

PRESS RELEASE

Xstrata Copper employees shine at Queensland Resources Council Resources Awards for Women

Embargoed until 9am, Friday 8 March 2013

Mount Isa, 6 March 2013

Two of Xstrata Copper's talented female employees have won prestigious individual honours at the 2013 Queensland Resources Council (QRC) Resources Awards for Women.

Lucya Yunus Senior Metallurgist Mount Isa Copper Smelter took out the Rising Star Award, while Tamara Bellinger Underground Shift Electrician Mount Isa Copper Operations won the Tradesperson Award.

The awards, which will be presented at a breakfast ceremony in Brisbane on Friday 8 March, recognise the contribution and achievements of women in the resources sector and shine the spotlight on businesses and individuals demonstrating leadership in enhancing the attraction and retention of women in the industry.

Lucya Yunus received the Rising Star Award for her passion for improving the productivity, efficiency and safety of Xstrata Copper's Mount Isa smelting operations. Over the course of her short career, she has designed and implemented a number of efficiency initiatives resulting in millions of dollars worth of savings and improved environmental performance for the business.

Ms Yunus said she is driven by the problem solving aspect of her work.

"I love that my work provides me with such a wide variety of challenges, and in particular, I'm passionate about finding new methods of making our operation more cost effective and productive."

A product of the Xstrata Graduate Program, Ms Yunus has experienced a meteoric rise since she commenced her career with Xstrata four years ago, and at 27 is the youngest ever female Acting Metallurgy Manager for Xstrata's Mount Isa Copper Smelter. She was applauded by judges for being a role model and mentor to female school and university students hoping to pursue careers in the resources sector.

"I'm grateful to Xstrata for giving me the freedom not only to tackle the challenges inherent to our operation, but also for providing opportunities for me to get out in the community and talk to other women about the fantastic career pathways there are available to them in mining.

"I hope that through my work and by sharing my experiences, I'm able to encourage and inspire more young women to pursue professions in the sector, particularly in areas where women are traditionally underrepresented," Ms Yunus said.

Tamara Bellinger received the Tradesperson Award for breaking new ground for female tradespeople in the mining industry and for the leadership she has shown in attracting young women to the sector through her role as a spokesperson and mentor in the wider community.

Ms Bellinger is the first ever female Shift Electrician for the Crushing and Conveying section of Xstrata Copper's underground mine in Mount Isa. Her role requires her to be on call and prepared to address plant breakdowns at any time, and her work is essential to ensuring the efficient production of copper in Mount Isa. Ms Bellinger is also an Australian Queen's Scout and a two-times world stick fighting champion.

Ms Bellinger said her network of female colleagues has played a key role in her career, and paid tribute to Kerry Brisbane Electrical Apprentice Team Leader Xstrata Mount Isa Mines as her role model.

"When it comes to breaking ground for women in mining Kerry Brisbane was one of the early frontrunners, starting her electrical apprenticeship with Mount Isa Mines in 1980 as one of only two female apprentices in her year.

"The environment we work in can be very challenging at times, and it has been a godsend having insightful, capable female role models to turn to for support when things get tough

"Kerry never allowed me to believe that my gender has any influence on my ability as an electrician, and I'm grateful to have had such a strong woman as a mentor since I started out on this path as a 15-year-old school-based apprentice."

Steve de Kruijff Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland said Ms Yunus and Ms Bellinger are inspiring role models for other women considering careers in the mining industry.

"Here we have two exceptional young women at the top of their game in two very different fields, and notably, excelling in professions typically dominated by men," Mr de Kruijff said.

"Their success highlights the variety of career pathways available to women in the mining industry particularly in non-traditional roles, and we are extremely proud of both Ms Yunus's and Ms Bellinger's achievements."

Xstrata would like to congratulate all employees who were nominated for the QRC awards, and thank them for their contribution to the company and the mining industry.

End

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

Xstrata Copper contacts:

Lara Lavers

Telephone +61 7 4744 2955
Mobile +61 405 055 279
Email llavers@xstrata.com.au

Michelle Connolly

Telephone +61 7 4744 3144
Mobile +61 478 325 738
Email mconnolly@xstrata.com.au

www.mountisamines.com.au

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