

**Austmine Mission to Brazil
15-20 April 2012**

Carajas Mineral Province, Belo Horizonte & Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



“Carajás is one of the richest iron ore provinces in the world”

Austmine in partnership with Vale and Trade & Investment Queensland will lead a mission to the world class Carajas Mineral Province in northern Brazil, 15 - 20 April 2012, and first-hand experience the gigantic open-cut operations and production plants, visit the mining hub in Belo Horizonte as well as meeting with Vale’s procurement executives at the headquarters in Rio de Janeiro.

Vale is the world’s biggest producer of iron ore and pellets, with the world’s largest operation located in Carajás, in the state of Para in Northern Brazil.

“Carajás is one of the richest iron ore provinces in the world with the highest levels of iron content found are 67% on average,” said Robert Trzebski, Executive Officer at Austmine.

Fully owned by Vale, the mine holds some 11.2 billion metric tons of iron ore in proven and probable reserves. Other mineral deposits were discovered later.

“Carajás is not only rich in iron ore but also ores for manganese, copper, tin, aluminium and even gold,” said Mr Trzebski.

The world's second largest miner recently announced investments of US\$21.5 billion for 2012, including 60.5 % for project execution globally. The investment budget package also includes US\$2.4 billion (11%) for research and development of innovative technologies in collaboration with leading service providers.

In Belo Horizonte, located in the prominent mining state of Minas Gerais, the delegation will visit Vale’s operations in the area, but will also include meetings with other mining companies and locals as well as international service providers operating in Brazil. Trade & Investment QLD will celebrate the official opening of its representative office with a networking cocktail function which will gather the local mining community of Belo Horizonte.

Finally, the mission will lead to Vale’s headquarters in Rio de Janeiro where the Australian delegation will be presenting their products and services to a panel of technical managers and procurement executives.

The mission will be held after the Expomin 2012 exhibition in Santiago/Chile (9 -13 April) and offers a rare opportunity to follow Vale’s invitation to Austmine members and QLD companies to experience the world class mining operations in the remote Northern Brazil and meet with the decision makers *face-to-face*.

Austmine is also convening a mission to Russia in Moscow (24-26 April) on the 16th International Exhibition and Conference, Mining World Russia 2012, for the mining and processing of metals and minerals. The mission will also include meetings with Russia’s leading mining companies.

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