

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Australian Man Unearths 145-Ounce Gold Nugget with Minelab's Flagship GPZ 7000 Metal Detector**

**"Friday's Joy" Expected to Bring More than \$250,000 AUD; Primed for Auction and Possible Museum Display**

**Mawson Lakes, South Australia, August 25, 2016 -**

Adelaide, South Australia - Today, Minelab, the world leader in metal detecting technologies, announced that an Australian prospector has discovered a monumental 145-ounce gold nugget with its flagship gold detector, the GPZ 7000. This remarkable find is worth more than \$250,000 AUD.



"Friday's Joy," the newly minted moniker of the huge nugget, was discovered in a worked-over area at the far southern edge of Central Victoria's Golden Triangle on a recent Friday morning by a seasoned prospector wishing to remain anonymous. After discovering a 9-ounce tennis ball-shaped gold nugget more than two feet deep with his Minelab GPZ 7000 the previous day, he went back for more.

"I thought it was rubbish at first, maybe an old horseshoe," said the prospector. "About 12 inches below the ground, I could just barely make out the top of something. As I began to scrape away the clay and dig deeper, I really couldn't believe my eyes - this wasn't an old piece of steel in front of me. I had just unearthed a colossal gold nugget - a once in a lifetime find! I was in total disbelief as I didn't think nuggets of this size were still around."



Prospecting on weekends for over ten years in search of coins, relics and gold, the keen detectorist had made a pact with a couple of his closest mates, also avid hobbyists, pledging an oath to split the proceeds on any large gold finds found when the group went prospecting together. After alerting his cohorts and having a few celebratory beers, the next order of business was to decide what to do with the nugget. "It's like catching a big fish and not knowing what to do with it! Where do we put it? I washed it in water, covered it in aluminium foil and kept it in my oven on the first night."



A bit life changing, but it doesn't mean he's going to quit his job and retire. Rather, he plans to purchase a van and travel Australia when time allows, mixing travel and sightseeing with his love of detecting and prospecting. As for the nugget, which is now sitting in a bank vault, a replica is currently being constructed and auction plans are in the works.



“We’re thrilled that a Minelab customer has made such an amazing and important discovery. This is a historic find on par with a nugget like Cindy’s Pride and eclipsing Mick Brown’s recent Fair Dinkum nugget,” said Fraser Kendall, Minelab’s regional sales and marketing director. “He was prospecting in an area that others had clearly worked over and this just goes to show that there’s plenty of gold still coming out of Victoria.”

Just last year, Australian gold prospector Mick Brown discovered an 87-ounce gold nugget with his Minelab detector during a prospecting trip near Wedderburn, a town located less than 140 miles from Melbourne. That buried treasure, the Fair Dinkum nugget, was auctioned off for \$175,000 AUD.

Equipped with Minelab’s exclusive, groundbreaking, Zero Voltage Transmission (ZVT) technology and state-of-the-art features, the GPZ 7000 offers the deepest ground penetration and represents the most significant advancement in gold detecting technologies in years. With its “Super-D” coil configuration, the detector has proven to provide up to 40 percent depth improvement to other detector models on the market.

To learn more about Minelab or GPZ, visit [www.minelab.com](http://www.minelab.com)

#### **About Minelab:**

Minelab is an Australian-built, multi-award winning business that has successfully scaled world markets to command global leadership in its key areas of operation. Based in Mawson Lakes, South Australia with regional offices in Chicago, U.S, and Dubai, U.A.E, the company specializes in advanced electronic technologies. Since its origins in 1985 Minelab has been the world leader in providing metal detecting technologies for consumer, humanitarian demining and military needs. Through devotion to research and development and innovative design, Minelab is today a major world manufacturer of hand-held metal detector products. Over the past 30 years, Minelab has introduced more innovative and practical technology than any of its competitors and has taken the metal detecting industry to new levels of excellence. Minelab is a Codan Limited company (ASX: “CDA”).

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