



PRESS RELEASE

Nouméa, 27th May 2010
At : 4 pm

Vale Inco Nouvelle-Calédonie becomes Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie

As from today, Vale Inco Nouvelle-Calédonie is taking the name Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie.

This name change constitutes the logical culmination of Inco's progressive integration into the Vale Group since 2006. Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie will retain invaluable technological know-how from Inco, due to which it has been possible to conceive the hydro-metallurgy process for the benefit of New Caledonia's industrial development.

Today, Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie has the expertise, means and values of a major international group. With 100,000 employees throughout the world, 11,000 of whom are in the nickel branch; Vale is the leading world producer of iron ore and the second mining and metallurgy company in the world in terms of market capitalization.

By more forcibly indicating that it belongs to Vale, our company is reaffirming its place among the group priorities due to its projects which are being developed and in particular that of Goro, Vale plans on becoming the world leader in its sector.

In production phase, the annual capacity of the Grand Sud plant will be 60,000 tonnes of nickel oxide and 4,500 tonnes of cobalt carbonate. The plant is currently concentrating on successfully carrying out its 1st commissioning cycle.

For Peter Poppinga, Executive Vice President Asia-Pacific and CEO of Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie: *"This name change has to be an opportunity to make the Vale group's creed "Together, we are better", come true in New Caledonia. We have to, as a basic contract with each of the employees and all the Caledonian players, ensure constant control of our process and its impacts in regard to safety and the environment, in an economically viable framework."*

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Vale Nouvelle-Calédonie SAS au capital de 252.359.618 € - Siège social 38 rue du Colisée 75008 Paris
Immatriculée sous le n° 313 954 570 R.C.S Paris – n° 82 B 085 696 R.C.S Nouméa

Vale Inco Nouvelle-Calédonie SAS est une société par actions simplifiée relevant de la loi française et est conjointement détenue par Vale Inco Limited, Sumic Netherlands Nickel B.V. et la Société de Participation Minière du Sud Calédonien SAS.