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Big effort: Spitfire Resources got off to a flying start on debut.

History favours Spitfire

WHEN Winston Churchill was directing the war effort, it was his RAF Spitfires that inflicted Hitler's first defeat in the Battle of Britain.

Spitfire Resources — spun out of AIM-listed Churchill Mining — is hoping for a similar victory as it searches for manganese in WA's west Pilbara region.

It was certainly off to a flying start yesterday, with the 20c shares issued in the \$6 million float closing at 25c.

The strong after-market comes after the float was heavily over-subscribed as investors scrambled to get exposure to the promising South Woodie Woodie manganese project.

The main target lies 50 kilometres down strike from Consolidated

Mineral's Woodie Woodie manganese mine.

Managing director James Hamilton — whose grandfather piloted an RAF Spitfire during World War II — said he was keen to begin an aggressive drilling program "as soon as the northern wet season permits access."

"Preparations for this program — including finalising access to drill rigs and completing planning for the details of the drilling activities — are already well advanced as we intend to hit the ground running in 2008."

James started out life as a resources journalist in WA and edited the *Australian Mining Monthly* before applying his extensive mining knowledge as an executive with Churchill Mining.