



News release

Mount Isa, Tuesday 20 August

## Computers for village help pave road out of poverty for new born babies and their mothers

In August, Mount Isa Mines donated five Dell laptops to a village in east Africa.

The laptops will significantly enhance educational opportunities for students at in the rural community of Molo in Kenya, and provides a valuable resource families in the economically poor village would otherwise be unable to afford.

In a joint initiative driven by non-profit charity organisation the Springs of Hope Foundation, the laptops will be put to use to train young graduate students to achieve radiology certificates, which will enable them to provide potentially lifesaving early intervention and medical services for expectant mothers and their babies.

Jennifer Hughes-Bystrom, Founder and CEO of the Springs of Hope Foundation said the potential uses for the laptops in the village community are limitless, and will provide long-term and far reaching benefits to the community.

“The majority of women in Molo deliver at home with the help of the village midwife, but if there is a difficult or breech birth often mother and child die during labour as there are no medical facilities available,” Ms Hughes-Bystrom said.

Last year, a medical technology company donated five on-line radiology training courses to the Springs of Hope Foundation in a step to reduce infant and maternal mortality in the community. However, lack of access to computer technology made it impossible for students in the village to take advantage of the training.

Hearing of the plight of the Molo village, Glencore employees from across our north Queensland operations banded together to come up with a solution. From there, Mount Isa Mines’ Information Services and Technology team got to work setting up an IT ‘care package’ for the village community.

Rob Luhrs, Manager Information Services and Technology Mount Isa Mines said the opportunity to assist such a worthy cause was one his department couldn’t overlook.

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“When we received the call for assistance, we knew this was a simple opportunity for our department to make a real difference,” Mr Luhrs said.

“It’s a good feeling knowing something so simple can have such a positive impact on the prospects of a student and ultimately the health and wellbeing of an entire village community.

“From a business perspective, it also means computers and equipment we can no longer use on site is given a new life somewhere else, which reduces waste and improves our sustainable development performance.”

Once the first five graduate students acquire their radiology certificates, the computers will be used to help Molo’s school children master more advanced computer skills, equipping them with the computer literacy they need to pursue careers or even go on to study at university once they graduate from high school.

“The donated laptops will go a long way to broadening the horizons for these students, especially those who dream of a profession that requires computer skills,” Ms Hughes-Bystrom said.

“The key to the road out of poverty is education and training, and having Mount Isa Mines’ support in our efforts to help these children to achieve this goal is invaluable.”

## Media contacts

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Lara Lavers		Michelle Connolly	
Telephone	+61 7 4744 2955	Telephone	+61 7 4744 3144
Mobile	+61 405 055 279	Mobile	+61 478 325 738
Email	<a href="mailto:lara.lavers@glencore.com.au">lara.lavers@glencore.com.au</a>	Email	<a href="mailto:michelle.connolly@glencore.com.au">michelle.connolly@glencore.com.au</a>
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## Notes to editors

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The Group's industrial and marketing activities are supported by a global network of more than 90 offices located in over 50 countries. Our diversified operations comprise over 150 mining and metallurgical sites, offshore oil production assets, farms and agricultural facilities. We employ approximately 190,000 people, including contractors. For more information visit [www.glencorexstrata.com](http://www.glencorexstrata.com).

### **About Mount Isa Mines**

Mount Isa Mines operates two separate mining and processing streams, copper and zinc-lead-silver, to deliver natural resources that have enduring roles in our society. The site hosts the world's largest zinc resource base, as well as the biggest network of underground mine development in the world.

The site includes two copper underground mines, one zinc underground mine and two zinc open cut mines; the copper concentrator and smelter, as well as the zinc-lead concentrator, lead smelter and zinc filter plant. Together, these represent Australia's largest industrial complex.

As well as the Australian market, our products are exported to countries throughout Asia, Europe and the UK, contributing billions of dollars to the Australian economy every year. We provide work for almost 5,000 employees and contractors and are dedicated to supporting local people, local businesses, and creating strong links between our operations and the city of Mount Isa. We do this through generous contributions to local health, education, cultural and capacity building initiatives and the funding of vital public services and infrastructure development projects. Since 1924, our operations have been at the heart of life in 'the Isa'. For more information, visit [www.mountisamines.com.au](http://www.mountisamines.com.au).