

## Business

**14.06.10**

### Trader talk

Gartmore small-cap fund manager Gervais Williams has taken a significant stake in the AIM-listed mining specialist Minco plc.

Williams bought 17.6 million shares in Minco for his Gartmore Irish Growth and UK & Irish Smaller Companies funds, taking his total position in the company to 6.23% worth in the region of £762, 000. Williams is one of the best-known fund managers investing in smaller companies.

Minco is a precious and base-metals exploration and development company engaged in zinc exploration in [Ireland](#). The company aims to become a significant zinc producer mainly through the advancement of its projects in Ireland but is also seeking other advanced stage projects in other locations. To this end Minco also has zinc-silver investments in [Mexico](#), held through a 40% shareholding in Xtierra which is listed on the TSX venture exchange in Toronto, [Canada](#).

At present, the company's main focus is the development of the Pallas Green zinc project in Ireland, a joint venture with [Xstrata](#) Zinc of which Minco owns 23.6%. The management also said it was looking to bring the Pallas Green project, which totals 294 square kilometres between Limerick and [Tipperary](#), from the advanced exploration phase through to the development and production phases.

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