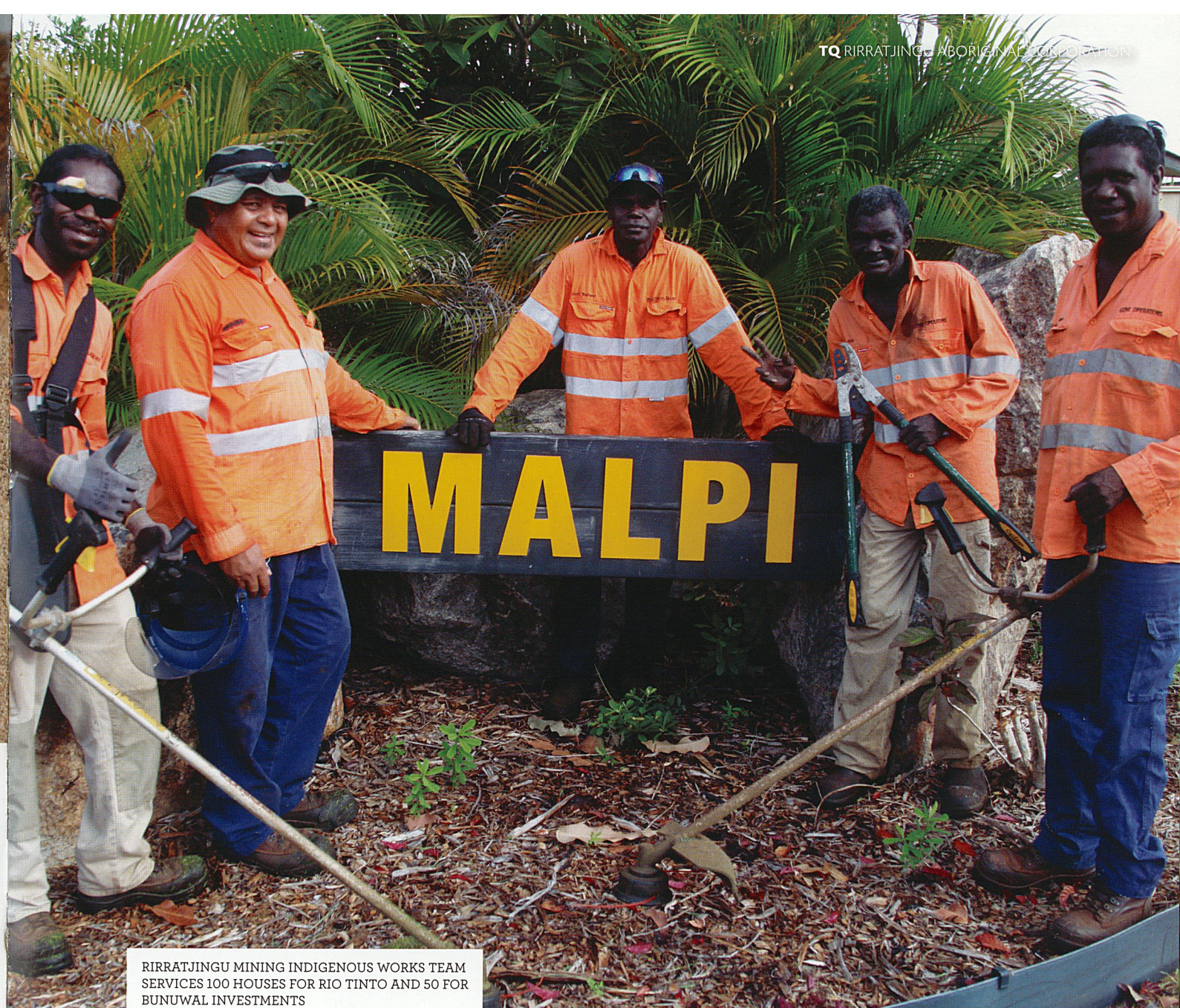
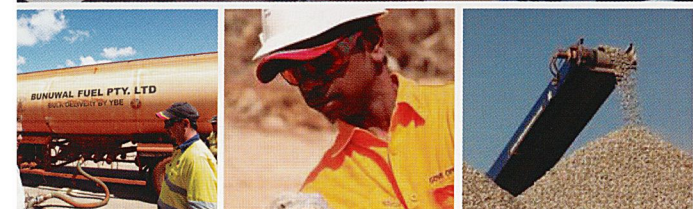




