



**MOUNT ISA  
MINES**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Mount Isa, 2 December 2010

### **Xstrata Mount Isa Mines wins Australian Export Award**

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines has won the 2010 Australian Export Awards in the Minerals and Energy category in recognition of a 22 percent increase in exports in the 2010 financial year to \$2.3 billion.

Chief Operating Officer, Xstrata Zinc Australia, Mr Brian Hearne received the award on behalf of both Xstrata Copper and Xstrata Zinc in the presence of the Minister for Trade, the Hon Craig Emerson MP at an event in Sydney last night.

Mr Hearne said the award is a great recognition for the operations considering the large number of major resource and energy companies active in Australia.

"It shows that one of the oldest mining operations in Australia is still highly competitive," Mr Hearne said.

"The increase in export volumes in recent years reflects the success of our focus on organic growth during a period of unprecedented volatility in global markets. We are proud of what our teams have achieved in North Queensland."

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines currently employs 4,000 personnel in Mount Isa, Cloncurry, Townsville and Bowen.

Between 2008 and 2010, zinc and copper exports by volume increased by 105% and 20% respectively.

Mr Hearne said both commodity businesses are now planning for continued growth in production and export volumes.

"Both the copper and zinc streams are investing in the sustainability of long term production," he said.

Xstrata Zinc has this year announced over \$400 million in developments to expand both open pit and underground operations and maintain a high level of production.



Xstrata Copper has commenced work on the \$589 million development of the Ernest Henry underground mine and construction of a magnetite extraction plant. The magnetite processing operation will produce approximately 1.2 million tonnes of magnetite per annum for export to Asia and become Queensland's first iron ore concentrate producer.

## **ENDS**

---

### **Xstrata contacts**

#### **Jo Pafumi**

General Manager, Corporate Affairs, Community Relations and Human Resources  
Xstrata Zinc Australia  
Telephone 3295 7586  
Mobile 0411 759 683  
Email [jpafumi@xstratazinc.com.au](mailto:jpafumi@xstratazinc.com.au)  
[www.xstrata.com](http://www.xstrata.com)

#### **Josh Euler**

Senior Corporate Affairs Advisor  
Xstrata Copper  
Telephone 3295 7543  
Mobile 0435 659 987  
Email [jeuler@xstrata.com.au](mailto:jeuler@xstrata.com.au)

### **Notes to editors**

#### **ABOUT XSTRATA 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, Handle Bar 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, with its headquarters in Zug, Switzerland. Xstrata's businesses maintain a meaningful position in seven major international commodity markets: copper, coking coal, thermal coal, ferrochrome, nickel, vanadium and zinc, with a growing platinum group metals business, additional exposures to gold, cobalt, lead and silver, recycling facilities and a suite of global technology products, many of which are industry leaders. The Group's operations and projects span 19 countries.

#### **ABOUT XSTRATA COPPER**

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: Australia, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Canada, the USA, the Philippines and Papua New Guinea. Its operations are administered by five separate divisions, based close to the mining operations, namely the North Queensland, Minera Alumbra, North Chile, Southern Peru and Canada divisions. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with plants in the United States and offices in Canada and Asia.

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer with attributable mined production in 2009 of 907,000 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.

## **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 75% of 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.