

## Press release

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### **Shanghai Employees**

**11 July 2009**

Sam Walsh chief executive iron ore said he welcomed the news that Australian consular officials had visited Rio Tinto's Shanghai employee, Stern Hu. "We are very glad to hear he is in good health," Mr Walsh said.

The Australian Government had kept the company fully briefed on its efforts to assist Stern and three other Rio Tinto employees detained in Shanghai, Mr Walsh said. "Rio Tinto continues to work to support its four China employees and their families and colleagues," Mr Walsh said.

Mr Walsh said the company remained surprised and concerned over the detention of its employees, and said the company had not been told by Chinese authorities of any charges against them.

### **About Rio Tinto**

Rio Tinto is a leading international mining group headquartered in the UK, combining Rio Tinto plc, a London and NYSE listed company, and Rio Tinto Limited, which is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

Rio Tinto's business is finding, mining, and processing mineral resources. Major products are aluminium, copper, diamonds, energy (coal and uranium), gold, industrial minerals (borax, titanium dioxide, salt, talc) and iron ore. Activities span the world but are strongly represented in Australia and North America with significant businesses in South America, Asia, Europe and southern Africa.

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