

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 6-K

Current report of foreign issuer pursuant to Rules 13a-16 and 15d-16 Amendments

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Rio Alto Mining Ltd

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**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

FORM 6-K

**REPORT OF FOREIGN PRIVATE ISSUER PURSUANT TO RULE 13a-16 OR 15d-16 UNDER THE SECURITIES
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the month of Month of January, 2013

Commission File Number 001-35767

RIO ALTO MINING LIMITED

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Suite 1950 – 400 Burrard Street

Vancouver, BC V6C 3A6

(Address of principal executive office)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F.

Form 20-F [] Form 40-F []

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1): []

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7): []

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's "home country"), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

Exhibit

[99.1](#) [News Release dated January 11, 2013](#)

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

Rio Alto Mining Limited
(Registrant)

Date January, 11, 2013

By /s/ Anthony Hawkshaw
Anthony Hawkshaw
CFO

SEC 1815 (04-09) **Persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**



RIO ALTO PRODUCED 201,113 OUNCES OF GOLD IN 2012

January 11, 2013

For Immediate Release

Rio Alto Mining Limited (“**Rio Alto**”) (TSX & BVL: **RIO**, NYSE: **RIOM**, DB Frankfurt: **MS2**) is pleased to announce that gold production for 2012 amounted to 201,113 ounces, near the mid-point of the Company’s most recent gold production guidance of 190,000 to 210,000 ounces for the year. Production for the fourth quarter of the year was 40,049 ounces of gold.

Alex Black, President and Chief Executive Officer, commented “Production of 200,000 ounces of gold during the first year of commercial production from the La Arena Gold Mine exceeded management’s initial expectations and was due in large part to the hard work of everyone involved in mine operations. The board of directors would like to express its appreciation for the commitment and effort of everyone involved in the mine development and its operation.”

During Q1, Rio Alto will provide 2013 production and cost guidance, updated resources and reserves for the La Arena Gold Mine and the Phase II copper/gold deposit and final 2012 production cost information.

Forward Looking Statements

This news release contains certain forward-looking information including statements concerning the timing for announcements concerning 2013’s expected gold production and costs, mineral resource and reserve estimates and 2012 production cost information. All statements included herein, other than statements of historical fact, are forward-looking information and such information involves various risks and uncertainties. There can be no assurance that such information will prove to be accurate, and actual results and future events could differ materially from those anticipated in such information. A description of assumptions used to develop such forward-looking information and a description of risk factors that may cause actual results to differ materially from forward-looking information can be found in Rio Alto’s disclosure documents on the SEDAR website at www.sedar.com. Rio Alto does not undertake to update any forward-looking information except in accordance with applicable securities laws.

To learn more about Rio Alto Mining Limited, please visit: www.rioaltonining.com or Rio Alto’s SEDAR profile at www.sedar.com.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF

RIO ALTO MINING LIMITED

Alex Black

President & CEO

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