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**ASX Media Release**

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## **Ausenco awarded Kestrel Mine Extension Contract**

Global diversified engineering services and project management group, Ausenco Limited (ASX: AAX) was today awarded a \$53 million contract to manage underground, surface infrastructure construction and coal preparation plant upgrade work for the Kestrel Joint Venture (Rio Tinto 80% and Mitsui 20%). Ausenco's work is part of the \$1.3 billion Kestrel Mine Extension, located near Emerald in Central Queensland.

Ausenco will be delivering services under a Project Construction Management contract to extend the mine life and increase Kestrel Mine's annual production capacity to 5.7 million tonnes, from the current capacity of 4 million tonnes. The expansion is due for completion in 2012.

Ausenco CEO Zimi Meka said "Our work with Rio Tinto globally spans a number of world leading projects. We are pleased to be extending our work to be more closely aligned with Rio Tinto in Queensland. In addition, we continue our important relationship with Mitsui.

"In recent months we have experienced a significant increase in the level of tender enquiries for new projects across all phases of the development cycle. We are actively pursuing a number of these projects in all areas where we operate across the world.

"The Kestrel Mine Extension award builds upon a number of key delivery strengths of the Ausenco team. Owners are increasingly pursuing underground mine development work. Our experience in successfully delivering other recent underground developments positions us well in that growth sector."

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### **About Ausenco**

Ausenco sets high global standards for leading edge engineering and project management services in the resources and energy sectors. We're a growing company with big ambitions that thrives on reaching into new markets. Across 33 offices in 20 countries, our people seek ingenious solutions for our clients in the Energy, Environment & Sustainability, Minerals & Metals, Process Infrastructure and Program Management sectors. We're inspired to make a genuine positive impact on the world around us and in the communities in which we operate.