

Expiration of the Effective Period of the Strategic Partnership with Chubu Steel Plate Co., Ltd.

The effective period of the strategic partnership between Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation (“NSSMC”) and Chubu Steel Plate Co., Ltd. (“Chubu Steel Plate”) as announced on January 30, 2007 has expired as of today, January 29, 2016.

The outline of the expiration of the strategic partnership effective period is given as follows.

1. Expiration of the effective period of the strategic partnership

The NSSMC agreed to implement the strategic partnership with Chubu Steel Plate on January 30, 2007, and subscribed for shares issued by Chubu Steel Plate through third-party allocation in February 2007.

Later, the two companies agreed to consider the following (1) to (3) under the strategic partnership, and discussed/implemented the measures for these matters.

- (1) Effective mutual use of the production facilities of the two companies
- (2) Mutual cooperation for the purpose of promoting the cost reduction in the production, facility repairing, raw material procurement, and product logistics
- (3) Engineering cooperation for the development of Chubu Steel Plate’s rolling line foundation

As the initial goals of each matter have been achieved, the two companies agreed on the expiration of the effective period of the strategic partnership.

2. Shares of Chubu Steel Plate

The NSSMC plans to sell 1,415,000 shares of Chubu Steel Plate, which the NSSMC acquired in association with the strategic partnership, to Chubu Steel Plate through the off-auction own share repurchase transaction (N-NET3) scheduled from February 2 to 29, 2016.

3. Impact on the NSSMC's business results

This expiration of the effective period of the strategic partnership and the sale of shares have a minor impact on the NSSMC's consolidated business results.

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