

NEWS RELEASE

Making a Difference in Our Industry – XPS Honoured at CIM AGM

May, 2012



Recently the Canadian Institute of Mining, Metallurgy and Petroleum (CIM) awarded 40 individuals and organizations for their significant contributions to and achievements within the mining sector. Along with 5 other individuals, **Philip Thwaites, Manager of Process Control at Xstrata Process Support** was honoured with the **2012-13 CIM Distinguished Lecturer Award**.

[Pictured Left: Philip Thwaites, Manager of Process Control at XPS with outgoing CIM President, and recipient of the 2003-04 Distinguished Lecturer Award, Chuck Edwards.]

The CIM Distinguished Lecturer Program recognizes the recipient's accomplishments in scientific, technical, management or educational activities related to the minerals industry. Philip received his award, **"for his leadership and development of best practices of process control, leading to operational excellence."** Philip commented "It is very special for me to be recognized and have process control for 'operations excellence' recognized by the CIM. My contributions to our industry are, with key management support, realizing the full potential of process monitoring and controls in operations by working closely with the people, and utilizing available instrumentation, tools and systems."

As part of the award Philip will provide a series of lectures to local CIM branches across Canada starting in autumn 2012. The topic of his lecture will be on operational performance excellence highlighting best practices in maintaining optimized process performance with dedicated resources, modern instrumentation and performance monitoring tools.

Reflecting on his 32 year career and receiving the CIM award Philip noted, "I have been very fortunate to have worked with many skilled professionals, and have travelled extensively to many countries and have visited many operations and projects. In particular, the opportunity to contribute to projects like Collahuasi and work at the Xstrata Ni Nikkelverk refinery truly enhanced my career and perspectives. I really appreciate the position I have at Xstrata Process Support (XPS), my colleagues, my team and of course our valuable clients. I am also excited about the growth opportunities that are underway at Xstrata and industry wide. It is an exciting time in our industry."

XPS now has two individuals recognized by the CIM as 'Distinguished Lecturers.' In 2010, Dr. Norman Lotter was honoured by the CIM as Distinguished Lecturer for his "pioneering innovations in the field of mineral processing test work and plant sampling."

Xstrata contacts:

Dominic Fragomeni
Telephone +1 705 699 3400
Mobile +1 705 507 3829
Email dfragomeni@xstrataps.ca

www.xstrata.com
www.myxps.ca

Notes to editors

About Xstrata Process Support

Xstrata Process Support (XPS) is a licensed provider of metallurgical technology services along with lab and pilot scale test work to the global mining industry in the areas of Process Mineralogy, Plant Support, Process Control, Extractive Metallurgy and Materials Technology. For more information, visit www.myxps.ca.

About Xstrata plc

We are a major producer of a range of vital commodities used in everything from constructing buildings and delivering electricity, to developing jet engines and mobile phones. We are one of the top five global producers of copper, thermal and metallurgical coal, ferrochrome, zinc and nickel and we also produce silver, lead, platinum, gold, cobalt and vanadium.

Founded in 2002 and headquartered in Switzerland, we operate in over 20 countries and employ over 70,000 people at more than 100 operations and projects around the world. We work in a responsible and sustainable way, with an entrepreneurial spirit and dynamic approach. For more information, visit www.xstrata.com.