

Opta Minerals Inc. Announces Appointment of David Ascott as Chief Financial Officer

WATERDOWN, Ontario, December 17th, 2009 – Opta Minerals Inc. (TSX: OPM), today announced the appointment of Mr. David Ascott to the position of Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Ascott will report directly to David Kruse, President and Chief Executive Officer, Opta Minerals Inc.

Mr. Ascott is a Chartered Accountant with 15 years of finance and accounting experience in Canada and abroad. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Ascott served as the Corporate Controller of Opta Minerals since 2005.

David Kruse, President and CEO of Opta Minerals Inc. commented, "I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Ascott to the position of Chief Financial Officer. David has been a part of the Opta team for the past 4 years and we welcome him in his new role as we focus on both growth and profitability in the future."

About Opta Minerals

Opta Minerals is a vertically integrated provider of custom process optimization solutions and related materials for use primarily in the steel, foundry, loose abrasive cleaning, roof shingle granules and municipal water filtration industries. The Company currently has production and distribution facilities in Ontario, Québec, Louisiana, South Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, New York, Texas, Florida, Kosice Slovakia, and Romans-sur-Isère, France and one of the broadest product lines in the industry.

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