



ASX ANNOUNCEMENT

Thursday 1 July 2010

The Manager
Company Announcements Office
Australian Securities Exchange
Level 45, South Tower Rialto
525 Collins Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

ELECTRONIC LODGEMENT

Dear Sir or Madam

ASX RELEASE

I attach for release to the market an announcement regarding the signing of a long term, take or pay contract with Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "F. Mead".

Fiona Mead
Company Secretary

ASX/MEDIA RELEASE

Date

Thursday, 1 July 2010

Asciano signs Northern Missing Link haulage contract with Middlemount Coal

Asciano announces today that it has executed a long term, take or pay contract with Middlemount Coal Pty Ltd, an incorporated joint venture between Macarthur Coal and Noble Group, for the movement of up to 3 million tonnes per annum of coal in Queensland commencing 1 January 2012.

This contract is the first to be announced in Queensland where the operation will be via the Northern Missing Link to Abbot Point.

The signing of this 10 year agreement will generate additional revenue of over \$320m.

Asciano will haul up to 3 million tonnes per annum from the new Middlemount mine complex and will utilise new diesel powered trains to service these growth tonnes.

Asciano Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mark Rowsthorn said, "This is a significant step in Asciano's growth strategy as it demonstrates our ability to meet our customers' needs in Queensland and places us in prime position to take advantage of further growth tonnages from coal producers who have committed to port capacity at Abbot Point."

"We are pleased that Middlemount Coal has recognised the value of the service offering that Asciano has presented to the Queensland market and we look forward to servicing them for many years to come.

"Asciano has exceeded its first year operations target by hauling over 14 million tonnes of coal in Queensland.

"Our unique commercial structure continues to drive positive performance outcomes for all our customers and this is being recognised by both existing customers and potential customers in Queensland.

"Asciano has now secured over 45 million tonnes of coal haulage contracts in Queensland which further reinforces our ability to deliver our Queensland coal strategy in the medium term," Mr Rowsthorn said.

Ends

Further information about Asciano can be found on our internet site: www.asciano.com

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