

COAL & ALLIED

Managed by Rio Tinto Coal Australia

MEDIA RELEASE

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Production Report for the quarter ended 30 September 2004

'000 tonnes (100% basis) ^(a)	3Q 2003	4Q 2003	1Q 2004	2Q 2004	3Q 2004	12 months 2003
Hunter Valley Operations						
Thermal coal production	2,028	2,620	2,255	2,738	2,838	9,146
Semi-soft coking coal production	875	381	371	729	689	2,862
Mount Thorley Operations						
Thermal coal production	416	433	514	710	722	1,720
Semi-soft coking coal production	369	377	158	240	258	1,432
Bengalla Mine						
Thermal coal production	1,122	2,008	1,075	1,525	1,737	6,203
Warkworth Mine						
Thermal coal production	1,212	1,371	1,217	1,394	1,381	5,369
Semi-soft coking coal production	127	93	237	447	479	500
Total coal production	6,147	7,284	5,826	7,784	8,105	27,232
Total sales ('000 tonnes) ^(a)	6,802	7,278	6,424	7,486	7,931	27,887

(a) Sales relate only to coal mined by the operations and exclude traded coal.

Third quarter production from all mines was above the second quarter of 2004 and the corresponding period of 2003. Moving from a five-day to seven-day roster at Mt Thorley/Warkworth continued to deliver significant improvement.

Port capacity rationing arrangements, introduced in the second quarter of 2004, helped to manage the Newcastle ship queue successfully.

During the quarter there was no exploration activity.

Coal & Allied continued work on the development of the Mount Pleasant deposit (Coal & Allied 100 per cent).

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