



*Press Release*

## Vale approves leasing contract for potash assets and mining rights

Rio de Janeiro, February 9, 2012 –Vale S.A. (Vale) announces that its Board of Directors approved the signature of a leasing contract of potash assets and mining rights with Petróleo Brasileiro S.A. (Petrobras), for a period of 30 years, allowing for the continuation of potash mining in Taquari-Vassouras and the development of the Carnalita project, in the state of Sergipe, Brazil.

The leasing contract will ensure the extension of operations at Taquari-Vassouras, the sole potash producer in Brazil and one of only two producers in South America, finalizing the development of the Carnalita potash project – still subject to approval by Vale's Board of Directors – and the study and development of other areas within the concession.

The contract is aligned with our growth strategy of becoming one of the leading global players in the fertilizers industry.

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For further information, please contact:

+55-21-3814-4540

Roberto Castello Branco: roberto.castello.branco@vale.com  
Viktor Moszkowicz: viktor.moszkowicz@vale.com

Carla Albano Miller: carla.albano@vale.com  
Andrea Gutman: andrea.gutman@vale.com

Christian Perlingiere: christian.perlingiere@vale.com  
Fernando Frey: fernando.frey@vale.com  
Marcio Loures Penna: marcio.penna@vale.com

Samantha Pons: samantha.pons@vale.com

Thomaz Freire: thomaz.freire@vale.com

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