

ON TARGET

Nothing is likely to boost a company's share price more than takeover speculation. Here are some of the current resource sector targets:

Equinox Minerals (EQN)

A recent spike in its share price raised speculation a takeover was imminent for the \$3bn Aussie copper miner. Its chief executive played down the talk, but indicated discussions had taken place.

Rio Tinto (RIO)

BHP Billiton has tabled a US\$140bn buy-out deal for Rio, which has so far been thwarted by Rio's

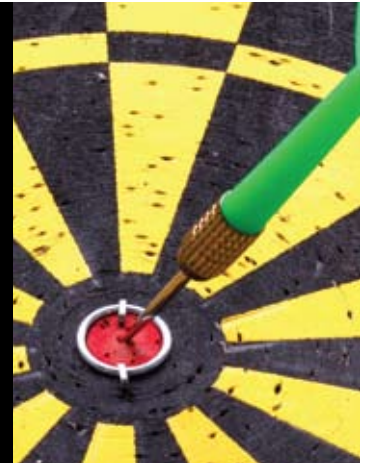
board. There are also whispers that a consortium of Chinese steel companies will make a bid for the world's third largest miner.

Resource Pacific Holdings (RSP)

Swiss mining giant Xstrata recently bid \$960m for Resource Pacific - a NSW coal miner. This follows Xstrata's unsuccessful offer of \$3bn for nickel miner Jubilee in October.

Zinifex (ZFX)

The base metals miner's shares have already rallied to the \$15.65 mark on speculation it will be the next on the resource sector takeovers list. The company has been linked to rivals Xstrata and Oxiana for possible merger or takeover action.



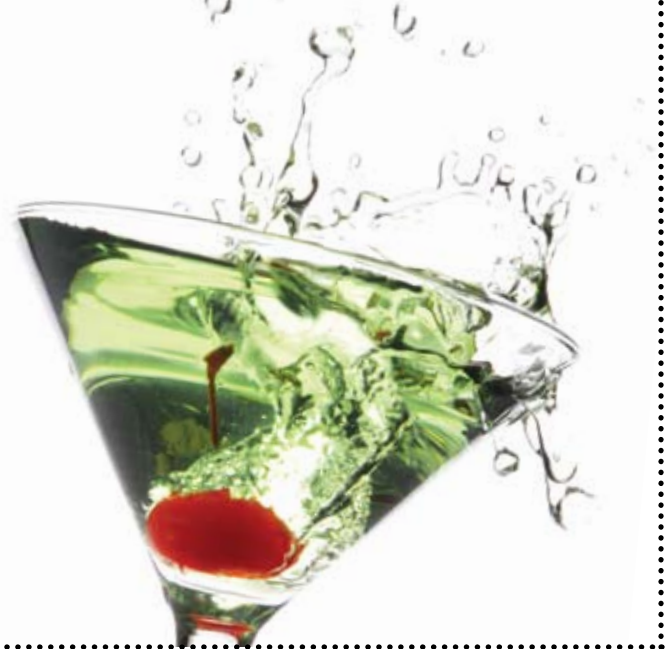
WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE

Cocktails

At \$1770 a glass, you'd hope the world's most expensive cocktail, the Belfast Merchant Hotel's Mai Tai, meaning "out of this world", lived up to its name. The haut monde mix contains a dash of rare 17-year-old Wray & Nephew Rum. If you want to try this one at home, the bottle of rum itself will set you back \$61,291.

Across the Border at Dublin's Mint Bar only thirsty beneficiaries of Ireland's Celtic Tiger economy may be able to afford the 'Minted' cocktail - a vanilla and chocolate martini - adding €500 (\$837) to your tab. Containing vanilla infused vodka, 200-year-old cognac and flakes of 23-carat gold, to have a glass you'd have to be minted.

If the Irish tastes are a little out of your budget, why not try the Ritz Side Car for only €563 (\$669) available at the Hotel Ritz in Paris. Why the high price? The cocktail contains 1865 Ritz Fine Champagne.



MORE THAN A PRETTY PENNY

A rare 1930 penny has been valued at over \$1m - a record for any Australian coin. The copper penny - made during the Great Depression - is owned by an undisclosed NSW businessman. It has increased in value rapidly over the past eight years after being sold to the investor for \$620,000 in November 2005. The coin, now worth around \$1.25m, indicates the rising value of alternative 'exotic' investments. "Items such as the proof penny offer diversification and consistency but that does not mean low returns," said Coinworks managing director Belinda Downie - an industry leading coin dealer with 35 years of experience.