

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **SENIOR APPOINTMENTS AT SOUTH32**

BHP Billiton has announced two senior management appointments for its proposed demerger of global metals and mining company, South32.

### Head of Investor Relations

Peter Harris has been appointed to the role of Head of Investor Relations Elect effective 23 February 2015.

Peter joins South32 from JCP Investment Partners, a Melbourne based fund that has over \$10 billion of Australian equity assets under management. As a partial owner of the fund, Peter was responsible for mining, energy, utilities and steel sector investments.

Prior to joining JCP Investment Partners, Peter spent several years working as an equities analyst at Commonwealth Securities in Australia covering the mining, energy and utilities sectors. He is a former Chief Economist for Shell Australia and has previously worked as an Economist for the Productivity Commission (Australia).

Chief Financial Officer Elect of South32, Brendan Harris said: "Peter brings a wealth of mining industry experience and expertise to the role and is a key appointment to the company's management team."

### Head of Corporate Affairs

Steven Blaney has been appointed to the role of Head of Corporate Affairs Elect effective 24 March 2015.

With over 20 years of experience in senior corporate affairs and marketing roles across Asia, Europe and Australasia, Steven joins the South32 team from Citi where he is currently Managing Director/Head, Corporate and Government Affairs, Australia and New Zealand.

Prior to his role at Citi, Steven held corporate affairs and marketing leadership roles at two investment banks, including Head of Communication and Marketing, Global Banking and Markets Division at Royal Bank of Scotland / ABN AMRO.

Mr Harris and Mr Blaney will be based at South32's head office in Perth.

A final Board decision on the proposed demerger will be made once all necessary third party approvals are secured on satisfactory terms. On this basis, BHP Billiton expects to release all shareholder documentation with full details of the proposed demerger in March 2015, with a shareholder vote taking place in May.

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found at: [www.bhpbilliton.com](http://www.bhpbilliton.com).

## **Media Relations**

### **Australia**

Emily Perry  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2800 Mobile: +61 477 325 803  
email: [Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Emily.Perry@bhpbilliton.com)

Paul Hitchins  
Tel: + 61 3 9609 2592 Mobile: + 61 419 315 001  
email: [Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Paul.Hitchins@bhpbilliton.com)

Eleanor Nichols  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2360 Mobile: +61 407 064 748  
email: [Eleanor.Nichols@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Eleanor.Nichols@bhpbilliton.com)

### **United Kingdom**

Ruban Yogarajah  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4033 Mobile: +44 7827 082 022  
email: [Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com)

Jennifer White  
Tel: +44 20 7802 7462 Mobile: +44 7827 253 764  
email: [Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jennifer.White@bhpbilliton.com)

### **Americas**

Ruban Yogarajah  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4033 Mobile: +44 7827 082 022  
email: [Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Ruban.Yogarajah@bhpbilliton.com)

BHP Billiton Limited ABN 49 004 028 077  
Registered in Australia  
Registered Office: Level 16, 171 Collins Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia  
Tel +61 1300 55 4757 Fax +61 3 9609 3015

## **Investor Relations**

### **Australia**

Tara Dines  
Tel: +61 3 9609 2222 Mobile: +61 499 249 005  
email: [Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Tara.Dines@bhpbilliton.com)

Andrew Gunn  
Tel: +61 3 9609 3575 Mobile: +61 402 087 354  
email: [Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Andrew.Gunn@bhpbilliton.com)

### **United Kingdom and South Africa**

Jonathan Price  
Tel: +44 20 7802 4131 Mobile: +44 7990 527 726  
email: [Jonathan.H.Price@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Jonathan.H.Price@bhpbilliton.com)

Dean Simon  
Tel: +44 20 7802 7461 Mobile: +44 7717 511 193  
email: [Dean.Simon@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Dean.Simon@bhpbilliton.com)

### **Americas**

James Agar  
Tel: +1 212 310 1421 Mobile: +1 347 882 3011  
email: [James.Agar@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:James.Agar@bhpbilliton.com)

Joseph Suarez  
Tel: +1 212 310 1422 Mobile: +1 646 400 3803  
email: [Joseph.Suarez@bhpbilliton.com](mailto:Joseph.Suarez@bhpbilliton.com)

BHP Billiton Plc Registration number 3196209  
Registered in England and Wales  
Registered Office: Neathouse Place  
London SW1V 1LH United Kingdom  
Tel +44 20 7802 4000 Fax +44 20 7802 4111

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