



Julius Kruttschnitt
Mineral Research Centre

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Media Release: 11 August, 1999

Queensland research team joins AMIRA celebrations in Melbourne

A Brisbane-based minerals research centre will help celebrate 40 years of research and development in the Australian mining industry in Melbourne on Wednesday, 18 August 1999 alongside the Who's Who of Australia's senior business and mining industry figures.

The University of Queensland's Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre Director Professor Tim Napier-Munn said the Australian mineral industry had plenty to celebrate at the AMIRA International 'Milestones to the Future' Forum.

"The last four decades have seen tremendous leaps forward in the way we mine and process ore bodies in Australia," Professor Napier-Munn said.

The JKMRC has played a leading R & D role in Australia and globally over the past four decades through the world's longest running mineral research project - the AMIRA P9 project - based at Indooroopilly in Brisbane.

Professor Napier-Munn paid tribute to AMIRA and the leading Australian mining houses who had helped 'champion' technical innovation in the industry over the past four decades, often against the odds.

"Successful innovation in mineral processing - the establishment of new technology or know-how in industrial practice - depends critically on a productive link between the inventor and the industrial environment," Professor Napier-Munn said.

"The new technology will only be 'captured' if the environment is receptive to it," he said. "This requires champions in the production sites who believe in the technology and are sufficiently committed to devote time and money to receiving it."

Professor Napier-Munn said it was these 'champions' who had help turn the Australian mining industry into the technically sophisticated and internationally competitive business sector it is today.

Leading government, business and mining industry figures speaking at the forum include:

Dr Max Richards, Chairman of AMIRA, The Hon. Patrick McNamara MP, Deputy Premier of Victoria, Professor Adrienne Clarke AO, Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria, Dr Andy Stoeckel, Director, Centre for International Economics, Mr Wayne Schachtel, Andersen Consulting, Mr Bruce Kean AM, Chairman of CEDA, Dr James Campbell, Chairman Elect, Anglo American plc's Anglo Base Metals Division and Anglo Coal Division, South Africa, Mr Malcolm Broomhead, Managing Director, North Limited, Mr Ron Knapp, World Coal Institute, United Kingdom, Mr Campbell Anderson, President, Business Council of Australia, Mr Bernt Schlickum, President & Chief Executive Officer, Daimler Chrysler Australia/Pacific Pty Ltd, Mr Mark Rayner, Chairman, National Australia Bank, Mr Malcolm Richmond, Managing Director - Development, Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd, The Hon Warren Entsch MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Industry, Science and Resources, Dr Tom Whiting, Manager - Australia/Asia BHP Minerals Discovery, Dr Bruce Hobbs, Chief, CSIRO Exploration and Mining, Professor Mike Hood, Director, CRC for Mining Technology and Engineering, Mr Tom Eadie, Executive General Manager, Exploration & Technology, Pasminco Limited, Mr Malcolm Richmond, Managing Director Development, Hamersley Iron Pty Ltd, Mr John Innes, Chairman G K Williams CRC for Extractive Metallurgy, Professor Toshihiko Emi, Professor Metallurgy, Swedish Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Professor John Ralston, Director, Ian Wark Research Institute, Professor Tim Napier-Munn, Director Julius Kruttschnitt Mineral Research Centre, Dr Rod Hill, Chief, CSIRO Minerals, Dr Rob La Nauze, Group Manager-Technology, WMC Resources Ltd, Dr Robin Batterham, Managing Director Research & Technology Development, Rio Tinto Limited and recently appointed Chief Scientist of Australia.

The forum starts at 9am, Wednesday, 18 August, 1999, at Hotel Sofitel, 25 Collins Street, Melbourne.

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