Executing the Strategy and Providing for a Growth Economy

Chip Goodyear Chief Executive Officer

Merrill Lynch Conference, Boston 12 May 2004



The world's largest diversified resources company

Petroleum



Aluminium



Base Metals



Carbon Steel Materials





Diamonds & Spec Prod



Energy Coal

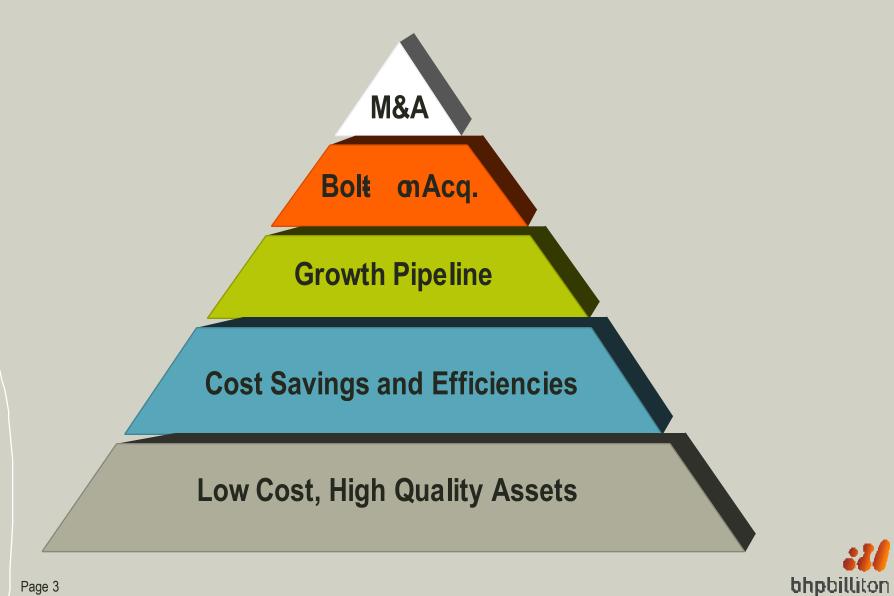


Stainless Steel Materials

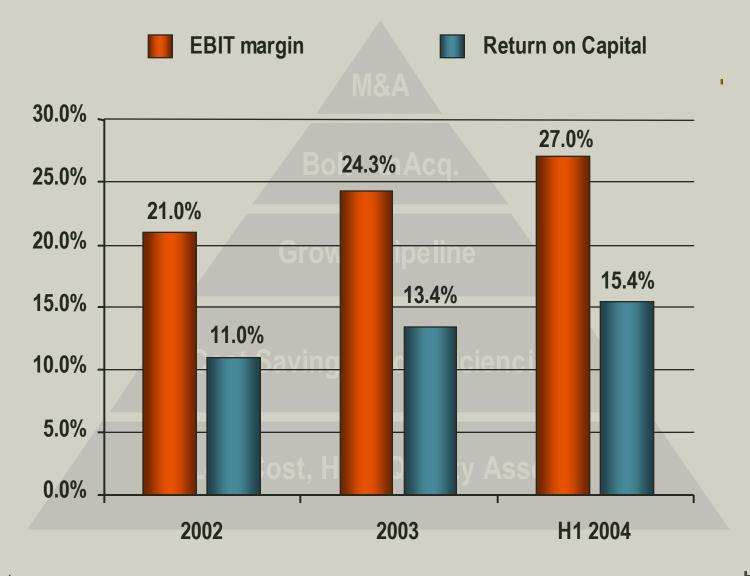




