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Vale informs acquisition of relevant shareholding ownership

Rio de Janeiro, December 15, 2009 – Vale S.A. (Vale) informs that BlackRock Inc. (BlackRock), with registered office located at 40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022-5911, USA, in the quality of investment administrator, communicated on December 14th, 2009 that due to the merger between BlackRock and Barclays Global Investors on December 1st, 2009, its shareholder ownership, as a whole, has reached a participation of 9.49% of the preferred class A shares issued by Vale, being holder of 69,198,327 preferred class A shares and 130,995,040 American Depositary Receipts (ADRs), equivalent to preferred class A shares.

As informed by BlackRock, the purpose of the acquisition of Vale's shares is strictly investment oriented, not aiming to change either the controlling shareholder structure or Vale's administrative structure. BlackRock also communicated that no debentures convertible into shares issued by Vale are held by its subsidiaries, as well as no agreement regulating the exercise of the voting rights or the purchase and sale of securities issued by Vale were executed by such subsidiaries.

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This press release may include declarations about Vale's expectations regarding future events or results. All declarations based upon future expectations, rather than historical facts, are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Vale cannot guarantee that such declarations will prove to be correct. These risks and uncertainties include factors related to the following: (a) the countries where Vale operates, mainly Brazil and Canada; (b) the global economy; (c) capital markets; (d) the mining and metals businesses and their dependence upon global industrial production, which is cyclical by nature; and (e) the high degree of global competition in the markets in which Vale operates. To obtain further information on factors that may give rise to results different from those forecast by Vale, please consult the reports filed with the Brazilian Comissão de Valores Mobiliários (CVM), the French Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF), and with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), including Vale's most recent Annual Report on Form 20F and its reports on Form 6K.