



MEDIA RELEASE

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XSTRATA MOUNT ISA MINES DONATES \$2 MILLION TO ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

Mount Isa, Friday 13 May, 2011

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines today committed \$2 million to the Royal Flying Doctor Service Queensland Section (RFDS) towards the \$8.5 million redevelopment of their Mount Isa Base which will support the delivery of increased health services to the north west region.

The first soil was turned on this major construction project today by Nino DiMarco, Chief Executive Officer of the RFDS Queensland Section, Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland and Brian Hearne, Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Zinc Australia. The project has been in planning for the past eight years and is scheduled for completion in November this year.

Mr de Kruijff said the donation by Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is part of a commitment to enhance the social infrastructure in Mount Isa.

"This \$2 million donation is the largest donation Xstrata Mount Isa Mines will make in our communities this year," said Mr de Kruijff.

"Our funding further supports the quality and accessibility of health services in Mount Isa and follows a \$2 million donation in 2010 to the Queensland Government for the construction of a new dental health unit at Mount Isa Base Hospital."

The redevelopment project will create a purpose-built primary health care facility that will house the Mount Isa base operations office and allied health services.

The project also involves the construction of several new buildings and facilities to increase health services delivered by the RFDS to Mount Isa and the north west region, and will accommodate in excess of 50 staff to enable planned growth for the future.

RFDS health professionals, through the redevelopment project, will also be provided the opportunity to deliver mental health and other primary health care services such as counselling services, dieticians and nutritionists, diabetes education and rural patient consultations in Mount Isa in specially designed consultation rooms located at the base.

Nino DiMarco, Chief Executive Officer of the RFDS Queensland Section, said there is a growing demand for access to a wider range of health services in rural and remote communities.



“Improving the quality of our facilities will allow us to increase existing services and deliver a more diverse range of additional services to meet the needs of communities in North West Queensland and fulfil our vision,” said Mr DiMarco.

“Financial support from the corporate sector is extremely important to the RFDS and without this contribution from Xstrata Mount Isa Mines we would be unable to complete our Mount Isa base redevelopment project without an impact on our services and other projects.

“We would like to thank Xstrata Mount Isa Mines for this very generous donation,” he said.

Brian Hearne, Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Zinc Australia, said Xstrata Mount Isa Mines relies upon the RFDS for emergency support for our 3,390 employees in Mount Isa.

“We fully appreciate the importance of their services particularly when emergencies unfortunately occur,” Mr Hearne said.

“The availability of a comprehensive range of health services and professionals is also important for the liveability of Mount Isa as Queensland’s largest outback city. This is a good example of how the mining industry can support the sustainable growth of the communities in which it forms a part,” he said.

Through the CSI partnerships and sponsorships program, Xstrata Mount Isa Mines has provided more than \$14 million since 2004 to support the community.

The RFDS is the only provider of fixed wing medical services in the region, transporting more than 1,000 patients in and out of Mount Isa each year to receive vital medical services.

Currently, the Mount Isa base provides clinical services including immunisations to almost 10,000 people each year and operates an emergency retrieval service which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The iconic service has expanded to provide regular transfers of patients to hospitals for life-saving surgery such as organ transplants and heart surgery, delivering critical support to those who live in rural and remote areas.

National RFDS Flying Doctor Week is scheduled from 15-21 May, and bases across Australia will be holding a number of events to raise much need funds for vital medical equipment and the purchase and outfit of aircraft.

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Notes to editors

ABOUT ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE

The furthest corner. The finest care. The RFDS is dedicated to providing vital health care to anyone travelling, working or living in Australia. The iconic RFDS's emergency retrieval service operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week and has expanded to provide regular transfers of patients to larger hospitals for life-saving surgery such as organ transplants and heart surgery, delivering critical support to those who live in rural and remote areas. A broad range of essential health care services to rural and remote communities are also delivered by the RFDS. This comprehensive health care service includes general practice, Indigenous health, child and family health, social and emotional wellbeing, women's health and health promotion. Today, the RFDS operates from 21 bases across Australia and is Australia's third largest airline with a fleet of 53 aircraft. Our vision is to provide equity of access to primary health care services across Queensland. Each year, the RFDS provides the finest health care to more than 270,000 Australians – that's one person every two minutes.

