



Major Career Roles

CEO, Iron Ore – Rio Tinto

Managing Director, Rio Tinto
Coal

Managing Director, Rio Tinto
Bauxite and Alumina – Pacific

Managing Director, Rossing
Uranium

CEO, Energy Resources of
Australia Ltd

Non-Executive Chair, Deep
Yellow Ltd

Non-Executive Chair, pH7
Technologies Inc

Other Career Highlights

NED, BCI Minerals Ltd

Chris is a highly experienced mining executive with more than 30 years' global experience in senior strategic and operational roles at Rio Tinto, culminating in his position as Chief Executive, Iron Ore (2016–2020). He has led some of the world's largest and most complex mining systems, including the integrated Pilbara iron ore business, involving more than 20,000 skilled employees and contractors, and managed from a digital operations centre in Perth.

Chris began his career as a metallurgy trainee at BHP's Whyalla integrated steelworks, an experience that sparked his passion for effective leadership in heavy industry. He joined Rio Tinto in 1988 as a graduate and gained his first middle-management role in 1994. From there he progressed through a succession of General Manager operational roles, COO and Managing Director positions before joining Rio Tinto's Executive Committee in 2016. Over this period he led across a wide range of commodities, including bauxite, alumina, aluminium, coal, uranium, salt, copper and iron ore, and worked in varied locations across Australia as well as in New Zealand and Namibia, with significant engagement in Asian markets.

Alongside his executive career, Chris has developed a portfolio of governance roles. He is executive Chair of Deep Yellow Ltd, Chair of pH7 Technologies and a Non-Executive Director at BCI Minerals Ltd. A qualified metallurgical engineer, he is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Chris' philosophy of leadership is grounded in enabling people to contribute effectively – to the business, to their teams, to their aspirations, and to their wider lives. Acting as a mentor has been a constant thread throughout his career, and he thrives on seeing others succeed in their roles. Having worked with individuals and teams across different cultures and geographies, he is a strong believer in diversity in all its forms, enabled by inclusive behaviour at every level of the organisation. He has also been a major contributor to the redesign of education and capability development to help people navigate the transition to a digital future, particularly in asset-intensive industries.

Chris brings deep cross-sector expertise in:

- Global mining & resources leadership – running large, multi-commodity portfolios and leading one of the world’s most advanced integrated mining systems.
- Capital projects, brownfield & greenfield development – overseeing major investment programmes, expansions and new developments in capital-intensive environments.
- Digital operations, safety & productivity – integrating digital operations centres, technology and data into frontline decision-making while lifting safety and performance.
- Leadership, culture & inclusion – building diverse, inclusive teams, mentoring leaders at all levels and reshaping education and capability for a digital, industrial future.

Recognised as a transformational leader, he has consistently delivered improvements in safety, productivity and culture while navigating volatile markets, demanding stakeholders, and major capital programmes.