



News release

Mount Isa, Wednesday 3 September 2014

## Mount Isa Mines' 'top tradie' honoured at inaugural Women in Resources National Awards

One of Mount Isa Mines' talented female employees has been honoured as a finalist at the inaugural Women in Resources National Awards presented in Brisbane yesterday.

After taking out the Tradesperson Award at the Queensland Resources Council Resources Awards for Women in March this year, Amy Woods, Electrician Mount Isa Copper Operations was one of four mining women selected from across the country to compete for the national title.

The awards ran alongside the annual Women in Resources Inspire! Convention and celebrated the extraordinary achievements of the resources sector's leading ladies while shining the spotlight on businesses and individuals championing the attraction and retention of women in the mining industry.

Ms Woods' clear passion for her work, her willingness to take on new challenges and her contribution to her local community impressed judges, who applauded her for the role she plays in mentoring young apprentices and her generosity in inspiring and encouraging other women to consider mining careers.

Ms Woods, who began her career through Mount Isa Mines' Apprenticeship Program in 2006, said it was an honour to have her achievements recognised on a national stage.

"I feel being given the opportunity to pursue a career I love is reward enough, but I will take this opportunity and endeavour to inspire other women to take the plunge and try a trade," Ms Woods said.

"Mount Isa Mines has given me so many opportunities to further my career and their support of women in the resources sector is evident even in my own locker room, with the number of female employees in a range of positions increasing every year."

Mount Isa Mines' achievements in relation to female employment are impressive; currently, 15 per cent of the company's workforce is made up of women, and 7 in 10 of its female employees work in non-traditional operational, technical or professional roles, putting the business ahead of the curve in relation to the rest of the mining industry.

Mike Westerman Chief Operating Officer Copper Assets North Queensland said a vital component of the business's success over the years has been its dedication to diversity.

"One of our key strategic priorities is to create a work environment that attracts the highest potential talent, builds the capabilities necessary to deliver our operational strategy and fosters a high performance, entrepreneurial and safety focussed culture that empowers our people to succeed, and this applies to all of our employees regardless of gender," Mr Westerman said.

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“Ms Woods’ achievements demonstrate that women can not just take on but thrive in traditionally ‘male’ roles, and also that the mining industry can provide real opportunities for women to build long-term, fulfilling careers.”

“We are very proud of Ms Woods and we congratulate her on her on her award success.”

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### **Amy Woods**

Ms Woods is an install electrician in Mount Isa Mines’ Enterprise and X41 underground copper mines, responsible for the installation and maintenance of the mines’ critical electrical infrastructure. This infrastructure includes high voltage cabling to deliver power to all areas of the mine, switchboards and substations, ventilation fans and fan starters, pumps and pump starters and outlets to provide power to our underground drill rigs. Her work is important for sustaining safe work environments for mine workers by ensuring a reliable supply of fresh air throughout the mine and sufficient lighting in work areas.

Ms Woods has also played an integral role in managing a range of electrical infrastructure projects, from the initial design phase through to commissioning. These projects have significantly improved the safety of the underground mining environment while increasing production efficiency and minimising downtime.

## Media contacts

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## Notes to editors

### **About Glencore Xstrata**

Glencore Xstrata is one of the world's largest global diversified natural resource companies. As a leading integrated producer and marketer of commodities with a well-balanced portfolio of diverse industrial assets, we are strongly positioned to capture value at every stage of the supply chain, from sourcing materials deep underground to delivering products to an international customer base.

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).