

RIO TINTO

External Affairs

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24 October 2005

Company Announcements Office
Australian Stock Exchange Limited
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir,

The attached notice was issued to the London Stock Exchange by Rio Tinto plc on 21 October 2005.

Yours faithfully,



Ian Head
General Manager – Corporate Relations

Attach. 1

RIO TINTO

Notice to ASX ...

24 October 2005

Rio Tinto plc – Transaction in Own Shares Purchase of own securities

Rio Tinto plc on 21 October 2005 acquired through JPMorgan Cazenove Limited 200,000 of its ordinary shares at an average price of 2100.21 pence per ordinary share. The purchased shares will all be held as treasury shares.

Following the above purchase, Rio Tinto plc holds 500,000 ordinary shares as treasury shares. The total number of ordinary shares in issue (excluding shares held as treasury shares) is 1,069,800,854.