



NEWS RELEASE

Xstrata Copper's North Queensland operations continue despite cyclone season

Mount Isa, 9 February 2007

Xstrata Copper North Queensland advises that Tropical Cyclone Nelson has had limited impact on its Townsville Copper Refinery and Port Operations.

Rail deliveries of copper anode from Mount Isa to the refinery were delayed for three days due to rail closures. While copper cathode production for the month is expected to be down slightly due to these delays, this will have limited impact on our annual projected production rate.

The Townsville port remains open, however the high rainfalls have caused some delays to ship loading.

The refinery and port operations are following normal pre-cyclone procedures as standard practice and remain on stand-by.

Ends

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Notes to editors

Xstrata is a major 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 a smaller but profitable aluminium business, recycling facilities, additional exposures to gold, lead and silver and a suite of global technologies, many of which are industry leaders. The Group's operations and projects span 18 countries: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Germany, Jamaica, New

Caledonia, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, South Africa, Spain, Tanzania, the USA and the UK.

Xstrata Copper is headquartered in Brisbane, Australia, with regional offices in Santiago and Antofagasta, Chile; Lima and Arequipa, Peru; Buenos Aires, Argentina; and Toronto, Canada, and is one of the commodity business units within the major global diversified mining group Xstrata plc.

Xstrata Copper's mining operations span five countries and comprise mines, mineral processing plants and port facilities in North Queensland, Australia; mining and processing operations and port facilities in Chile, Peru and Argentina in South America; and mining and processing plants in Canada. It also has a recycling business (Noranda Recycling) with plants in Canada, the United States and Asia.

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer, with annual managed production of over one million tonnes.