Agreement to purchase an American steel company and form a new Joint Venture
- Development and expansion of supply of automotive flat products in North America -

Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation ("NSSMC") announced that it has signed a Sale and Purchase Agreement with ThyssenKrupp AG ("TKAG") and ArcelorMittal SA ("ArcelorMittal") under which NSSMC and ArcelorMittal have agreed to purchase ThyssenKrupp Steel USA, LLC ("TKUS"), currently owned by TKAG.

NSSMC and ArcelorMittal also have signed a Formation Agreement under which they have agreed to form a joint venture in which each party will have 50% capital participation to acquire and operate TKUS.

Total investment for this transaction is estimated to be approximately US$1.55 billion, half of which will be paid by each of ArcelorMittal and NSSMC. The transaction is subject to customary regulatory and other approvals, subject to which the parties expect to close the transaction by the middle of 2014.


NSSMC has been receiving positive comments from customers in North America, notably automotive manufacturers, through supplying high grade steel with high quality from I/N Tek (cold-rolled steel products) and I/N Kote (coated products), both of which are joint ventures with ArcelorMittal in Indiana, U.S.A.

The new joint venture with ArcelorMittal is intended to serve the expanding automotive sheet market in North America, especially in southern areas of U.S.A. The new joint venture will have capability to meet the growing needs, especially from Japanese car manufacturers, for ultra high tensile strength products with good formability, and hot-rolled steel products including high tensile strength grades, in addition to the current supply of cold-rolled steel and coated products produced at I/N Tek and I/N Kote. Also we will be able to realize further enhanced quality for cold-rolled steel and coated products through integrated production control starting from Hot Rolling process.

NSSMC has been adding production bases of automotive sheet to expand its global supply network for automotive customers in many areas in the world. With this new joint venture, we will be able to further strengthen the reliable capacity of production and supply of high-end automotive products in U.S.A. to meet various customers’ needs.
Outline of the JV

1. Company Name: to be determined
2. Location: Calvert, Alabama, U.S.A.
3. Principal Officer: to be determined
4. Scope of the business: Production and sales of hot-rolled steel, cold-rolled steel, and coated products
5. Facilities/Capacities per annum:
   - Hot Strip Mill: approximately 5.3 million metric tons
   - Continuous Pickling Line: approximately 1.1 million metric tons
   - Pickling Line & Tandem Cold Rolling Mill: approximately 2.5 million metric tons
   - Continuous Annealing Line: approximately 0.6 million metric tons
   - Hot-dip Galvanizing Lines (in total): approximately 1.4 million metric tons
6. Capital: to be determined
7. Equity Ratio: NSSMC: 50%, AM: 50%

The view of TKUS
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