



MEDIA RELEASE
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Xstrata Mount Isa Mines commits \$2 million to improve dental health in Mount Isa

Mount Isa, 15 July 2010

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines today announced \$2 million funding towards the construction of a new \$6.6 million Mount Isa Oral Health Building, under its Xstrata Community Partnership Program North Queensland and partnership with Queensland Health, which will form part of the \$65 million Mount Isa Hospital Redevelopment.

Construction of the Oral Health Building was initiated today at the official sod turning ceremony attended by the Deputy Premier and Minister for Health, The Hon Paul Lucas and Mrs Betty Kiernan, Member for Mount Isa. Upon completion the building will house five dental surgeries, a patient waiting area and technical facilities including a modern equipment sterilising room and dental laboratory, and improved staff facilities.

Xstrata Copper North Queensland Chief Operating Officer, Steve de Kruijff, said delivering essential health and dental services is crucial in developing sustainable communities.

"This partnership with Queensland Health reaffirms our commitment to community health and will ensure the Mount Isa community and surrounding communities have access to a modern public dental health facility, while providing important training opportunities for our future dentists," said Mr de Kruijff.

"We hope this funding and the new centre will improve access to dental health services and alleviate lengthy waiting times which are often experienced in regional and remote areas.

"The centre will also provide a dental health training facility and is committed to partnerships with universities including James Cook University for a future role in supporting the clinical training of Dentists. Students will be trained at the new centre in an endeavour to increase the number of Dentists available throughout North and North West Queensland.

"The Mount Isa Oral Health Building will also play a pivotal role in providing preventative oral health programs for the Mount Isa community and surrounding area through dental hygiene staff collaborating with school and community groups to provide education on good oral hygiene and on improving oral health.

"Importantly, our partnership decision to invest in this particular infrastructure project is based on the ever increasing facts and research that good oral hygiene helps in the fight against diseases such as diabetes and heart disease," he said.

In 2010, the Xstrata Community Partnership Program North Queensland entered its sixth year of working in partnership with communities and government to address the areas of greatest need in the north Queensland communities where the company's employees live and work.

The program addresses six key areas, namely enterprise and job creation, education, environment, social and community development, health, and arts and culture.

Xstrata Copper North Queensland Chief Operating Officer, Steve de Kruijff, said the program's achievements to date demonstrated Xstrata's belief that local communities should benefit from the company's operations both in the short and long term.

"Through our Corporate Social Involvement program, we develop community partnerships that contribute to the development of sustainable communities and emphasise local capacity building. We believe that the wellbeing of our employees, their families and the residents of Mount Isa is crucial to maintaining our social licence to operate," he said.

"Since 2005 the Xstrata Community Partnership Program North Queensland has made a huge contribution to North Queensland by providing over \$11 million funding for projects, including other health initiatives such as support of the Mount Isa Diabetes Service, a partnership with Queensland Health established in 2005 which services over 1200 diabetes clients annually within Mount Isa and outlying communities, and partnerships with the Mount Isa Centre for Rural and Remote Health which have provided improved emergency medical training to local and regional health professionals.

"In particular, in 2009 alone, Xstrata Mount Isa Mines supported 23 local initiatives with a program value of \$3.43 million.

"I look forward to continuing to share the benefits of our business performance with our communities and our partner organisations through this program," said Steve de Kruijff.

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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, with its headquarters in Zug, Switzerland. Xstrata's businesses maintain a meaningful position in seven major international commodity markets: copper, coking coal, thermal coal, ferrochrome, nickel, vanadium and zinc, with a growing platinum group metals business, additional exposures to gold, cobalt, lead and silver, recycling facilities and a suite of global technology products, many of which are industry leaders. The Group's operations and projects span 19 countries.

ABOUT XSTRATA COPPER

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: Australia, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Canada, the USA, the Philippines and

Papua New Guinea. Its operations are administered by five separate divisions, based close to the mining operations, namely the North Queensland, Minera Alumbra, North Chile, Southern Peru and Canada divisions. It also has a recycling business (Xstrata Recycling) with plants in the United States and offices in Canada and Asia.

Xstrata Copper is the fourth largest global copper producer with attributable mined production in 2009 of 907,000 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.

XSTRATA ZINC

Xstrata Zinc is one of the world's largest producers of zinc. 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.

Xstrata's zinc and lead operations are located in Australia, Canada, Germany, Peru, Spain and the UK. They comprise: the San Juan de Nieva zinc smelter and the Arnao zinc semis plant in Asturias, Spain; the Hinojedo roasting plant in Cantabria, Spain; the Nordenham zinc smelter in northern Germany; the Mount Isa, George Fisher and Black Star zinc-lead mines and lead smelter in Queensland, Australia; McArthur River zinc-lead mine in the Northern Territory, Australia; the Northfleet lead refinery located in the UK; the Brunswick zinc-lead mine and lead smelter in New Brunswick, Canada, 25% of the CEZ zinc smelter near Montreal, Canada; 50% of Lennard Shelf zinc lead mine in Western Australia; 75% of Lady Loretta zinc lead deposit in Queensland, Australia; 33.75% of Antamina mine in Peru and the Perseverance zinc deposit in Quebec.