



Public company leadership and management

In addition to his extensive advisory experience in public markets, David has led two ASX-listed companies as managing director.

During the closing months of 2005, David was invited to assist **Lafayette Mining Limited** after an environmental incident at the company's new flagship base metals mining project in Southern Luzon, Philippines, caused a suspension of operating licences. Initially deployed to manage crisis discussions with Lafayette's banking group, David became increasingly involved, supporting the incumbent managing director in dealing with all project and company stakeholders, including Leighton Contractors (the project's mining contractor and principal contractor for the delivery phase); Lafayette's joint venture partners, LG International and Kores; the Board; major shareholders; and the Philippine management team that had been appointed to restore the project's social licence.

Following the resignation of the incumbent managing director, David was asked to assume that role, implementing a refinancing with the objective of restoring mining and processing operations as soon as possible.

Lafayette was falsely accused of extensive environmental degradation, which resulted in a presidential enquiry and extensive delays in restoring cash flow from operations.

David led Lafayette through a two-year crisis period, navigating a tense and volatile landscape while negotiating with all stakeholders – banks, contractors, joint venture parties, mining regulators, mining staff, special interest groups – at the highest levels. He gained experience in public company advocacy and leadership under highly adverse conditions.

In 2013, David was appointed advisor to **Strike Energy Limited** to assist the company in commercialising a massive undeveloped coal seam gas project in the southern Cooper Basin. The principal focus of this role was to initiate and negotiate long-term gas supply option deals with off-takers willing to make a prepayment to Strike in the form of a call option fee on gas supply from the successful commercialisation of the field. By the end of 2015, David had raised over \$15 million in gas prepayments for advance pilot testing.

David was progressively appointed non-executive director (2014), Executive Director – Commercial (2015) and then Managing Director in 2016. In these roles, David gained a unique insight into east coast gas market dynamics and built upon his existing experience as a leader in challenging circumstances.