



Fortescue Metals Group Ltd

ACN: 002 594 872
87 Adelaide Terrace East Perth
Western Australia 6004
PO Box 6915, East Perth, Western Australia 6892

Telephone: + 61 8 6218 8888
Facsimile: + 61 8 6218 8880
Website: www.fmgl.com.au

Media Release

Completion of major 2nd wharf loading facility Completion of de-sand plant at Cloudbreak

Fortescue Metals Group (“Fortescue” ASX: ‘FMG’) has successfully commissioned the second ship loading berth at its Herb Elliott Port at Port Hedland to increase the capacity of Fortescue’s infrastructure to 55 million tonnes per annum “Mta”.

The 165,000 tonne vessel, the “Lowlands Beilun”, docked at the new berth on Sunday and has since been loaded and departed the port earlier today.

“The ability to operate one ship loader that can traverse two loading decks provides Fortescue with a more streamlined and flexible loading system,” said Fortescue Executive Director – Operations Graeme Rowley.

“The new process will reduce the ship changeover times by more than three hours which is important to accommodate the tidal constraints of Port Hedland harbour.”

The new head of mine, port and rail operations, Mr Paul Hallam, is now leading the fine tuning of the operational organisation and systems to match the installed infrastructure rate of 55 Mta. The full operation to 55Mta is expected to be progressively built up over 2009 to reach a steady state operation.

“As part of the optimisation project, Fortescue is also pleased to announce the completion of construction and commencement of the wet commissioning of its de-sand plant at the Cloudbreak mine site and is progressing in line with the planned schedule”, Mr Rowley said.

The de-sand plant will be used to wash the ultra fines mined from certain sections of the Cloudbreak deposit and will ensure the consistent delivery of a low alumina product which remains in good demand in China.

Media Contact:
Cameron Morse
FD Third Person – Perth
Phone: 08 9386 1233 - Mobile: 0433 88 68 71

* 1 For photos of the twin loading berth in operation please refer to Fortescue’s web site www.fmgl.com.au.

The New Force in Iron Ore

About Fortescue Metals Group Ltd:

Fortescue Metals Group Ltd is the New Force in Iron Ore, with over 4.5 billion tonnes of resources, including 1.6 billion tonnes of reserves, already delineated from less than 10% of its 69,000 square kilometres of tenements in the Pilbara, the largest holding in the Pilbara – refer announcement dated 31 May 2006 for JORC classification details.

The company has been developing The Pilbara Iron Ore and Infrastructure Project since mid-2003 and commenced shipping ore from Port Hedland in mid May 2008. It achieved project completion in mid July 2008. The company has off-take commitments for its entire initial production target of 55 million tonnes of iron ore per annum and has accumulated commitments for additional expansion tonnages of some 100 million tonnes per annum.

Fortescue has successfully completed two major capital raisings with A\$504 million of equity raised in July 2007 and A\$3.3 billion through a combination of debt and equity, raised in August 2006.

Fortescue is listed on the Australian Stock Exchange under the code FMG and is included in the S&P/ASX 100 and MSCI Asia-Pacific indices.

For more information on Fortescue, visit www.fmgl.com.au.