The BHP Billiton strategic focus



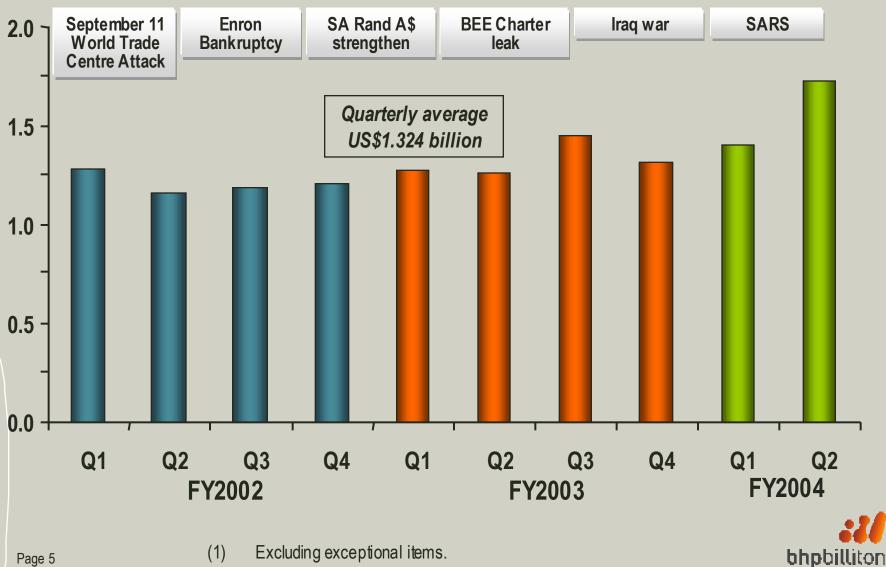
Results of strategic focus Increasing margins and return on capital





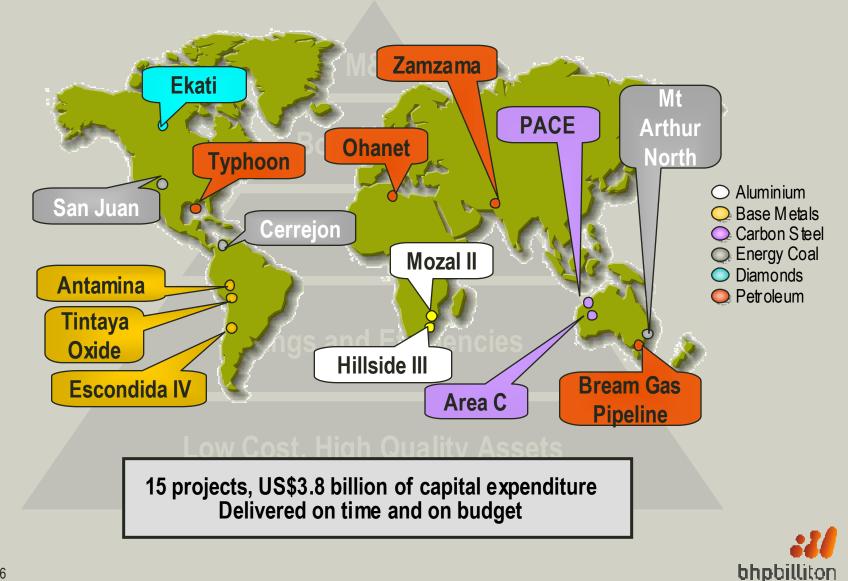
Results of strategic focus Steady increases in EBITDA⁽¹⁾

US\$ billion



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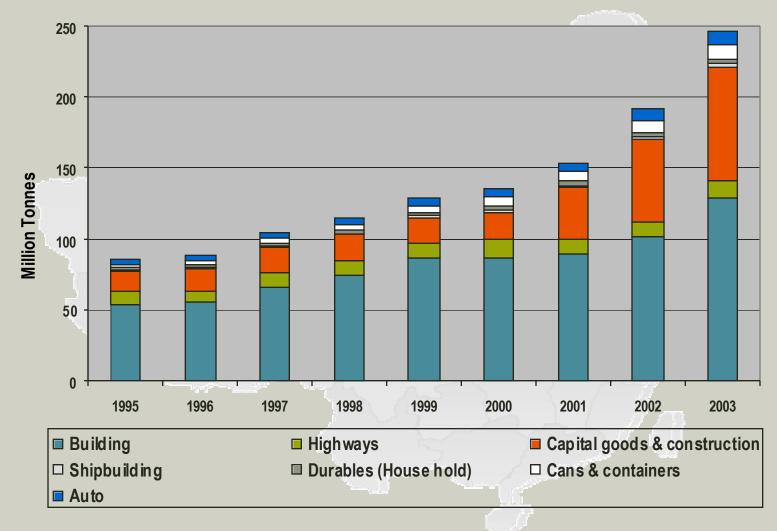
Reinvested for growth Growth projects delivered since July 2001





