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2016 Production Report

Vale delivered a strong operational performance in 4Q16 and in 2016 with annual and quarterly production records

Vale delivered a strong operational performance in 4Q16 and in 2016, with annual and quarterly production records in iron ore, pellets, nickel, copper, cobalt and gold.

Ferrous Minerals

IRON ORE

- Annual production record of 348.8 Mt^[1] in 2016.
- Annual production record in Carajás of 148.1 Mt in 2016, 18.6 Mt higher than in 2015.
- Annual iron ore and pellets shipments record of 318.4 Mt from Brazil and Argentina and 21.7 Mt from Malaysia in 2016, 17.1 Mt and 7.5 Mt higher than in 2015, respectively.
- Annual blended volumes in Asia of 41 Mt in 2016, compared to 3 Mt in 2014 and 18 Mt in 2015.

- Quarterly production record in Carajás of 40.6 Mt, 1.9 Mt higher than in 3Q16 and 4.1 Mt higher than in 4Q15.

PELLETS

- Annual production^[2] of 46.2 Mt in 2016, in line with 2015.
- Annual production record in the Tubarão VIII pellet plant of 7.2 Mt in 2016, 0.6 Mt higher than in 2015.
- Quarterly production record² of 12.6 Mt in 4Q16, 0.5 Mt higher than in 3Q16.

¹ Including third party purchases and excluding Samarco's attributable production.

² Excluding Samarco's attributable production

Base Metals

NICKEL

- Annual production record of 311,000 t in 2016, 20,000 t higher than in 2015.
- Annual production record from VNC of 34,300 t in 2016, 7,400 t higher than in 2015.
- Quarterly overall production record of 83,000 t in 4Q16, 7,000 t higher than in 3Q16 and 300 t higher than in 4Q15.

COPPER

- Annual production^[3] record of 453,100 t in 2016, 29,300 t higher than in 2015.
- Annual production record at Salobo of 175,900 t in 2016, 20,500 t higher than in 2015.
- Quarterly overall production³ record of 122,500 t in 4Q16, 11,100 t higher than in 3Q16 and 10,000 t higher than in 4Q15.
- Quarterly production record at Sudbury of 32,200 t in 4Q16, 2,500 t higher than in 3Q16 and 900 t higher than in 4Q15.
- Quarterly production record at Salobo of 49,800 t in 4Q16, 5,500 t higher than in 3Q16 and 7,800 t higher than in 4Q15.

COBALT

- Annual production record of 5,799 t in 2015, 1,266 t higher than in 2015.
- Quarterly production record of 1,600 t in 4Q16, 112 t higher than in 3Q16, driven by higher production from Sudbury and Voisey's Bay sources.

GOLD as a by-product of nickel and copper concentrates

- Annual production record of 483,000 oz in 2016, 62,000 oz higher than in 2015.
- Quarterly production record of 137,000 oz in 4Q16, 18,000 oz higher than in 3Q16 and 19,000 oz higher than in 4Q15.

³ Including Lubambe's attributable production

COAL

- Annual production of 7.2 Mt in 2016, in line with 2015.
- Annual production record at Moatize of 5.5 Mt in 2016, 0.5 Mt higher than in 2015.
- Quarterly overall production of 1.7 Mt, 0.6 Mt lower than in 3Q16, negatively impacted by the divestment of the Carborough Downs operations in November 2016^[4] and by the constraints on the supply of explosives which affected blasting operations in Mozambique.
- The supply of explosives was reestablished and operations performance has been constantly improving since then, with production totaling 0.6 Mt in December 2016 and reaching the monthly record of 0.8 Mt in January 2017.

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More information



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