



Vale announces furnace stoppage in nickel operations

Rio de Janeiro, February 18, 2011- Vale S. A. (Vale) informs that, due to a problem, furnace #2 of its Copper Cliff smelter in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, will remain shutdown for a minimum of 16 weeks. The furnace stoppage is estimated to imply an output loss of 15,000 metric tons of finished nickel, representing 5% of our total nickel production planned for 2011.

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

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.