

Vale informs that all employees at Vale's Totten Mine are safely back above ground

Rio de Janeiro, September 29th, 2021 - Vale informs that all 39 employees underground at its Totten Mine in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, have safely returned to surface.

"I'd like to congratulate our rescue team. Bringing our 39 employees home safe and healthy was our top priority, and we're glad that our emergency plans and procedures worked to deliver that outcome. All the employees are safe now and deserve our deep respect for their perseverance and strong will." Vale Chief Executive Officer Eduardo Bartolomeo said from Sudbury, where he met with employees and rescue personnel.

The employees had been underground since reporting for dayshift Sunday when damage to the shaft rendered the normal conveyance system inoperable. Employees exited the mine with support from Vale's mine rescue team through a secondary egress ladder system.

"This is tremendous news flowing from very difficult circumstances," said Bartolomeo. "All of us at Vale were focused on and committed to the safe return of our employees underground. Hearing that every one of them is back on surface and returning home is the best news we could have received."

With employees safely returned to surface, Vale will launch an investigation into what happened, so that the company can learn from it and take steps to ensure it never happens again.

Luciano Siani Pires
Executive Officer of Investor Relations

Ever since the Covid-19 outbreak began, our highest priority is the health and safety of our employees. Our IR team adopted work-from-home, and as we continue to face these new circumstances, we strongly recommend you prioritize e-mail and online engagement.

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