



News release

Mount Isa, Monday 16 September

Mount Isa Mines bright spark shines at Queensland Training Awards

Mount Isa Mines electrician Fletcher Cox has been recognised as one of the top apprentices in the state, earning a place as an 'Apprentice of the Year' finalist at the Queensland Training Awards held in Brisbane on Friday.

The awards, presented by the Queensland Government, recognise the outstanding achievements of individuals and organisations within the vocational education and training sector and highlight the significant contribution they make to the wider community and economy.

This year, the award drew eight of Queensland's highest-flying apprentices from four different trade disciplines, including five electricians, a boilermaker, a carpenter and a chef.

Passionate about encouraging young people to consider a trade as a rewarding career pathway, Mr Cox thanked the award organisers for shining the spotlight on the achievements of apprentices.

"It was a huge honour and very humbling to be recognised alongside the other outstanding finalists," Mr Cox said.

"I would like to thank the Queensland Government and Training Queensland for promoting and supporting trade pathways as the real and valuable career options they are, and for giving us all the opportunity to be recognised on such a big stage."

Mount Isa born-and-bred Mr Cox commenced his apprenticeship with Mount Isa Mines in 2009 and received his trade qualification and electrical license in November 2012.

In the final year of his apprenticeship, the 22-year-old's knack with electronic field instruments saw him offered one of only a handful of places in an innovative, locally-delivered instrumentation pilot training program developed by Mount Isa Mines in collaboration with RMIT University and SAGE Didactic. In July this year, he completed this program, receiving a Certificate IV in Electrical Instrumentation.

Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operating Officer Copper Assets Australia said it was important to encourage and celebrate the achievements of the tradespeople of the future.

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“We employ about 150 apprentices across our operations, and understand the role our apprentices play in ensuring we have a skilled workforce in the future, not only in Queensland but also throughout Australia,” Mr de Kruijff said.

“These awards are an opportunity to highlight the hard work and dedication of organisations, businesses and individuals championing positive outcomes for the next generation of skilled workers, whose contributions are considered vital for sustaining the industries that drive our local, state and national economies,” Mr de Kruijff said.

“On behalf of Mount Isa Mines, I would like to congratulate Mr Cox on his success.”

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Media contacts

| | | | |
|-------------|--|-------------------|--|
| 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 | lara.lavers@glencore.com.au | Email | michelle.connolly@glencore.com.au |

Notes to editors

About Glencore Xstrata

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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.

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.