



**MOUNT ISA
MINES**

MEDIA RELEASE

**XSTRATA SKILLS CENTRE APPRENTICES SHINE AT THE QUEENSLAND
TRAINING AWARDS IN TOWNSVILLE**

Mount Isa, 17 July 2011

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is proud to announce that two of its top apprentices have been recognised at the Queensland Training Awards presentation ceremony hosted by the Department of Education and Training on Saturday night in Townsville.

The awards acknowledge outstanding achievements by individuals and organisations in the vocational training sector.

First year apprentice Kieran Punch has been awarded the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year* award.

Kieran has demonstrated an unflinching dedication to completing his training throughout his time at the Xstrata Skills Centre. He completed Year 12 at Spinifex State College in 2010 while completing a school based traineeship with the Xstrata Skills Centre and obtaining a Certificate II in Metalliferous Mining Operations – Processing.

At the completion of the school based traineeship Kieran was awarded Xstrata's *Trainee of the Year Award* for his hard work, dedication and commitment to completing the traineeship. He is currently completing a Certificate III in Engineering – Metal Fabrication.

Colin Phillips was a finalist in the *Apprentice of the Year Award* after completing his apprenticeship in 2010 and Certificate III in Electrotechnology Systems.

Colin displays his passion for his trade on a daily basis where he is currently an underground electrician in Copper Mine Maintenance for Xstrata's Mount Isa Copper Operations. He said throughout the progression of his apprenticeship he was exposed to a variety of trade disciplines as well as different parts of the mining lease.

General Manager Human Resources Xstrata Copper Queensland, Tony Page, said that it was important to celebrate the achievements of Xstrata Mount Isa Mines' apprentices and employees who have built successful careers in the mining industry.



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“These awards are an opportunity to place the spotlight on trainees, apprentices and employees who have advanced within their chosen field.

“Colin and Kieran are wonderful role models for other school students who would like to enter the industry and begin a school-based traineeship or apprenticeship,” said Mr Page.

In addition to the Queensland Training Awards, Kieran Punch was awarded the *Encouragement Award – Indigenous Trainee for Mount Isa and surrounding region* at the NAIDOC ‘2 Deadly’ Achievement Awards, held in Mount Isa on 9 July.

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines congratulates all participants of the Queensland Training Awards.



Keiran Punch accepts the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student of the Year award.

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Neither the content of the company's website nor the content of any other website accessible from hyperlinks on the company's website is incorporated into, or forms part of, this announcement

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Notes to editors

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

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.