RIRRATJINGU MINING PROVIDES INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT



RIRRATJINGU MINING INDIGENOUS WORKS TEAM SERVICES 100 HOUSES FOR RIO TINTO AND 50 FOR BUNUWAL INVESTMENTS

QUARRYING FOR SUCCESS

THE MOUNTAINS OF TOXIC WASTE ARE ON RIRRATJINGU LAND, WHERE WUYAL THE SPIRITUAL 'HONEY MAN' LEFT HIS DILLY BAG. BUT WITH THE CLOSURE OF THE REFINERY, THE RED MUD POND AREA IS BEING REHABILITATED.

The Rirratjingu acquired control of the Gove Quarry in 2011 - the first Indigenous-owned mining operation in East Arnhem Land.

Following that, in 2012 Rirratjingu Mining commenced supply of 16,000 tonne of Blue Metal product to the Rio Tinto Residue Disposal Area (RDA), known as the Red Mud Ponds, an area used to dispose of waste from the aluminium refining process.

The mountains of toxic waste are on Rirratjingu land, where Wuyal the spiritual 'Honey Man' left his dilly bag. But with the closure of the refinery, the Red Mud Pond area is being rehabilitated. Beginning with a 'Red Mud Pond Capping' project, the mine will slowly decommission the ponds, by putting a plastic 'Geomesh' liner over them, and establish drainage for rainwater run off, as the first stage in the environmental rehabilitation of the area. With the curtailment of the refinery and the

ramping up of the rehabilitation of the Red Mud Ponds, Rirratjingu Mining rock supply has grown from 16,000 to over 60,000 tonnes for the RDA pond-capping project alone.

The benefits of the projects seeping into the community, with Rio Tinto's employment and training program having provided work placements at the Rirratjingu Mining operation, for indigenous trainees undertaking pre-employment and workplace training, to enter the mining industry.

The Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation has teamed up with Yirrkala Business Enterprises (YBE) to boost Indigenous employment in North-East Arnhem Land. YBE (2) was formed in Yirrkala more than 40 years ago, with a focus on indigenous employment and training to overcome the difficult challenge of equipping local Yolngu people to take advantage of opportunities in the mining industry. The collaborative approach between the two companies has seen teams of indigenous workers contribute to employment

at both the Rirratjingu Mining Gove Quarry and laying Geomesh as part of a rehabilitation program at Rio Tinto's Red Mud Ponds.

The Rirratjingu Mining operation has provided sub-contracting opportunities for indigenous workers from YBE (2) Pty Ltd and direct employment for the Rirratjingu Mining Indigenous Works Crew. The Rirratjingu Mining Indigenous Works Crew also provided regular garden maintenance and associated services to over 100 Rio Tinto properties this year, while continuing to maintain and service the Rirratjingu's 50 residential and commercial property assets.

The Geomesh project was previously utilising fly-in-fly-out workers for the manual labour of laying the product. The workers from abroad have recently

been replaced by 10 local indigenous employees from the Rirratjingu Mining Indigenous Works Crew and YBE (2) Pty Ltd. After being approached by Rio Tinto, the organisations joined together to achieve this great outcome for the local indigenous workers. YBE supplied indigenous operators, plant and equipment and supervisors to contribute to the project, with half the team sub-contracted from Rirratjingu Mining.

Rirratjingu Aboriginal Corporation CEO, Stuart Maclean said the new arrangement was a great result for the local community. "Creating economic opportunities is one of the most important things we can do to support the local community," said MacLean.

"These jobs mean 10 local Indigenous people get that opportunity, with

benefits that flow through to their families, and with increased business activity, there are greater resources to provide social benefit to the community.'

YBE CEO, Murray Knyvett said the new jobs present a more efficient and effective solution for Rio Tinto.

"This is a great result for the local community, local employment and Rio Tinto," said Knyvett. "Local employment opportunities are vitally important for the Yirrkala community and this is a great win for everyone involved." **TQ**