ABOUT MOUNT ISA MINES

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is a world class mining operation and a significant asset within the Xstrata global portfolio. Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is operated jointly by the Xstrata Copper and Xstrata Zinc business units.

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines processes and mines copper and zinc ore from the Mount Isa, Ernest Henry, George Fisher, Black Star, Handlebar Hill, Enterprise, and X41 ore bodies. Mining is both underground and open-cut. Products marketed by the company for export are: Copper Cathode, Copper Concentrate, Zinc Concentrate, Crude Lead and Tankhouse Slimes (a co-product of copper refining with significant copper, gold and silver content).

With a workforce of over 4,000 employees and contractors, Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is a significant contributor to the local economy, contributing nearly \$2 billion to the local economy in 2009. In 2009-10 Xstrata Mount Isa Mines exported more than \$2.3 billion worth of product, up 22 per cent on last year, and accounting for more than three quarters of total sales.

The company's structure recognises a fully integrated marketing approach blending global marketing intelligence with local logistics, shipping, port and commercial expertise. Commercial and sales staff are located in Townsville and Brisbane. The company's key export markets include Canada, China, England, Germany, India, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan.

ABOUT XSTRATA PLC

Xstrata is a global diversified mining group, listed on the London and Swiss Stock Exchanges. Headquartered in Zug, Switzerland, Xstrata maintains a meaningful position in seven major international commodity markets: copper, coking coal, thermal coal, ferrochrome, nickel, vanadium and zinc with additional exposure to gold, cobalt, lead and silver. The Xstrata Group also comprises a growing platinum group metals business, iron ore projects, recycling facilities and a suite of global technology products, many of which are industry leaders. The Group's operations and projects span 20 countries.

ABOUT XSTRATA COPPER



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Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer with attributable mined production in 2010 of 913,500 tonnes of copper in cathodes and concentrates. The company is also one of the world's largest producers of smelter and refined copper, including from third party materials. Headquartered in Brisbane, Xstrata Copper is one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc. Its mining and metallurgical operations and development projects span eight countries: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Peru, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea and the USA. Its operations and projects are administered through a regional divisional management structure, which ensures that critical decisions are taken close to the related businesses. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with plants in the United States and offices in Canada and Asia.

ABOUT XSTRATA ZINC

Headquartered in Madrid, Spain, Xstrata Zinc is one of the world's largest producers of zinc and one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc. Xstrata's zinc and lead operations and exploration projects are located in Australia, Canada, Germany, Peru, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Xstrata Zinc's operations in Spain comprise the San Juan de Nieva zinc smelter and the Arnao zinc semis plant in Asturias, and the Hinojedo roasting plant in Cantabria.

In Australia, operations comprise: the Mount Isa, George Fisher underground, Handlebar Hill open cut and Black Star open cut zinc-lead mines, zinc-lead concentrator, lead smelter and Bowen Coke Works in north Queensland; the McArthur River open pit zinc-lead mine, processing and loading facility in the Northern Territory; and the Lady Loretta zinc lead deposit in north-west Queensland.

In Canada, operations and exploration projects include the Brunswick zinc-lead mine and lead smelter in New Brunswick; 25% of the CEZ zinc smelter near Montreal; and the Perseverance zinc deposit in Quebec.

Xstrata Zinc also operates the Nordenham zinc smelter in northern Germany; the Northfleet lead refinery in the United Kingdom; and owns 33.75% of the Antamina mine in Peru.

Around half of all zinc currently consumed is used for galvanizing steel, which is an environmentally friendly method of protecting steel against corrosion. Zinc also finds application in the manufacture of die-cast alloys, brass and the production of zinc oxides and chemicals.



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