

RioTinto

# Rio Tinto Serbia Highlights

## Innovating to Develop New Resources



*Rio Tinto and Government of Serbia Working Group*

## Building long-term partnerships



**Richard Storrie**  
General Manager  
Rio Sava Exploration

After the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Serbia in July, the first meeting of the joint Working Group for the implementation of the Jadar Project was held on 24 November 2017. The Working Group is chaired by the Minister of Mining and Energy Aleksandar Antić who coordinates the other representatives of various state authorities, institutions and entities engaged in this project. We are pleased that representatives of the City of Loznica, Mayor Vidoje Petrović and Deputy Mayor Radovan Divnić are also members of this group. The aim of the Working Group is to enable the most efficient implementation of activities in the further development of the project of planned exploitation and processing of mineral jadarite, in accordance with the law.

As an investor interested in a potential long-term investment in Serbia, we are very grateful for the good reception and opportunity to strengthen our partnership with the Government of the Republic of Serbia, the local administration of the City of Loznica and the Local Community of Loznica as a whole. We look forward to continuing our cooperation in 2018!

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## Safety First



*Drill rigs nearby Loznica, Serbia*

## Safety comes first in everything we do

No matter what actions we take, we first review if what we are aiming to do is safe. At Rio Tinto, 'Safety First' is what we say to each other repeatedly. Our systems and internal values are designed to support such behaviours. Our sophisticated system of Critical Risk Management requires us to identify and review the risks before we take any action: in the core

shed, in the field, in the laboratory, in the office or elsewhere. Once all critical risks are assessed and mitigation measures implemented, we can start work safely. All members of the Jadar Team are fully committed to implementing safety measures in everything we do.



*Technological probes of Jadarite in the pilot plant in Australia*

## Health & Safety Statistics

The excellent safety record of the Rio Tinto project team in Serbia was interrupted in August due to a lost time injury (LTI) incident. Currently our LTI record stands at 0.41. The incident involved a contracted technician who stretched a ligament as he was walking in the workplace. Various reviews of the incident and medical consultations with external medical support have not revealed any work-related cause for the incident. Our technician's recovery process was fully supported by the company and he is now back to work. Lessons learned from this incident pushed the team to review and improve existing safety controls and behaviours in order to meet zero harm principles.

As of July, the Project's all injury frequency rate (AIFR) was 0.28. As a result of the mentioned injury, our safety statistics counter started from zero in August and currently states 28,453 safety hours and 0.41 AIFR. Context-wise over 16 years of operations in Serbia our team achieved total of 1,500,000 working hours including two LTI injuries, the first one in 2012 and the second one this year.



## Update from the field



*Rio Tinto drilling rig nearby Loznica, Serbia*

## Progressing geotechnical drilling

Our Serbian subsidiary – Rio Sava Exploration – continues with geological activities in the field. These activities are now in the advanced stages. A new drilling campaign started at the end of 2017 in order to allow for the collection of additional geological data. Drilling is ongoing at eight locations to learn more about the central part of ore body. The purpose of the work is to define all geological parame-

ters in greater details. This is needed for resource and reserves estimation and to collect additional material for processing testing. The planned geological investigations will provide valuable data for the ongoing study, and the additional material will be used to produce test samples of the final products at the specification levels required by the market.



The Rio Tinto Investment Committee decided in late November to invest additional funds in the completion of the Prefeasibility phase for the Jadar Project. The largest part of this amount will be directed to financing additional drilling and technological campaigns for jadarite processing. So far, the company has invested over USD 90 million in the development of the Jadar project.



## Working with the Community

# The first anniversary of our Information Centre in Loznica



*Rio Tinto Information Centre in Loznica, Serbia*

Last November, we opened our Information Centre in the centre of Loznica in Gimnazijska 4. One year has gone by quickly. Our Project team made improvements throughout the year and implemented measures to attract more citizens of Loznica and the surrounding area to visit the Centre. Throughout the year, changes were introduced to provide better services to our visitors. The Information Centre is now open from Tuesday to Friday and offers an up-to-date exhibition including general information on Rio Tinto, as well as details about the status of development of the Jadar Project. Visitors can see a sample of Jadarite, understand the stages of the mining project development and the stage of the Jadar Project, view samples of the final products and learn about the variety of daily life essentials that are manufactured from these products.

Over 600 visitors visited the Jadar Information Centre to date. Of these around 450 were the first time visitors and over 260 were women. Over 40 meetings were organised in the centre with various stakeholders including central and local government officials as well as community members.

Regular visitors are also pupils from the Grammar school in Loznica. To date, the largest number of visitors were 40 – 60 years old. Going forward, the Jadar project team will work to attract more visitors, especially young people. Our team will do its best to make visits to our Information Centre as interactive and informative as possible.

Welcome!

## Technology and Innovation

# Celebrating 25 years of creativity: Bundoora Technical Development Centre



*Jadarite processing pilot plant, Australia*

Rio Tinto's multi-commodity problem-solving hub, the Technical Development Centre at Bundoora in Australia, has marked 25 years of partnering with the business to solve complex problems. Bringing together highly diverse and experienced technical experts, the Centre develops leading edge orebody discovery techniques, and de-risks and simplifies complex metallurgical processes, giving Rio Tinto projects a competitive edge. This Centre is where the new Jadar processing technology is being designed and tested.

The Centre has a proud history of pioneering technical development in how we find, study, develop, optimise and close our operations. It has also developed leading edge orebody discovery techniques in collaboration with a number of Australian research partners. Covering 7,000m<sup>2</sup>, the facility is home to more than 120 people, representing a wide cross-section of Rio Tinto. There's such rich cultural diversity, with 17 different languages spoken on site, including the Serbian language.



The multidisciplinary team from Bundoora Technical Development Centre have been extensively involved in the process development for the Jadar Project and the production of Boric Acid and Lithium Carbonate from the jadarite mineral.

*Bundoora Technical Development Centre, Australia*





## Our people



*Tanja Stamenic, Technical Graduate, during her visit to Rio Tinto in Melbourne*

## Investing in the development of our Graduates

Tanja Stamenic, Jadar's Technical Graduate, recently paid a visit to Rio Tinto's team in Australia. The purpose of the visit was for professional development and to gain a better understanding of the technical aspects of the Jadar project:

„During my stay with the processing team in Melbourne, I met and spent time with colleagues working on development of the technology to process Jadarite ore. The visit helped me to better understand the achievements made so far, as well as understanding next steps for further enhancement of the process and the way it works. Engineers in charge of the development of the technology are based within the Technical Development Centre in Bundoora

(BTDC). I had a chance to participate in laboratory tests, but also to get acquainted with all the instruments and the apparatus in this Centre. In addition, I met with the engineering and consultant teams based in Sydney and Brisbane, and I have also met with the mining team in Perth that has answered and clarified all my queries related to their scope of work.“

Tanja's development experience represents one of the ways in which Rio Tinto invests in its employees. These development opportunities display how the differences in culture and levels of experience make us a stronger team and more united!

### NEWS BRIEF

## Our project Team continues to grow

During the last several months, we are seeing yet another group of ambitious, talented and energized new colleagues, joining our team across the project. The growth of our team clearly shows the bold ambition, belief and determination in the success of the Jadar Project: Dalibor, Milena, David, Kristina, Mile, Miroslav, Branko, Vladimir, Veljko – our warm welcome to the Team!