



NEWS RELEASE

Xstrata Copper named Queensland Miner of the Year

Brisbane, 1 November 2012

Xstrata Copper welcomes the award for Queensland Miner of the Year, presented at the Mining 2012 Conference in Brisbane yesterday.

The award recognises outstanding achievements within the Queensland resources community, with key selection criteria focussing on performance and environmental and community contributions.

Xstrata Copper North Queensland Chief Operating Officer Steve de Kruijff said awards like these really are testament to the efforts and dedication of our workforce, along with our commitment to sustainability and the communities in which we operate.

"Without the consistent efforts of our North Queensland workforce, awards like this wouldn't be possible," Mr de Kruijff said.

"The award comes amid a strong year of new developments for our North Queensland operations.

"We are continuing the \$589 million transition of our Ernest Henry Mine from open pit to underground and commenced mining at our \$300 million Mount Margaret Mining operation.

"I think our workforce deserve to feel quite proud of this industry wide recognition for their efforts.

"We are proud of the significant contribution our operations make to Queensland with around \$1.6 billion contributed to the State economy in 2011 and providing around 4,000 jobs.

"This prestigious award is external recognition of our focus to continue managing our operations in a sustainable way while delivering the vital natural resources society demands.

"We enjoy strong support from our local communities in Mount Isa and Cloncurry and we will continue to make contributions to ensure the ongoing vibrancy of these centres."

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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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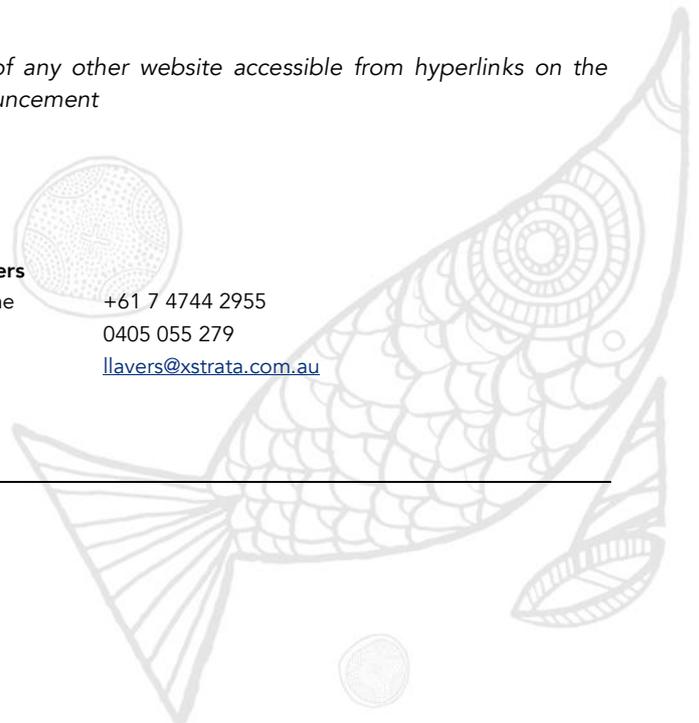
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Notes to editors

About Xstrata plc

We are a major producer of a range of vital commodities used in everything from constructing buildings and delivering electricity, to developing jet engines and mobile phones. We are one of the top five global producers of copper, thermal and metallurgical coal, ferrochrome, zinc and nickel and we also produce silver, lead, platinum, gold, cobalt and vanadium.

Founded in 2002 and headquartered in Switzerland, we operate in over 20 countries and employ over 70,000 people at more than 100 operations and projects around the world. We work in a responsible and sustainable way, with an entrepreneurial spirit and dynamic approach. For more information, visit www.xstrata.com

About Xstrata Copper

We are the fourth largest global copper producer and one of the world's largest producers of smelter, refined and recycled copper, including from third party materials.

The copper we produce is essential to our modern society, being used extensively in electronic, consumer and building products, and with its use in green-technologies, anti-microbial applications and ability to be recycled, it is playing a vital role in our sustainable future.

Headquartered in Brisbane, Australia, we have operations and projects in eight countries and employ over 20,000 people. We play an essential role in the communities in which we live and work, by providing jobs, training, infrastructure, income for suppliers and support for social development. For more information, visit www.xstratacopper.com