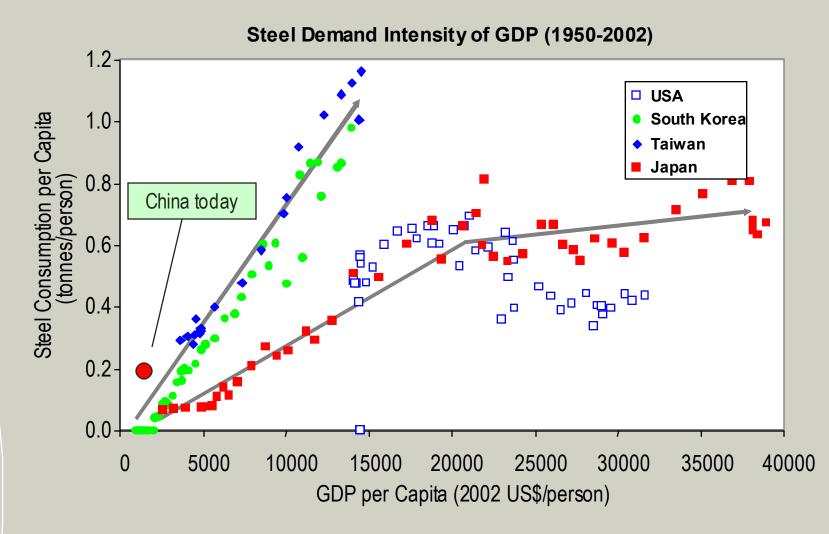


China – steel consumption by sectors



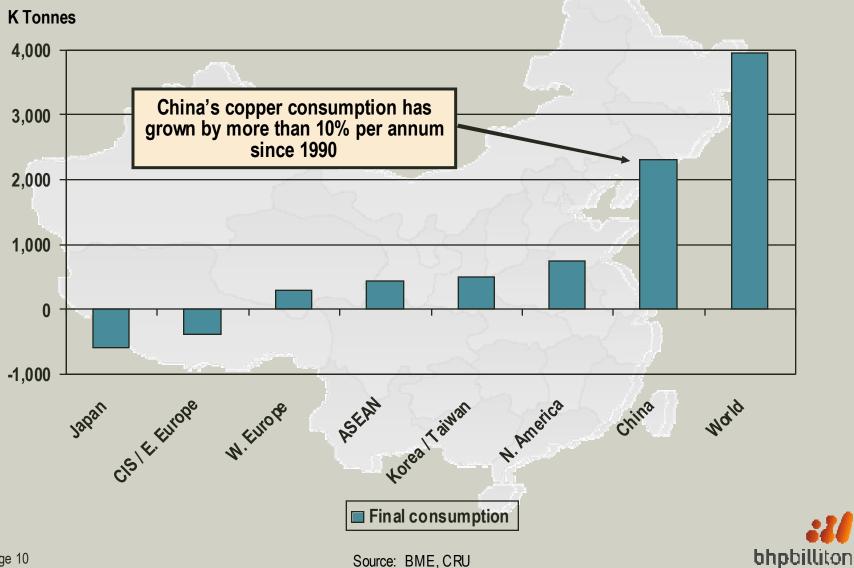


China is still only in the early stages of modernisation. Steel demand – which path will China take?



