

PRESS RELEASE

Peter Poppinga takes over the general management of Vale Inco New Caledonia

Peter Poppinga is taking over the general management of Vale Inco New Caledonia . He will be assuming this role in addition to that which he currently occupies of Executive Vice-President of Vale Inco responsible for Strategy, Business Development, Human Resources and Sustainability. He will also keep his position as a member of Vale Inco's Management Committee and as a member of the Board of Directors of Vale Inco New Caledonia.

Peter Poppinga takes over as Managing Director of Vale Inco New Caledonia, from Michel Sylvestre who has decided to retire from Vale Inco after a career spanning 34 years with the world leader for nickel production.

"I would like to congratulate Michel Sylvestre for his leadership qualities and his dedication, along with that of his teams, to overcome the challenges associated with the period of progress towards production of the southern factory. He was particularly active in promoting the use of Caledonian skills by identifying local talents to head up the key sectors of our Caledonian subsidiary such as the plant, maintenance, environment and health and safety departments ", stated Peter Poppinga.

Peter Poppinga will arrive in New Caledonia next week in order to ensure a smooth handover with Michel Sylvestre.

Peter Poppinga is a geological and mining engineer by training, and worked in a number of different mining companies in Brazil before being appointed to a number of management roles in Vale subsidiaries globally as from 1999. He has been the Executive Vice-President of Vale Inco since October 2007 and has already visited New Caledonia a number of times to meet with the teams and to discuss matters with the New Caledonian authorities.



Peter Poppinga

Nouméa, 2009 September 10th
A : 10h30

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