

Rio Tinto is a leading international business involved in each stage of metal and mineral production. The Group combines Rio Tinto plc, which is listed on the London Stock Exchange, and Rio Tinto Limited, which is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

Within Rio Tinto, the Exploration group is tasked with providing growth opportunities to the company by discovering or acquiring new mineral resources. It has been delivering value for more than 50 years.

Exploration involves the identification, prioritization and testing of geological, geochemical and geophysical targets. The exploration process ends when a discovery is handed over to studies team in G & I for detailed evaluation.

Our objective is to safely discover "Tier 1" deposits. This is a deposit that contributes disproportionately to global production of a commodity due to its size and character.

Rio Tinto's exploration strategy brings us sustained success in a highly competitive environment. We have maintained our commitment to exploration over the years and the consistency of expenditure and activity has produced extraordinary results.

We have an exceptional set of assets and growth opportunities, both in advanced projects and early stage prospects. Our multi-commodity

exploration portfolio is composed of the best opportunities and is rigorously prioritised globally.

We set ourselves apart from the rest of the mining industry by having a clear focus on finding and mining only the best resources. These resources must be profitable in all parts of the price cycle and deliver long-term economic value to Rio Tinto, the communities we work with and the countries we operate in.



Drill Rig at Hidden Treasure project



Micro-analytical facility, Bundoora, Melbourne

# Pioneering in Exploration

Rio Tinto Growth & Innovation operates a dedicated micro-analytical facility in Bundoora, Melbourne for RTX utilising Laser Ablation Microprobe (LAM) and Mineral Liberation Analyser (MLA) technology linked in a unique configuration. We have developed the world's first automated Kimberlitic Indicator Mineral (KIMs) analytical facility as well as having in-house U-Pb geochronology capability.

Using this equipment RTX have also developed innovative new exploration techniques using Resistate Indicator Minerals (RIMs).

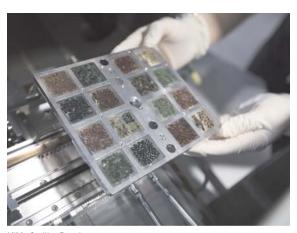
The MLA generates large volumes of quantified mineralogy and high quality mineral chemistry at very low cost (in excess of 1 million major element analyses a year).

The LAM can analyse up to 500 trace element analyses a day on target mineral grains.

These datasets are interpreted by a dedicated team who combine mineralogy expertise with data analytics and research outcomes from industry collaborative projects to support exploration programs globally.



Mineral Liberation Analyser: Quantitative mineralogy and major element chemistry



KIMs facility Bundoora



Laser Ablation Microprobe (LAM): Trace Element Mineral Chemistry

## Our commitment

Rio Tinto Exploration is an integral part of the sustainable development equation for Rio Tinto.

Our strategy of investing in large, long-life mines and businesses means that we operate on extended time horizons. Some of our projects last 40 years or more from mineral discovery through to closure, representing large-scale, long-term investments.

These long-term commitments provide opportunities for us to plan and implement projects in such a way that they deliver sustainable contributions to social wellbeing, environmental stewardship and economic prosperity.

The Exploration group's core objective of finding Tier 1 resources is the starting point for the wider Rio Tinto Group's efforts in sustainable development. These discoveries can become the



Communities engagement at an Exploration project

catalyst for local economic diversification, skills development in the local workforce and improvements to infrastructure.

Each of the countries and regions in which we explore has different cultures, peoples, laws and expectations. Our exploration teams are often the first contact we have with communities who may be our neighbours for generations. We respect the diversity and concerns of local communities and engage in a manner that is open, personal and tailored to the specifics of each region, village or individual stakeholder.

On a day-to-day basis our Exploration group contributes to local communities by employing local people and introducing improvements in local health and safety practices.

We actively encourage community engagement, striving to establish trust at an early stage so that we can bring about mutual benefits through the development of high-quality mineral resources.

There is no room in Rio Tinto Exploration for anything but the most value-creating opportunities, the most constructive, collaborative and adaptable behaviours; and a personal commitment to sustainable development from



Demonstration of muster point at Exploration project



For 140 years, we've been discovering safer, more effective and more sustainable ways to find, mine, and process the minerals and metals essential for everyday life.

Our purpose is to be a company that is admired and respected for delivering superior value, as the industry's most trusted partner. Our operations give us the opportunity to create mutual benefit with the communities, regions and countries in which we work.

Using the latest in technology and innovation, Rio Tinto Exploration is focused on smarter ways to find the mines of tomorrow.

We are currently seeking high quality opportunities to add to our growing exploration

Exploring 8 different commodities across 15 countries.

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