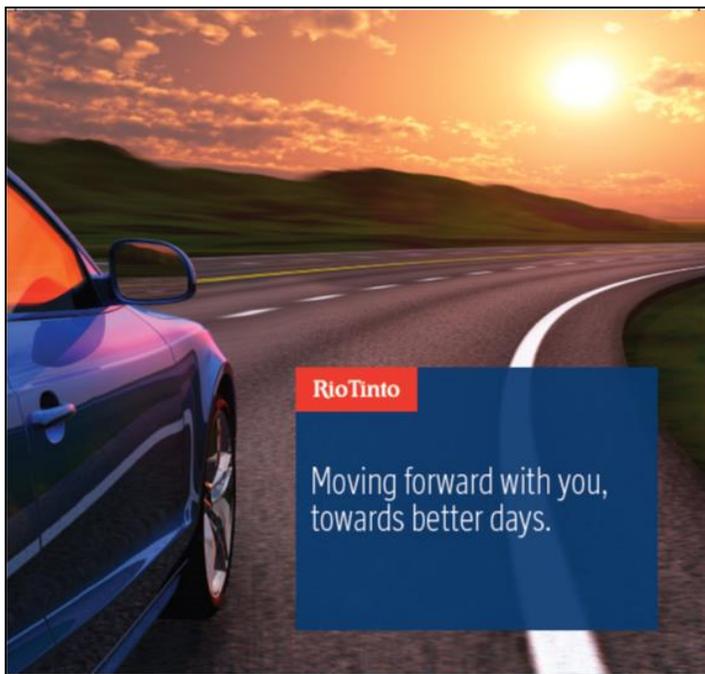




**COVID-19 affected everyone, everywhere**

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the virus affected more than 15M persons around the world and will continue to spread if we don't protect ourselves. For the safety of all, **please** keep a 2 meter distance from others, wash your hands regularly with soap & water and wear a mask when in public settings or if social distancing is not possible.



**Rio Tinto Metal Powders is a producer of materials essential to human progress.**

As a producer of essential materials to human progress, Rio Tinto business units were able to continue operating throughout the pandemic. With the agility, resilience and innovation of our employees, Rio Tinto Metal Powders implemented social distancing measures, promoted good hygiene habits and applied new site access requirements which included taking body temperatures. Furthermore, at Rio Tinto Fer et Titane Technology Center in Sorel-Tracy, we produced our own hand sanitizer to keep our employees and communities' safe – even supplying quantities to paramedics and local schools.

RTFT donated hundreds of N95 (FFP2) masks to local hospital and more than \$100,000 CAD dollars to food banks and other charitable organizations.



These initiatives made Rio Tinto Metal Powders a part of the solution in the fight against COVID-19. We are all in this together, and it is through teamwork and innovation that we will rise to the challenge. Please feel free to contact your regional sales representative should you have any concerns during the COVID-19 crisis or email us at [info.qmp@riotinto.com](mailto:info.qmp@riotinto.com)

**R&D and Technical Services – We are still committed to work with you!**

While the R&D activities were reduced during a government-mandated lockdown, as an essential business, we were able to maintain some activities. The team in Sorel-Tracy took advantage of this time to further enhance the skills of our workforce through various training activities. We are now better prepared than ever to assist you with your next powder metallurgy challenge. We did not stop there: our global partnership projects quickly went virtual and we held several discussions that allowed us to keep progressing. Since early May, our laboratories at our Powder Plant and Technology Centre, are back in operation – albeit at a reduced pace. We are dedicated to assist you while your operations are ramping up and stand ready to support your growth projects. Our long-term research projects are still ongoing, and we are looking forward to share and discuss them with you. You are our prime reason we keep innovating and this remains true during these challenging times.

**Rio Tinto Metal Powders**  
**A Committed Long Term Global Business**  
**& Technical Partner**



**Stay healthy.**  
**Stay strong.**  
**Stay safe.**



## Customer Bulletin | July 2020

### Major congress & industry exhibitions were all cancelled for 2020

Last March the Metal Powder Industries Federation cancelled the WorldPM Congress in Montreal. The European Powder Metallurgy Association also postponed the EUROPM 2020 in Portugal to next year but the technical part will be presented virtually.

On March 27<sup>th</sup>, the Metal Powder Industries Federation (MPIF) announced the cancellation of the co-located conferences WorldPM2020, the World Congress on Powder Metallurgy & Particulate Materials; AMPM2020, Additive Manufacturing with Powder Metallurgy; and Tungsten2020, the International Conference on Tungsten, Refractory & Hardmaterials that were scheduled to take place June 27–July 1, 2020, in Montréal, Canada. “After thoughtful deliberation, MPIF leadership has made the difficult decision to cancel the conferences. They will not be rescheduled.” James P. Adams announced. “The health, safety, and well-being of the global powder metallurgy community is our highest priority,” stated Adams, MPIF Executive Director/CEO. Reports from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); the announcement by the World Health Organization (WHO) declaring a pandemic; numerous companies, universities and government institutions initiating travel restrictions; and ever-increasing numbers of confirmed COVID-19 cases; all provided a clear need to take this action. For further information, contact Diane Haggerty, CMP at [dhaggerty@mpif.org](mailto:dhaggerty@mpif.org) or (609) 452-7700.

On May 25<sup>th</sup>, the EPMA announced that the pandemic impacted all business in different ways; and given the difficulties for participants to travel to Lisbon, as well as the high safety and financial constraints of running a live meeting in 2020, the EPMA Board decided to postpone the Euro PM Congress & Exhibition event in Lisbon to 17-20 October 2021. EPMA are currently exploring the option of conducting Euro PM2020 as a Virtual Congress, allowing all 300+ technical papers to be presented during a live webinar. For more information, contact Dr. Lionel Aboussouan Executive Director at [la@epma.com](mailto:la@epma.com) or +33 (0) 787 777 848.



Olivier Coube joined RTIT GmbH on May 1<sup>st</sup> as Technical Manager Metallics supporting Metal Powders and Sorelmetal teams.

Olivier is a trilingual (FR, EN, DE) Frenchman with over 25 years of experience in various sectors, mainly in Powder Metallurgy (PM). He held in his carrier various positions at the PM R&D Fraunhofer IWM, Germany and at Plansee SE, Austria. From 2007 until 2019, he was also the Technical Director of the European Powder Metallurgy Association (EPMA) where he fostered broad technical synergies in various PM sectors.



Olivier took over Philippe François' position after his retirement on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 following 10 years of intensive service in the development of RTMP powders and customer service.

A special celebration in his honor was organized in Sorel-Tracy last January to recall all the good moments and also the challenging ones, but most importantly to meet with all his colleagues one last time, including some already retired, that came to wish him a healthy and long retirement. Olivier and Philippe have already started working together since May 4<sup>th</sup> to ensure a smooth transmission so to bring Olivier up to speed as quickly as possible. During this transition period, Olivier will learn from Philippe's knowledge and passion on PM. Please join us in welcoming Olivier who will soon be in touch with you! His email: [Olivier.Coube@riotinto.com](mailto:Olivier.Coube@riotinto.com)