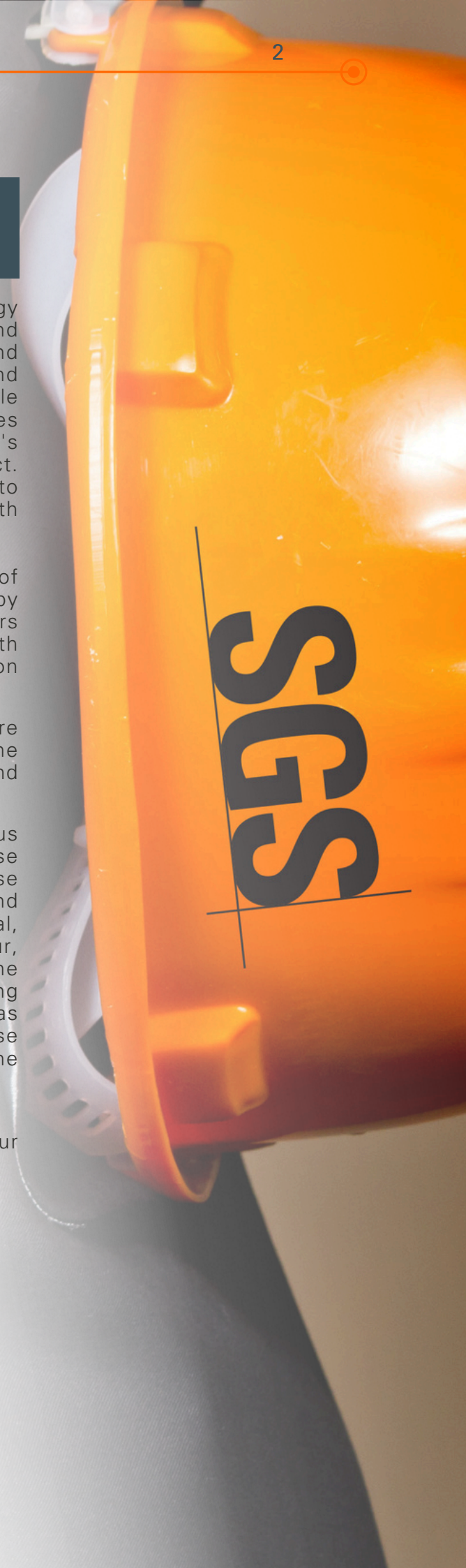
- Our network expansion across North America
- One of our lab managers, Chris Barron
- Our Lakefield analytical facility
- The full scope of our NAM network
- And more!



Carlos Cordoba

Vice President, SGS Natural Resources, NAM

"Together, our NAM team embodies excellence and innovation, constantly pushing the boundaries of our capabilities. Through relentless dedication and continuous improvement, we enhance our operations and elevate our service offerings, setting new standards of success."





Network Expansion

Recently, we have made significant strides to enhance our network by opening new locations and updating existing facilities, thereby expanding the range of capabilities we offer our clients.

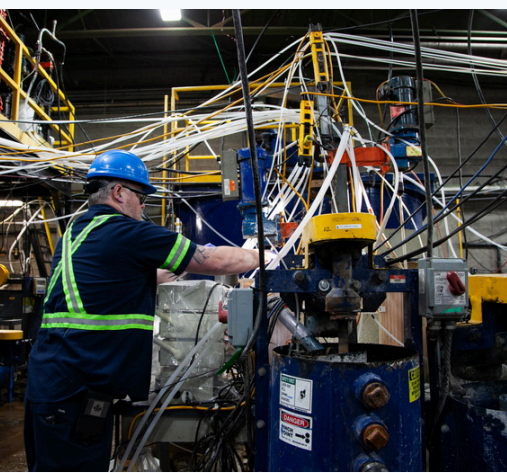
In late 2023, we launched a new geochemistry sample preparation facility in Tempe, AZ. This facility provides standardized preparation solutions for field-based mining activities across the western United States. Due to high demand, we are already planning an expansion to accommodate growing client needs including expanding the footprint and adding new equipment to provide expediated sample preparation capabilities out of our Tempe facility.

Earlier this year, we introduced hard rock sample preparation capabilities at our Denver, CO laboratory to better serve non-energy minerals clients by expediting their analytical needs. Additionally, we have relocated our truck-mounted mobile sample preparation unit, previously based in Newfoundland, Canada, and Idaho, USA, to Radisson, Quebec. This unit now delivers standardized preparation solutions for field-based mining and exploration across Northern Quebec, strategically positioned near major projects in the James Bay region. Prepared samples are then sent

to our multi-lab facility in Burnaby, BC, saving our clients on transportation costs and reducing our clients overall project carbon footprint.

Our expansion in Quebec doesn't stop there. We are also in the process of expanding our metallurgical capabilities to enhance the localized services currently being provided in Quebec City. We're excited about the current plans in place, and we will be providing more information on specifics as we move towards 2025!

