



MEDIA RELEASE

Mount Isa public awareness campaign achieving results

Mount Isa, 17 March 2011

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines welcomes the findings of Queensland Health's 2010 follow up blood lead sampling program of Mount Isa children, which shows that now more than 95% of children are recording safe blood lead levels, up from around 89% in 2008.

The latest round of testing conducted by Queensland Health followed a public awareness campaign in Mount Isa conducted by the Living with Lead Alliance.

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines is a founding member of the Living with Lead Alliance which is responsible for informing families on how to live safely in an environment where lead occurs from natural and industrial sources.

Chief Operating Officer, Xstrata Copper North Queensland, Steve de Kruijff said he is encouraged by the progress of the Alliance's public awareness campaign.

"This is further evidence that the public awareness campaign in Mount Isa is working," said Mr de Kruijff.

"The health and safety of the Mount Isa community is our number one priority and it is reassuring to see the actions of the Alliance's public awareness campaign achieving results.

"These results support the view that by taking a few simple measures relating to hygiene and nutrition, people can and do live safely in Mount Isa.

"We know that lead is present in the surrounding environment, that's why the mine was built here.

"Xstrata has never exceeded regulatory limits for respirable lead at any air monitor in the Mount Isa community since acquiring Mount Isa Mines in 2003.

"Xstrata will continue to support initiatives that aim to assess, and where necessary, improve the health and well-being of the Mount Isa community.

"As a founding member of the Living with Lead Alliance, we will continue to work with key local stakeholders to inform local families about how to live safely in an environment where lead occurs from natural and industrial sources."

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Notes to editors

ABOUT XSTRATA PLC

Xstrata is a global diversified mining group, listed on the London and Swiss Stock Exchanges. Headquartered in Zug, Switzerland, Xstrata maintains a meaningful position in seven major international commodity markets: copper, coking coal, thermal coal, ferrochrome, nickel, vanadium and zinc with additional exposure to gold, cobalt, lead and silver. The Xstrata Group also comprises a growing platinum group metals business, iron ore projects, recycling facilities and a suite of global technology products, many of which are industry leaders. The Group's operations and projects span 20 countries.

ABOUT XSTRATA COPPER

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer with attributable mined production in 2010 of 913,500 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.

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: Argentina, Australia, Canada, Chile, Peru, the Philippines, Papua New Guinea and the USA. Its operations and projects are administered through a regional divisional management structure, which ensures that critical decisions are taken close to the related businesses. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with plants in the United States and offices in Canada and Asia.

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.

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, Handlebar 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.