



NEWS RELEASE

**XSTRATA IS NAMED SECTOR LEADER IN DOW JONES
SUSTAINABILITY INDEX FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Zug, 15 September 2008

Xstrata plc has been recognised by the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (“DJSI”) as the Global Super Sector Leader for Basic Resources in its World and STOXX Indexes. This is the second consecutive year that Xstrata has been named as the resources sector leader and third year that Xstrata has been included in the Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes of sustainability leaders.

The DJSI invites the world’s largest 2,500 companies to participate in its annual survey, which is based on general as well as industry-specific sustainability trends. The assessment, which is assured by an external auditor, covers economic, environmental and social performance and includes a review of policies and performance in corporate governance, risk management, climate change, energy consumption, health and safety, supply chain standards and workplace relations amongst others. Asset managers in 16 countries have licensed the DJSI indexes to manage a variety of sustainability-driven portfolios and DJSI-based investment vehicles manage around \$6 billion of assets in total.

In addition to attaining the overall highest score of all basic resources companies of 89%, Xstrata achieved the top score in the mining sector in a number of different categories including occupational health and safety, stakeholder engagement, risk management, transparency, environmental management policies, biodiversity, mineral waste management, mine closure, talent attraction and retention and standards for suppliers.

Mick Davis, Xstrata plc Chief Executive said, “This achievement recognises Xstrata’s commitment to superior business practices and the principles of sustainable development across our global operations. I am delighted that the dedication shown by our employees, contractors and business partners to operate in the most responsible manner possible and to achieve continuous improvements in health, safety, environmental and social performance has been recognised by this well-respected, external body in ranking Xstrata top of our sector for the second year.”

Ends

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Notes to editors**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 additional exposures to platinum group metals, 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 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 56,000 people globally, including contractors.

Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes

The Dow Jones Sustainability Indexes are a co-operation between Dow Jones Indexes, STOXX Limited and SAM Group. By bringing together the expertise of two leading index providers and the world-renowned pioneer in sustainability investing, the DJSI family rests on a strong foundation to meet the growing market demand for professional, objective and reliable sustainability benchmarks.

www.sustainability-indexes.com