

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDENT DIAMONDS AND SPECIALTY PRODUCTS**

BHP Billiton announced today the appointment of Mr Alberto Calderon as President Diamonds and Specialty Products based in London.

Mr Calderon is currently the President of Cerrejon Coal Company (33 per cent owned by BHP Billiton) in Colombia. Prior to joining Cerrejon Coal, Mr Calderon held various executive roles including President of Ecopetrol, General Director of Government Finance, Executive Vice President of Investment Banking for Corporacion Financiera de Valle, President of Colombian Natural Gas Association, President of Empresa de Energia de Bogota and Alternate Executive Director of the International Monetary Fund.

Commenting on the appointment, Chief Commercial Officer Marius Kloppers said: "Alberto's experience in a range of industries coupled with his sound commercial skills will be an asset to the Diamonds and Specialty Products Group."

Mr Calderon holds a PhD in Economics from Yale University.

### **Background – Mr Calderon**

Mr Calderon has held the position of President of Cerrejon Coal since July 2002. Cerrejon is a privately owned equal joint venture between BHP Billiton, Anglo American Plc and Glencore International AG. During his time at Cerrejon Coal, Mr Calderon has successfully integrated the three companies and developed and overseen initiatives which have resulted in production increasing by close to 40 per cent, revenues increasing to US\$1.3 billion and net profit nearing US\$500 million. Cerrejon Coal is Colombia's largest private exporter.

### **Career**

President, Cerrejon Coal Company 2002 -; President Ecopetrol (Colombian State Oil company, 1999-2002; General Director of Public Credit, 1999; Investment Banking Executive Vice-President, Corporación Financiera del Valle, 1997-1999; President Colombian Natural Gas Association, 1997; Alternate Executive Director, International Monetary Fund, 1994-1997; General Manager EEB, 1992-1993; Vice-Minister of Economic Development, Colombia, 1992; Vice-Minister of Education, Colombia, 1991; Advisor to Colombian Minister of Finance, 1990-1991; Assistant to Monetary Board, 1983-1986.

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A member of the BHP Billiton group which is headquartered in Australia

## **Personal**

M.A. Economics, Yale University, 1987

M. Phil. Economics, Yale University, 1989

PhD in Economics, Yale University, 1995

Mr Calderon is a citizen of Colombia

Married with two children

Further information on BHP Billiton can be found on our Internet site: <http://www.bhpbilliton.com>

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