

Our Story

October 30th, 1968, the powder business was officially inaugurated as Quebec Metal Powders Limited. The iron powder plant, covering an area of 55,000 square feet, was constructed in 385 days for a cost of \$10 million with an initial plant capacity of 70,000 metric tons of powder.

In 1984, with the implementation of Statistical Process Control, quality assurance was rapidly established as one of the powder plant's strengths. Over the years, the powder plant has retained this reputation as one of the first in the PM industry to achieve each of the quality standards: ISO 9001, QS-9000, ISO 14001 and ISO/TS 16949.

In 1987, another major milestone in the powder business history was the construction of the steel powder plant. An important step forward, the addition of the steel plant opened the door to a myriad of new PM applications.

In 2003, QMP became a third time recipient of the MPIF Automotive Innovation Award, in recognition of the company's technological contribution towards a major development in the automotive sector.

In 2005, with the establishment of QMP Suzhou in China, the Rio Tinto powder business took another step forward. This market support facility, including powder blending, laboratory and warehouse, is well situated to handle sales, administration and technical customer service in the ever-expanding Asian market.

In November 2007, Rio Tinto announced that it would integrate its powder manufacturing and steel billet plants in Sorel-Tracy to gain operational synergies between the two sister plants. Furthermore, integration has opened the way for the powder business to take full advantage of Rio Tinto's global assets to support the growth of the powder business.

In August 2011, Rio Tinto Metal Powders announced plans to invest (30M USD) to increase plant capacity by 20% over the next two years.

In 2012, Following the recruitment of an India General Manager Sales, Rio Tinto Metal Powders established a full service sales office in Mumbai to better serve the Indian powder market.

In 2014, QMP will have commissioned a new annealing furnace at their Suzhou facility to further increase powder supply capability.

Over the past years, Rio Tinto Metal Powders has certainly experienced many successes, as well as its share of challenges. However, the ongoing support of Rio Tinto, coupled with the ingenuity, innovation and determination of our employees have made Rio Tinto Metal Powders (formerly as QMP) quite successful in the powder metallurgy industry. These organizational and human resource strengths will continue to serve Rio Tinto Metal Powders today and for many years to come.

A Committed Long Term Global Business & Technical Partner



ISO 9001



TS 16949