For over 40 years, our LQSi group in South Holland, IL, has provided proficiency testing and certified reference material programs, ensuring the accuracy of laboratory test results and compliance with national, international, and industry standards. In response to increasing market demands for greener technology, we have recently introduced monthly proficiency round-robin and CRM capabilities for lithium and black mass, further advancing our commitment to quality and innovation.





Employee Spotlight



Christopher Barren
Lab Manager, Cedar City, Utah
NAM Minerals

From the jungles of Sumatra to the Arctic Circle, my 14-year journey with SGS has been filled with unique experiences and rewarding career growth.

Since joining SGS 14 years ago, Christopher Barron has enjoyed a varied career with SGS which has taken him around the world with stints in Australia, Indonesia and Canada and now in the USA.

There are several aspects of working at SGS that brings Chris great satisfaction. One is witnessing the growth and development of both the lab and SGS employees. He appreciates how our analyses provide meaningful insights in real-time which help our clients achieve their goals. Chris finds it especially rewarding to see how starting with a position at SGS can evolve into a fulfilling career, driven by personal dedication and a commitment to learning processes and procedures. When it comes to some personal highlights of his time at SGS, Chris enjoyed the fly-in, fly-out schedule of working two weeks at a time—it suited my lifestyle perfectly. Among favorite experiences, the labs have been truly memorable to Christopher.

As an example, the lab in Indonesia was exceptional, located in the Sumatra jungle. It was an immersive experience with intermittent power outages, enormous bugs flying into the lights, and even a cobra making an unexpected appearance in the lab! Chris also found working at Hope Bay in Nunavut, almost at the Arctic Circle, was unforgettable. When temperatures dropped to -57 degrees, the conditions were so harsh that going outside was not allowed to prevent getting lost in the snow.

For those considering a career with SGS, Christopher’s advice would be to always ask questions and seek clarification whenever you’re unsure. It’s crucial to build a strong understanding from the start. As you grow more comfortable in your role, try to network and connect with others whenever possible.

Additionally, it’s worth noting that the skills you acquire here are highly transferable across international borders, offering exciting opportunities for travel and global experiences. So, don’t hesitate to dream big—because at SGS, you certainly can!

To learn more about Christopher’s journey during his time in SGS, please scan the QR code below:





Natural Resources Across NAM

Across North America, our team provides the world’s most comprehensive range of testing, inspection and certification services, powered by the latest technology and digital tools.

Our local knowledge, experience and expertise supports you with laboratory outsourcing, commodities logistics, geochemistry, metallurgy, sustainability and market intelligence solutions to help you reduce risk, make informed decisions and ensure integrity.

Our services enable you to ensure sustainable operations and compliance throughout the project life cycle, while enhancing productivity, quality and consumer trust.



1200+
US and Canada
Employees

30+
Labs & Field Offices

80+ years
Operation in
North America



SGS Lakefield Analytical Services - Minerals & Metals

While our Metallurgical laboratory in Lakefield, ON has been providing metallurgical insights for more than 80 years, our Lakefield Analytical Services - Minerals & Metals group has been providing non-traditional mining client with quality analytical results and insights for decades!

Our Lakefield location employs uniform analytical and operational methodologies, follows industry-leading quality assurance and quality control practices, and uses standardized documents for presentation of results. We use proven and reliable analytical procedures including traditional fire assay, classical gravimetric analysis, electroplating and volumetric titrimetry as well as AAS, ICP-OES and ICP-MS. Our professional experts collaborate closely to share best practices and expertise, ensuring we remain at the leading edge of technical developments.

Our team in Lakefield has decades of extensive experience and expertise in handling high-value complex samples of concentrates, black mass, bullion, smelter products, recycled materials, precious metals catalysts, electronics scrap, solutions, sludges, and a wide variety of additional materials.

Our Lakefield laboratory is ISO/IEC 17025 certified and regularly participates in 'round robin' exercises, with participants from the manufacturing & scrap collection sectors, for both precious and base metals, including the worlds' largest precious and base metals refining companies. These round robins test materials in every possible form.

Delays in delivering analytical results may cost one or more parties significant financial losses. SGS' quality program ensures we deliver not only the highest quality but also the quickest possible turnaround times to help avoid unneeded delays in settling your transaction or project.

Earlier this year, Ryan Staub joined our Lakefield team as Operations Manager. With more than a decade of experience in the analytical testing field, Ryan has brought a keen sense of customer service while ensuring our team in Lakefield continues to deliver quality analytical results our clients expect from us.



Ryan Staub
Operations Manager - Geochemistry
NAM Natural Resources

"I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at SGS since joining the team. With over 14 years of experience in operations and analytical testing, I am dedicated to deepening my understanding of our clients' needs and developing tailored solutions throughout the entire project lifecycle."

Trusted. Independent. Committed.

Contact us

nam.naturalresources@sgs.com

www.sgs.com/naturalresources

www.sgs.com/nr-linkedin