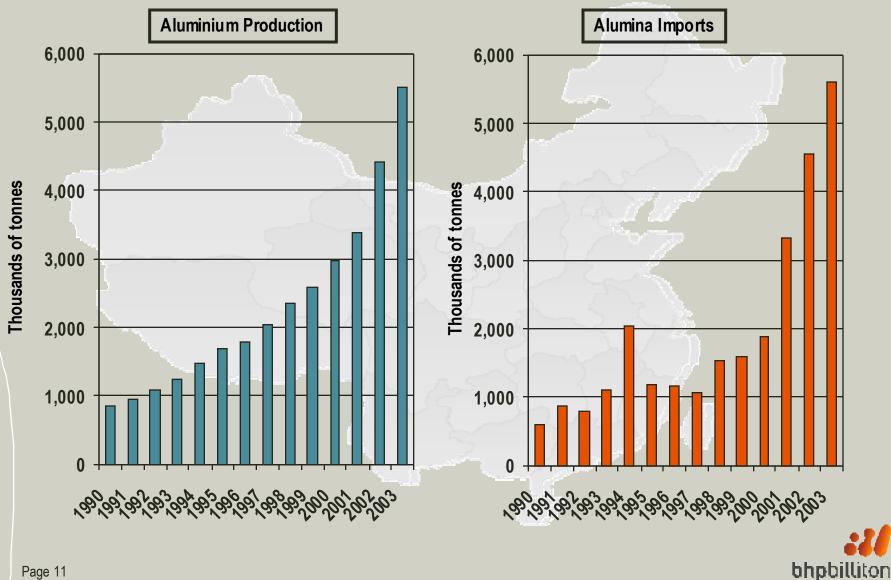


China's copper demand growth from 1990 to 2002



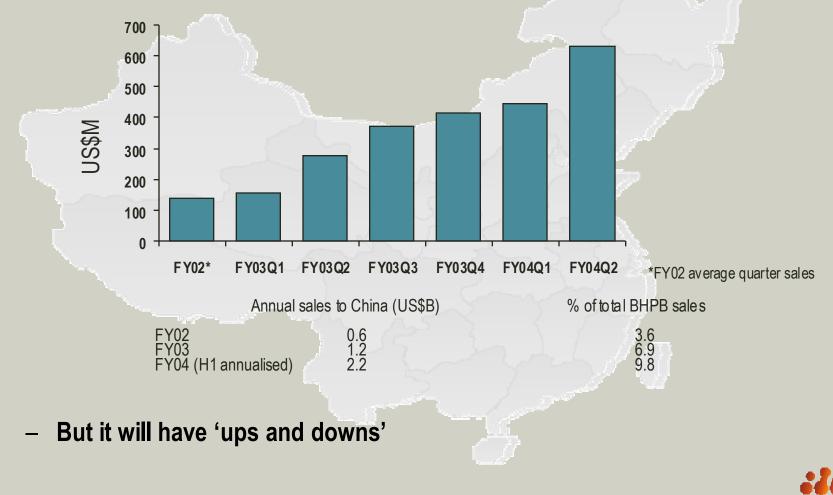
Source: BME, CRU

Chinese aluminium production vs. alumina imports



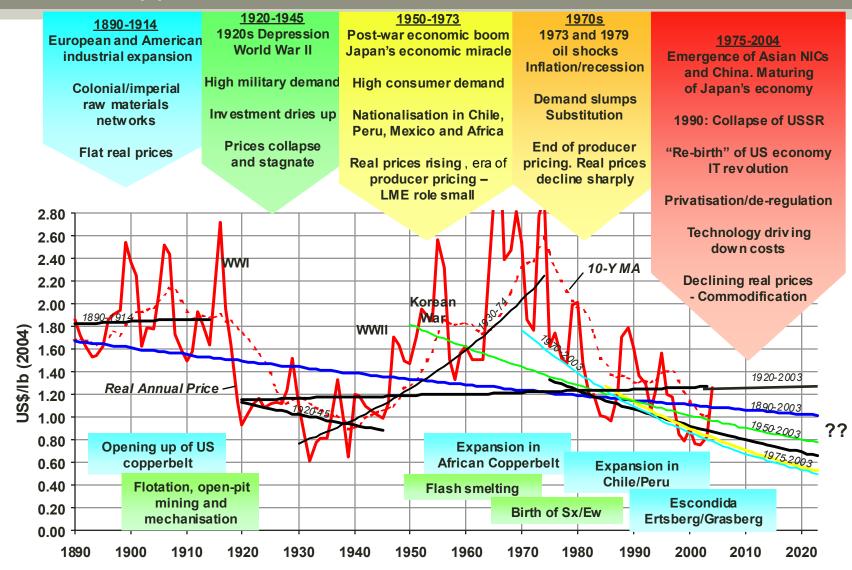
Global growth translates to opportunity for BHP Billiton

