



MEDIA RELEASE

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines opens new accommodation precinct 'Thilimarri Place'

Mount Isa, Thursday 22 October 2009

Xstrata Mount Isa Mines today joined the Kalkadoon Community Pty Limited in officially opening the company's new accommodation precinct 'Thilimarri Place' in Oban Road, Mount Isa.

Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland, said the project was a sign of the company's strengthening relationship with the people of the Kalkadoon community and a testament to the efforts of the company's Indigenous trainees.

"I am very proud of this project as it's a great example of what can be achieved when we work side by side with a valued community stakeholder and encourage the use of our Indigenous trainees' skills," said Mr de Kruijff.

Thilimarri Place comprises nine eco-friendly duplexes, each containing two three-bedroom units which have been built with environmentally sound features such as energy efficiency and passive cooling, compact fluorescent bulbs, reverse cycle refrigerative air-conditioning, greywater diverter systems and 4-star rated water efficient toilets and showers.

Mr de Kruijff said the company settled on the name of '*Thilimarri*' in consultation with the Kalkadoon community.

"The name *Thilimarri* represents the Gidgee tree which plays a significant role in the Kalkadoon community and family life, as it provides food, medicines, shelter and tools for protection and survival," said Mr de Kruijff.

"This name acknowledges the relationship of the Kalkadoon people with the lands, language and cultural heritage of the Mount Isa region."

Doug Bruce, Chairman of Kalkadoon Community Pty Limited, said he was pleased the Kalkadoon community had the opportunity to work with Xstrata Mount Isa Mines on the project.

"Today is a special day for us as not only is the precinct built on the land of the Kalkadoon, we are also delighted that the Kalkadoon people and community are being recognised through the naming of the precinct," said Mr Bruce.

"We are confident that this is the start of a strong and productive relationship with Xstrata Mount Isa Mines that will continue into the future."

Mr de Kruijff said through Xstrata Mount Isa Mines' Structured Training Employment Program, the company's Indigenous trainees were given the opportunity to contribute to the development of the \$4.5 million accommodation precinct.

"From undertaking landscaping and gardening to the setting up of all 18 units, furnishing and cleaning, our trainees were involved in every stage throughout the project," said Mr de Kruijff.

Together with the Elders of the Kalkadoon community, Mr de Kruijff officially opened Thilimarri Place at a plaque unveiling ceremony at 2:00pm today in Oban Road, Mount Isa, which was attended by key stakeholders of the local community.

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Notes to editors

Xstrata Plc

Xstrata is a major global diversified mining group, listed on the London and Zurich 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 recycling facilities and additional exposures to gold, cobalt, 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, New Caledonia, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, South Africa, Spain, Tanzania, the USA and the UK. Xstrata employs approximately 43,000 people, including contractors.

Xstrata Copper

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 and projects span seven countries and include 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 facilities 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.

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.