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For Immediate Release  
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## Press Release

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### **Kennecott Utah Copper's Bingham Canyon Mine Visitors Center opens Thursday**

*One of Salt Lake County's most popular tourist destinations offers affordable family fun at just \$5 per car*

**March 30, 2010**

Copperton, Utah – Kennecott Utah Copper's (KUC) Bingham Canyon Mine Visitors Center will open April 1<sup>st</sup> for the 2010 season. The season runs through the end of October, weather permitting.

Situated on the edge of the three-quarter mile deep Bingham Canyon Mine, the visitors center is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Salt Lake County. In addition to spectacular views, this year visitors can enjoy newly redesigned exhibits and displays as well as interactive information kiosks and video presentations. The visitors center features everything from historic mining artifacts to presentations about how KUC's modern-day operations produce metals and minerals essential to everyday life. Visitors can also enjoy a 16-minute film outlining the mine's history and the process used in producing copper.

The Visitors Center opened in 1992 and has hosted more than 2.7 million visitors. Each year, the fees collected from the Visitors Center, donations from Rio Tinto employees and the Bingham Canyon Lion's Club Gift Shop are donated to local charities through the KUC Visitors Center Charitable Foundation. Since its inception, more than \$2.2 million has been donated to local community charities and non-profit organizations. The funding benefits the truly needy with a special focus on the disabled, children and the elderly.

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The Center is open to the public seven days a week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. through October 31, weather permitting. The 2010 tax deductible admission fees are:

- \$5 for passenger vehicles/mini vans
- \$25 for mini-tour buses
- \$50 for tour buses
- No Charge - For school buses, veterans' group tours, boy scouts in uniform, and vans from County operated senior citizen centers. Those arriving with school groups will need to fill out a form in advance and bring it to the entrance gate. The form can be found at [www.kennecott.com](http://www.kennecott.com). Weather or temporary closure information can also be obtained at 801-204-2005.

Local charities can apply for Foundation funding consideration at [www.kennecott.com](http://www.kennecott.com); proposals must be received by October 15.

#### **About Kennecott Utah Copper**

As the second largest copper producer in the United States, Kennecott Utah Copper provides about 18 percent of the U.S.'s copper needs. Kennecott's Bingham Canyon Mine is the largest man-made excavation in the world. It is one of the top producing copper mines the world with production at more than 18.1 million tons. Every year, Kennecott produces approximately 300,000 tons of copper, along with 500,000 ounces of gold, 4 million ounces of silver, about 30 million pounds of molybdenum, and about 1 million tons of sulfuric acid, a by-product of the smelting process. Rio Tinto purchased Kennecott Utah Copper in 1989 and has invested about \$2 billion in the modernization of KUC's operations. KUC has also spent more than \$350 million on the cleanup of historic mining waste and \$100 million on groundwater cleanup. Rio Tinto employs 2,400 people and hundreds of contractors in Utah. [www.kennecott.com](http://www.kennecott.com)

#### **About Rio Tinto**

Rio Tinto is a leading international mining group headquartered in the United Kingdom, combining Rio Tinto plc, a London and NYSE listed company, and Rio Tinto Limited, which is listed on the Australian Securities Exchange.

Rio Tinto's business is finding, mining, and processing mineral resources. Major products are aluminium, copper, diamonds, energy (coal and uranium), gold, industrial minerals (borax, titanium dioxide, salt, talc) and iron ore. Activities span the world but are strongly represented in Australia and North America with significant businesses in South America, Asia, Europe and Southern Africa. [www.riotinto.com](http://www.riotinto.com)