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## Vale signs US\$ 171 million contract with national shipyards for the purchase of 49 ships, barges and tugs

Vale signed a contract with three national shipyards for the construction of 15 new tugboats (boats that assist in the maneuver of vessels at ports), 32 barges and two pushers. With the order, Vale will be investing US\$ 171.1 million to help heat up the Brazilian naval industry, generating about 2,370 direct and indirect jobs.

The tugboats will be added to the current fleet of the company, which today has 14 other boats of this type. Eleven tugboats will be built at Detroit shipyard, in Navegantes, Santa Catarina state and four others at Santa Cruz shipyard, in Aracaju, Sergipe state. About 1,530 new direct and indirect jobs will be generated with the construction of these boats alone.

The tugboats will operate at the Ponta da Madeira Maritime Terminal in Maranhão state, and at the Tubarão Complex, in Espírito Santo. The first tugboat will be delivered this year. The others will be ready by 2011. The investment on the new fleet is estimated at US\$ 118.6 million.

The 32 barges and the two pushers, an investment of US\$ 52.5 million, will be built at Rio - Maguari shipyard, in Belém, Pará state. The delivery of the fleet by the yard is 2010. This fleet will operate for Mina de Urucum, in Corumbá, Mato Grosso do Sul state, transporting ore in the Brazil-Paraguay and Brazil-Argentina routes. This order will generate 600 direct jobs -- they may reach 700 at the peak of the construction -- in addition to 140 other indirect jobs.

With the orders, Vale intends to meet the growth in demand for Logistics services in the next coming years. Part of this growth will result from the start up of Pier 4 at Ponta da Madeira, in 2011. The work will generate about 2,500 jobs at its peak and 212 other jobs when the Pier starts operating.

### General cargo

In 2007, Log-In Logística Intermodal, a company in which Vale holds a 31.3% interest, announced that they will build, at a national shipyard, five container vessels. Each vessel will have an individual capacity of 2,700 TEUs (Twenty-foot container equivalent unit) and will transport general cargo. The total investment is about 700 million reais. The vessels will be built at Ilha S/A - EISA Shipyard, at Ilha do Governador, Rio de Janeiro state. According to estimates from Rio de Janeiro state government, about 2,000 direct jobs and 6,000 indirect jobs will be generated during the construction of these 5 (five) vessels. Furthermore, in 2008, Log-In also announced the construction of two vessels (bulkcarriers), at a national shipyard, for the transportation of bauxite.

### More information

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