

May 7, 2025



Aqua Metals Announces CFO Transition and Appointment of Eric West

RENO, Nev., May 07, 2025 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Aqua Metals (NASDAQ: AQMS), a pioneer in sustainable lithium battery recycling, today announced a leadership transition in the role of Chief Financial Officer. Judd Merrill, who has served as CFO since 2018, is now taking a role as CFO of a publicly listed company with increasing responsibilities and will begin transitioning from his position effective May 16, 2025. To support a smooth transition and continued momentum, Judd will actively support the Company as a consultant through August 2025.

The Company also announced that Eric West, Aqua Metals' former Vice President of Finance, will be appointed as Chief Financial Officer effective May 19, 2025. Eric brings deep institutional knowledge and financial experience to the role, having worked alongside Aqua Metals' leadership team during a period of strategic evolution and technology development over the past six years. Eric holds a master's degree from UNR in accounting and is a CPA. Before joining Aqua Metals Eric worked in the mining industry and began his career at Grant Thornton, LLP.

"We're fortunate to have both the continuity and added capacity that this transition brings," said Steve Cotton, President and CEO of Aqua Metals. "Judd's leadership has been instrumental in positioning Aqua Metals for success, and we're grateful for his continued support over the coming months. We're equally excited to welcome Eric West back in an expanded role. His familiarity with our mission, team, and industry will be a tremendous asset from day one as we advance our commercial and operational goals."

This leadership change comes as Aqua Metals continues to position itself at the forefront of America's domestic critical minerals and battery recycling strategy.

About Aqua Metals

Aqua Metals, Inc. (NASDAQ: AQMS) is reinventing metals recycling with its patented AquaRefining™ technology. The Company is focused on commercializing sustainable lithium-ion battery recycling that is non-polluting and closes the loop on critical minerals for clean energy technologies. Aqua Metals is based in Reno, Nevada, with facilities located in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center. For more information, visit www.aquametals.com.

Aqua Metals Social Media

Aqua Metals has used, and intends to continue using, its investor relations website (<https://ir.aquametals.com>), in addition to its X, Threads, LinkedIn and YouTube accounts at [@AquaMetalsInc](https://x.com/AquaMetalsInc), <https://www.threads.net/@aquametalsinc> ([metals-limited](https://www.threads.net/@aquametalsinc)) and <https://www.youtube.com/@AquaMetals> respectively, as means of disclosing material non-public information and for complying with its disclosure obligations

under Regulation FD.

Safe Harbor

This press release contains forward-looking statements concerning Aqua Metals, Inc. Forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, our plans, objectives, expectations and intentions and other statements that contain words such as "expects," "contemplates," "anticipates," "plans," "intends," "believes", "estimates", "potential" and variations of such words or similar expressions that convey the uncertainty of future events or outcomes, or that do not relate to historical matters. Those forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties, and other factors that could cause actual results to differ materially, including, but not limited to, (1) the risk that we may not be able to acquire the funding necessary to maintain our current level of operations; and (2) those risks disclosed in the section "Risk Factors" included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed on March 31, 2025. Aqua Metals cautions readers not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements. The Company does not undertake and specifically disclaims any obligation to update or revise such statements to reflect new circumstances or unanticipated events as they occur, except as required by law.

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