



Remarks on Special Issue on Steel Sheet for the Better Human Life

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We are surrounded by a wide variety of steel products—home appliances, containers, automobiles, buildings, and other structures. Among others, steel sheets used in home appliances, building materials, and containers are the steel products that are found almost everywhere and are the most familiar in daily life.

In recent years, customer specifications of these steel sheets have become increasingly diversified. In addition to steel sheets having good formability, corrosion resistance, and paintability, there is a growing demand for steel sheets with good design and appearance that can be used without any special surface treatment. There are also various new demands, including the demand for a chromate-free steel sheet not containing hexavalent chromium that is an environmentally hazardous substance and for a steel sheet having superior electric conductivity.

Paying due attention to every need of its customers, Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal Corporation, a world-renowned manufacturer of steel products, has developed various new high-performance steel sheets and supplied them to the customers.

We are very pleased to introduce several of our unique new products in this Special Issue on Steel Sheet for the Better Human Life. I will be happy if this special issue can be of some help to the reader.

This special issue describes not only specific steel products but also the technology involved in them, because our company believes that the major role of us steelmakers is to propose a total system of technology embracing structural design, processing and jointing techniques, as well as materials technology, rather than supplying steel materials alone. This comprehensive activity of our company, called the “Katachi Solution,” has already gained popularity among many of our customers. It is also described in this special issue so that the reader will be able to better understand our company.

I am confident that all steel products and solutions offered by Nippon Steel & Sumitomo Metal, boasting the world’s foremost steelmaking technology, will benefit every customer of the company. We are determined to continue expanding our capacity for the development of product and technology to meet customer’ expectations.

I am looking forward to the continuing support and cooperation of all our customers and business associates.