



Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. CEO Richard Adkerson Named Top CEO in Investor Survey

PHOENIX, AZ, April 16, 2009 – The Chief Executive Officer of Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc. (NYSE: FCX) has been recognized in *Institutional Investor* magazine's 2009 annual ranking of "America's Best CEOs." FCX President and Chief Executive Officer Richard C. Adkerson ranked first in the rankings of CEOs for the second straight year in the Basic Materials – Metals & Mining category. *Institutional Investor's* rankings are based on survey responses from 900 financial analysts, portfolio managers and other investment professionals.

FCX is a leading international mining company with headquarters in Phoenix, Arizona. FCX operates large, long-lived, geographically diverse assets with significant proven and probable reserves of copper, gold and molybdenum. The company's portfolio of assets includes the Grasberg minerals district, which is the world's largest copper and gold mine in terms of reserves; significant mining operations in the Americas, including the large scale Morenci minerals district and the Sieritta and Bagdad mines in North America and the Cerro Verde, El Abra and Candelaria operations in South America; and the potentially world-class Tenke Fungurume development project in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Additional information about FCX is available on our web site at www.fcx.com.

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More details on Institutional Investor's survey can be found on the magazine's web site – www.iimagazine.com.