

Ground Floor, 1306 Hay Street
West Perth, Western Australia 6005
PO Box 859, West Perth WA 6005

T +61 8 9481 2100
F +61 8 9481 2001
E info@bathurstresources.com

Level 12, 1 Willeston Street
Wellington 6011, New Zealand

T +64 4 499 6830
E info@bathurstresources.co.nz



17th January 2012

Listed Company Relations
New Zealand Exchange Ltd
Level 2, NZX Centre
11 Cable Street
Wellington, New Zealand

Company Announcements Platform
Australian Stock Exchange
10th Floor, 20 Bond Street
Sydney
NSW 2000

APPOINTMENT OF CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

Bathurst Resources Ltd (ASX & NZX: BTU) is pleased to announce the appointment of Richard Tacon in the newly created role of Chief Operating Officer (**COO**) for the Company.

Richard was born in New Zealand and studied at the Otago School of Mines and has over 20 years' experience in both the New Zealand and Australian coal industries. Richard joins Bathurst from Centennial Coal where he was General Manager Western Operations. This role was responsible for 6 operating mines, 2 emerging projects, over 800 employees and coal production of approximately 10 million tonnes per annum.

In the role of COO, Richard will be based in the Company's Wellington office and will be responsible for the expansion of the company's existing coal mines and in the development of the Company's high quality coking coal projects on the Denniston Plateau.

Commenting on Richard's appointment, Bathurst's CEO Mr Hamish Bohannan said:

"We were extremely pleased with the level of interest we received for this key position within Bathurst. Even more so, we were delighted to have been able to secure the services of Richard, whose experience and industry knowledge will be invaluable to us as we look to develop our existing mines and bring the Escarpment project into development".

On behalf of Bathurst Resources Ltd

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Hamish Bohannan', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Hamish Bohannan
Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.

ENDS

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