

Media Release



VTEC Graduation in Roebourne

PERTH, 9th December 2011: Fortescue Metals Group (Fortescue) is today celebrating the achievements of eight of its Aboriginal trainees who graduated today from the company's Vocational Training and Employment Centre (VTEC) in Roebourne.

The eight graduates successfully completed Certificate II in Infrastructure and Resources Surface Extraction at the Pilbara Institute's Minurmarghali Mia campus and will start work at Fortescue's Solomon minesite in early January 2012.

"We are incredibly proud of these graduates; they have taken a major step towards changing their lives. The training and employment program in Roebourne is another example of Fortescue's commitment to this community and the Yindjibarndi people," Fortescue CEO Nev Power said.

These graduates will be employed by Fortescue and contracted to Theiss in operator roles at Solomon. They join another 37 Aboriginal trainees who have graduated in Roebourne, taking the total number of Roebourne community members to train and gain employment opportunities with Fortescue and our partners to 45.

A further five Aboriginal trainees are expected to complete their training early in the New Year.

Over the past 18 months, Fortescue has awarded more than \$300 million in contracts to Indigenous businesses across its operations and expansion projects. Almost 10 per cent of the Fortescue workforce is now Indigenous and Fortescue's VTEC has trained and supported more than 1,000 people since it began work in 2006.

Photos of the graduation are available on request.

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