



News release...

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Management changes

Chris Renwick, chief executive of the Iron Ore group, will retire in December after 35 years with the Rio Tinto Group. During his long career with the Group, Chris held executive positions in Comalco and Hamersley Iron as well as senior corporate responsibilities.

Leigh Clifford, chief executive, said: "Chris has made an outstanding contribution to Rio Tinto, in particular in our iron ore business and the development of markets in China and Japan."

As a consequence of Chris Renwick's retirement, there will be a number of changes to product group portfolios.

Sam Walsh, currently chief executive of the Aluminium group, will become chief executive of the Iron Ore group, based in Perth, Western Australia.

Oscar Groeneveld will move from chief executive of the Copper group to chief executive of the Aluminium group, based in Brisbane, Queensland.

Tom Albanese, chief executive of the Industrial Minerals group, will become chief executive Copper and Exploration, based in London.

These changes will occur progressively from 1 September to ensure a smooth handover of responsibilities.

As previously announced, Andrew Mackenzie joins Rio Tinto as chief executive of the Industrial Minerals group on 1 August.

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Note to Editors



Sam Walsh holds a commerce degree and joined the Rio Tinto Group in 1991 after 20 years in the automobile industry. He held senior roles managing aluminium, iron and steel foundries, and spent six years in marketing and production roles in the Iron Ore group prior to his appointment as chief executive of the Aluminium group in 2001.



Oscar Groeneveld has been with the Rio Tinto Group for 29 years and has qualifications in engineering, science and management. He has worked in senior roles in coal, aluminium and technology and was appointed chief executive of the Copper group in 1999.



Tom Albanese has degrees in mineral economics and mining engineering. He joined Rio Tinto in 1993 after ten years in the mining industry in North America and has held senior operating roles in base and precious metals, copper and exploration. He was appointed chief executive of the Industrial Minerals group in late 2000 and took over responsibility for Exploration in July 2004.

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