

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **IMMSA's coal mine accident reports**

Mexico D.F., February 21, 2006.- Grupo Mexico, S.A. de C.V., ("Grupo Mexico"), the indirect parent company of Southern Copper Corporation ("SCC"), and SCC reported yesterday that on Sunday, February 19, 2006, at approximately 02:00 a.m., a gas explosion took place at the Pasta de Conchos coal mine, which belongs to SCC's subsidiary, Industrial Minera Mexico, S.A. de C.V., in the San Juan Sabinas municipality, in the state of Coahuila, Mexico.

The explosion provoked a landslide of one area of the mine, trapping more than 70 miners. The company immediately sent expert crews, especially trained to rescue workers.

Until Monday, February 20, 2006 the special work crews have found 11 miners – some of them uninjured, some with minor injuries.

Likewise, the company has had the timely and efficient collaboration of the Mexican Army, the support of Coahuila Governor Humberto Moreira, who was at the site on Monday, and municipal authorities in order to advance as quickly as possible in the rescue efforts. Other companies located in the region have been collaborating with the company, sending specialized rescue teams.

Grupo Mexico assures that its top priority in any work is to rescue the workers and take care of their families. Moreover, it will use all the necessary resources and efforts in this primordial task.

**SOUTHERN COPPER CORPORATION**

2575 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 500, Phoenix, AZ 85016, U.S.A.  
Phone: (602) 977-6595 - Fax: (602) 977-6700