For years, the city of Asbestos, Qc, has dreamed of becoming Canada's magnesium technopole. Recent developments such as the ongoing growth of Alliance Magnesium and the establishment in the region of a new manufacturing company who will produce recycled magnesium ingots are significant steps in making that dream come true.

After years of testing in its Quebec city laboratories, Magnesium Technologie Recycles (MTR Mag) will soon set shop on the grounds of the former Jeffrey mine headquarters. Within a year, the company will start commercializing recycled magnesium ingots made from melted old car parts. The ingots will be sold to the companies that provide the car parts, in a circular economy pattern. Ultimately, MTR Mag aims at producing more than 10 000 metric tons of recycled magnesium per year and creating 40 jobs in the region.

While Alliance Magnesium's first objective is the production of magnesium using serpentine mine tailings, producing recycled magnesium is also part of its' business plan. And for the mayor of Asbestos, Hugues Grimard, those developments, and other manifestations of interest from various businesses, are welcome news. More than 400 million tons of mine tailing are ready to be exploited in the area and his city has recently created a regional Center for Mining Innovation.