



PRESS RELEASE

Renovating a historical landmark

Mount Isa, 28 September 2012

On Wednesday 3 October, at our second Community Information Session for 2012, we will officially open the John Middlin Meeting Centre.

Earlier this year a renovation project was undertaken to return the old St Joseph's Church to its former glory and convert the building into a state-of-the-art fully functioning auditorium.

Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland says the renovation project was undertaken with a great deal of integrity as a tribute to the community history this building holds.

"In 1957, the church was originally opened, replacing an old iron building which had been used as the Saint Joseph's church and school from the 1930's onwards," says Mr de Kruijff.

"In its heyday the stately church was considered one of Mount Isa's finest buildings hosting many weddings, christenings and Sunday Masses."

"In 1985, the church and school were sold to MIM Holdings and in 1988 we converted the church into the John Middlin Mining Display and Visitor's Centre, a project that was named after the Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Director of the MIM board at the time, John Middlin."

"The Mining Display and Visitor's Centre was created as a special bicentennial celebration project and at the time this facility was believed to be the only one of its kind in Australia. "

"While the tourist centre closed in 1992, many of the specimens are now housed at Outback at Isa."

"The church will now be used as a meeting hall and auditorium for internal purposes and will complement our already well utilised St Josephs Training Centre. "

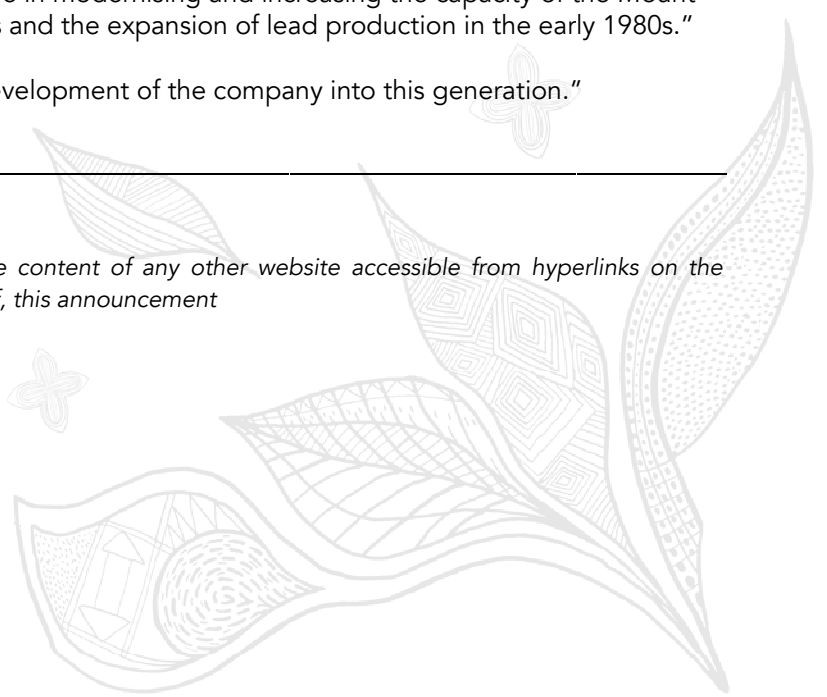
"The facility has been named the John Middlin Meeting Centre as a tribute to John Middlin"

"During his time with MIM John played a major role in modernising and increasing the capacity of the Mount Isa Mines' copper processing facilities in the 1970s and the expansion of lead production in the early 1980s."

"He helped to shape the long-term strategy for development of the company into this generation."

End

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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