

THREE INTERNATIONAL METALS STUDY GROUPS NOW CO-LOCATED IN LISBON

The three intergovernmental non-ferrous metals Study Groups – the International Copper Study Group, the International Lead and Zinc Study Group and the International Nickel Study Group – are now co-located in Lisbon, Portugal with effect from 1 January 2006.

A common Secretary-General, Mr Don Smale, was selected by the government representatives of the member countries of the three Study Groups in November 2005 to lead all three Groups. Mr Smale, who took up the common Secretary-General position in Lisbon on 1 January 2006, had been Secretary-General of the International Lead and Zinc Study Group since 2001, and prior to that was responsible for minerals and metals policy in the Australian industry and resources ministry.

The three Study Groups will continue to be separate entities with their own unique memberships, and co-location of the headquarters and secretariats of the Groups in Lisbon will provide both cost savings and synergies in the Groups' activities. Meetings of the Groups are expected to be held in Lisbon during 2006 in the last week of April and the first week of October.

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