- China
 - Currently 10% of company revenues, up from 5% a year ago



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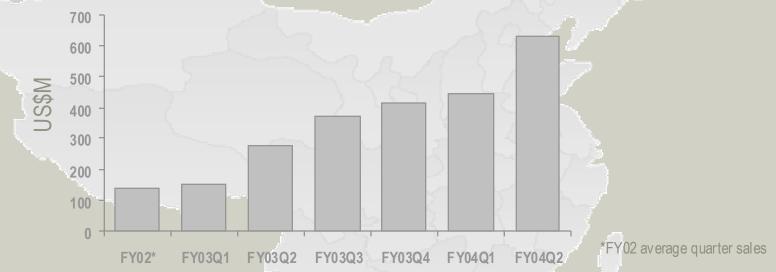
Global Copper Prices – 1890 to 2004



bhpbilliton

Global growth translates to opportunity for BHP Billiton

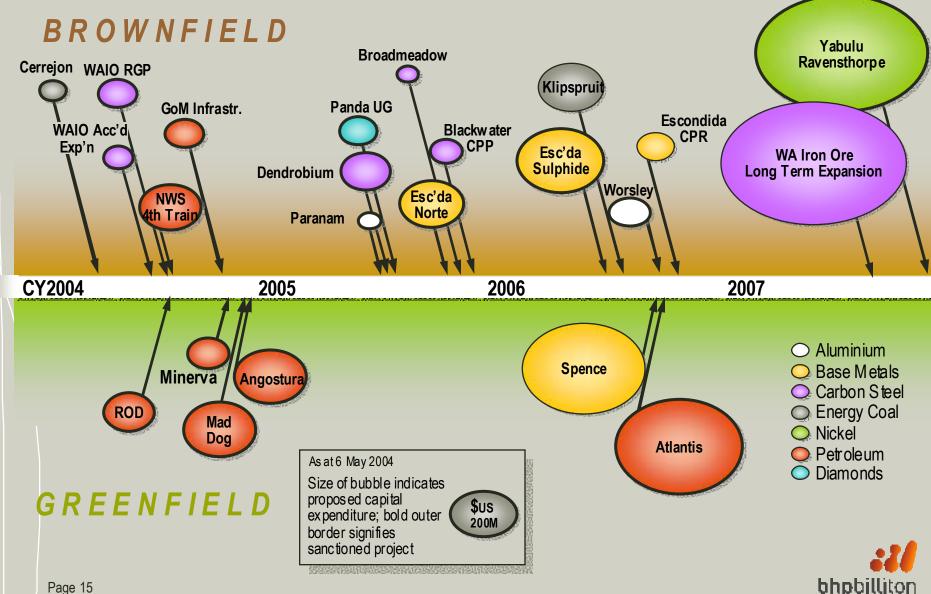
- China
 - Currently 10% of company revenues, up from 5% a year ago
 - Will have 'ups and downs' but underlying fundamentals of growth are attractive
 - Increasing demand for more raw materials



How is BHP Billiton going to feed this global demand for resources...



Creating real options from deep inventory of projects



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Consistent execution of the business strategy

- Maximising the performance of operating assets
 - Safety
 - EBIT margins excluding third party product activities grown to 27%
 - Annualised return on capital of 15.4%
- Continued savings and efficiencies
- Reinvestment in growth projects
 - 13 major projects currently in development; 3 in feasibility stage
 - Plus smaller scale, capital efficient expansions based on existing infrastructure

Enables us to meet the challenge of increasing demand from China

AND

Positions us to benefit from recovering global economies





