



NEWS RELEASE

## Xstrata progresses joint load-out facility in Cloncurry

Cloncurry, 4 July 2012

Xstrata Copper today announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding with Cudoco and MMG for the development of a multi user rail load-out facility near Cloncurry.

Steve de Kruijff, Chief Operating Officer Xstrata Copper North Queensland, said this facility will support our recent \$589 million investment to extend the life of our Ernest Henry Mine out to 2024.

"We will use this facility to transport copper concentrate and magnetite concentrate from Ernest Henry Mine," said Mr de Kruijff.

"This will be a state of the art facility with improved environmental controls to limit impacts in the area.

"This facility will also reduce the number of train movements and rail load-out activities that currently operate within the Cloncurry township, as it will be located around 10 kilometres east of Cloncurry.

"We appreciate the Government's role in facilitating this positive outcome for industry in the region.

"This rail load-out facility will be fully funded by the joint venture partners.

"It is anticipated that it will take 18-24 months to complete the approvals process, construct and commission the facility, with the facility to be operational by mid 2014.

"We'll be working closely with our mining counterparts and with local key stakeholders to develop this facility in a way that supports both current operations and future development in the region."

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*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*

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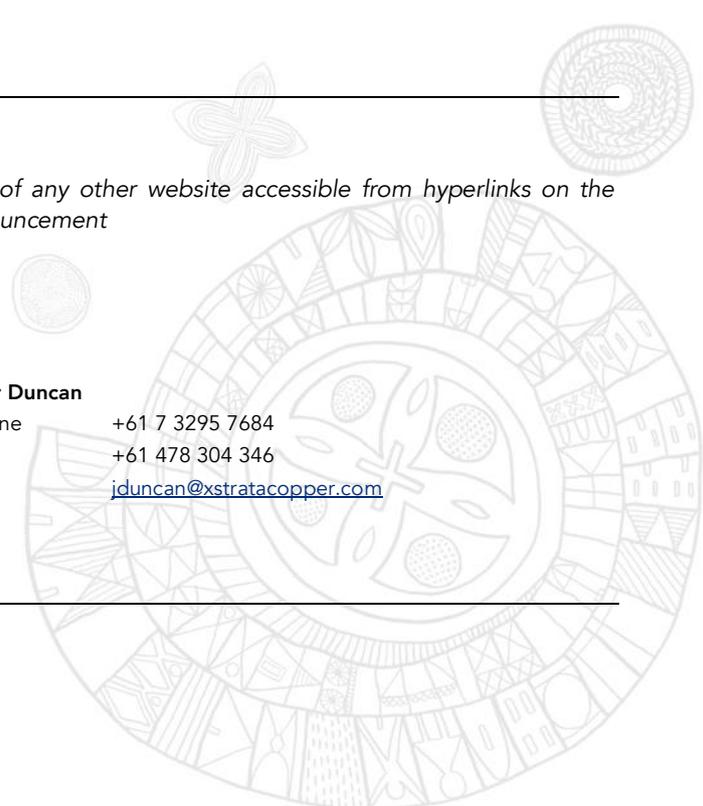
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## Notes to editors

### 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](http://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](http://www.xstratacopper.com)