



NLMK Group, WorldSkills Russia sign cooperation agreement



NLMK Group, a leading Russian steel company, and WorldSkills Russia, an initiative backed by the Ministries of Education and Labour of the Russian Federation and the Agency for Strategic Initiatives, have signed a cooperation agreement aimed at developing the talent pool available to the company and the

industry as a whole.

The parties have combined their efforts in order to implement advanced solutions for company staff development and personnel retraining programs to bring them in line with modern international standards. The joint work will promote the development of innovative education technologies in colleges

supported by NLMK such as the Lipetsk Metallurgical College. Cooperation will also cover issues of career guidance for youth and creating the necessary conditions for ensuring the mobility of young personnel.

Mr Stanislav Tsyrlin, NLMK Vice President for HR & Management System, said that "This agreement will promote the development of NLMK Group's professional development programs, taking them to a new level of quality. From the beginning of 2014, almost 37,000 people (approximately 65% of the employees) went through professional training and development at the Group's Russian assets alone. Over the last five years, we have invested in excess of RUB 670 million into professional education programs. The fact that we are joining efforts with WorldSkills Russia shows that the state is interested in supporting business' educational initiatives."

Zamil Steel Vietnam bags SAR 15 million contract refinery project

Zamil Steel Buildings Vietnam Company Limited was recently awarded a SAR 15 million contract for the Nghi Son Refinery project in Vietnam.

The contract's scope of work includes the design, fabrication, supply and erection of 10 pre engineered buildings, spreading over an area of 23,557 square meters in Nghi Son, Thanh Hoa province, located in the southern region of Hanoi. The company considers this project to be its most significant achievement in contributing to the infrastructure development plan of the Vietnamese government.

The Nghi Son Refinery project is the largest greenfield refinery project to be constructed in Vietnam and one of the largest ongoing infrastructure projects in Southeast Asia. The Nghi Son Refinery and Petrochemical complex is being developed by a consortium of international companies, including PetroVietnam, Idemitsu Kosan, Kuwait Petroleum International and Mitsui Chemicals. The 400 hectare project, which is expected to cost USD 6.2 billion, will have a designed capacity of 200,000 barrels per day of crude oil with the possibility to increase this capacity to 400,000 barrels per day.

Tata Steel Scunthorpe saves money on raw materials



Tata Steel works in Scunthorpe is feeling the benefits of a worldwide slump in the price of one of its basic raw materials iron ore. Ore prices are reported to have more than halved from an all time high in February 2011 to below USD 80 per tonne. The slump has been attributed to over-production at a time of slowing global demand for steel. Employees in Scunthorpe have been told achieving benefits from the oversupply will not be automatic.

Mr Ranjan Sinha, the company's director for raw materials procurement, said that customers were well informed about the iron ore market and would bargain for lower steel

prices. But, maybe more important, there is a risk for Tata Steel that many of its high-grade ore suppliers in Scandinavia may not survive the low iron ore price regime. Mr Sinha said, "Multi year volume contracts with global suppliers are said to have given the Scunthorpe works security of supply and the average price at the time of purchase. However, if some of these suppliers fall over, it could pose a risk to the continuity of supply. It would mean having to buy ore elsewhere at a higher price."

He said that "We are looking at options to support some of these suppliers in the short run. We could offer additional volume deals, for example."