

# **Ahtna, Inc. acquires new partner in minerals j.v.**

Beldon Corp. has entered the Ahtna Joint Venture, which is conducting a minerals exploration program on land selected by the Ahtna, Inc. Native regional corporation.

Beldon, through its subsidiary, Geneva Pacific Corporation, of

Glenview, Illinois, is participating with two other national minerals exploration firms and Ahtna Minerals Company, Inc. a wholly-owned subsidiary of Ahtna, Inc.

The joint venture, in its fourth year, also includes Conoco, Inc., of Denver, Colorado, and GCO Minerals Company of Houston, Texas. The exploration program includes geographical surveying, assays, geochemical analysis, airborne and ground geophysics, and detailed structural mapping.

The joint venture group will select target areas for potential mineral development. Under the joint venture agreement, members of the group will be entitled to participate with Ahtna Minerals Company, Inc. in future mine development in the target areas.