



Contact

Jennifer Russo, (602) 956.0223, ext. 14
jennifer.russo@resolutioncopper.com
Corporate Communications Director

NEWS RELEASE

RESOLUTION COPPER ANNOUNCES 2006 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES, PROGRAM EXPANSION

SUPERIOR, Ariz., February 7, 2006 – Resolution Copper announced today that it is now accepting college scholarship applications for the 2006-2007 Resolution Copper Scholarship Program. This marks the program's fifth year in supporting students in their pursuit of a higher education. Since the program's inception, Resolution Copper has awarded nearly two dozen scholarships to students living in Superior and nearby communities.

"We are delighted by the increased participation in the Resolution Copper Scholarship program from both students and educators," said John Rickus, President of Resolution Copper. "The expansion of our successful scholarship program into the Hayden-Winkleman and Kearny area is a natural way to show our support for education. We will continue to support student achievement in math and science through our scholarship program and several other education initiatives."

Each year, Resolution Copper awards graduating high school seniors from Superior, Globe, Miami, Florence and Apache Junction schools scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 annually; a maximum four-year grant of \$6,000. This year the company has expanded the program and will be awarding an additional scholarship in the Hayden-Winkleman and Kearny area.

Previous award recipients are attending various institutions including Arizona State University, University of Arizona, Northern Arizona University and Central Arizona College. As a scholarship recipient, students are also eligible to work at Resolution Copper as part of the company's Summer Internship Program immediately following their first full year of schooling. Last year several students participated in the summer long, hands-on program and many will be returning in the summer of 2006.

The Resolution Copper Scholarship Program is open to graduating high school seniors wishing to pursue a higher education at an accredited Arizona college, university, business or trade school. Preference is given to students pursuing a degree in engineering, mathematics or science.

Applications for the 2006 scholarship program are now being accepted. Completed applications should be submitted to the student's high school guidance counselor. For further information on program guidelines or to download an application form, please visit www.resolutioncopper.com/community/scholarships.asp. The deadline for receiving all applications is March 17, 2006.

About Resolution Copper

Resolution Copper Company is Manager of the Resolution project, a joint venture between Rio Tinto, plc and BHP Billiton, the two largest mining companies in the world. The project is located in the historic Pioneer Mining District three miles east of Superior, Arizona and is the site of the former Magma Mine which operated from 1912-1996.

Resolution Copper is developing a 21st century mining operation that combines state-of-the-art technology with sound environmental policy and sustainable development. Anticipated project benefits include more than 1,000 construction jobs and 400 permanent positions, as well as significant positive impacts on Arizona economies through federal, state and local taxes. For more information visit www.resolutioncopper.com .

###