Rio Tinto Earthquake Information Center Donation
Questions and Answers

Q: How much did Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper donate for the Rio Tinto Earthquake Information Center?
A: In June 2007, Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper committed $600,000 toward the Rio Tinto Earthquake Information Center at the University of Utah.

Q: Why are Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper supporting the Earthquake Information Center?
A: This donation demonstrates a dedication to education – specifically in the earth sciences. The Rio Tinto Earthquake Information Center has a well-deserved regional reputation for its expertise in seismic study and earthquake tracking, and Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper felt it was important to provide support to further the tradition of excellence in this important area of scientific endeavor.

The Rio Tinto Earthquake Information Center will serve as the nerve center for reports on local earthquake activity to emergency managers, the news media, and the general public as well as a modern facility for education and research. The donation also furthers our commitment to safety.

Q: Why is the relationship with the University of Utah important to Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper?
A: Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper have developed an important and longstanding relationship with the University of Utah and have partnered on many activities over the years. Central to the relationship is an ongoing commitment to sponsoring scholars at the university. Kennecott Utah Copper has provided scholarships for many decades and sponsors students annually in various disciplines across the campus. The donation for the Rio Tinto Earthquake Information Center at the University of Utah continues to foster a strong relationship through the sharing of information and knowledge.

Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper's most significant gift to date is the donation to support the new Utah Museum of Natural History at the University of Utah. The new museum, scheduled to open in 2011, will be named the Utah Museum of Natural History at the Rio Tinto Center. The donation continues Kennecott Utah Copper's 30-year support of the Museum and is the largest single corporate donation in the university's history.

Q: How will sharing information about seismic activity benefit Rio Tinto and Kennecott Utah Copper?
A: An improved knowledge of seismic activity in our region assists in our knowledge of the likely frequency and magnitude of events, so they can be considered in future design and in seismically upgrading existing facilities. Accurate and timely seismic data information gathering and transfer is fundamental towards reducing the earthquake hazard. This knowledge and ability to consider future designs allows us to minimize impacts to our operation, to the environment and to our neighbors.

Seismic events are considered in the design of our buildings and structures as well as rock and soil type slopes to minimize impact in the event of a significant earthquake. Probabilistic analysis is used in determination of seismic event magnitudes and frequency, and these are used in the design and specification of our buildings, rock slopes, and tailings impoundment facilities so they meet seismic design codes and/or internationally recognized earthquake design criteria.