

## Al Jazeera supports domestic steel industry

**A**l Jazeera Steel Products Co said it, along with other steel companies in Oman, is working with the government authorities in Oman and GCC to provide adequate support to the domestic steel industry.

The company said it expects regional governments to take 'serious measures' to stop the dumping of steel products from subsidised or government supported international competitors.



'Without these measures the regional steel industries will be at risk from unfair competition. We encourage regional governments to

take a more pragmatic and proactive approach to defend the local industries from unfair competition or practices', Al Jazeera Steel said in its yearly report.

The company also noted that the issues faced by Turkey in terms of domestic demand and currency depreciation could place undue stress in terms of low priced Turkish exports into the GCC region. Turkey is a major exporter of long steel products into the region. 'This is expected to result in increased long product exports to the GCC markets and put pressure on steel producers' margins in the region', Al Jazeera Steel said. The steel manufacturing industry in UAE is also seeking further support to prevent dumping of cheap steel imports in the country, according to recent UAE media reports.

Al Jazeera Steel said low oil prices and ensuing tight budget position of the GCC governments put a lot of pressure on liquidity and payment cycles in the steel industry and the economy as a whole. The company said it will continue to focus on improving mill utilisations, maintaining tight cost controls and increasing sustainable margins through diversifications both in market segments as well as geographies.

## Russian ChTPZ delivers LDP pipes to Africa

**R**ussia-based steel pipe producer ChTPZ group has made a trial delivery of large diameter pipes (LDP) to Africa.

The company has supplied over 2000 meters of LDP for the Ain Sokhna Product Hub liquefied gas transportation and storing project in Egypt.

The steel pipes of Gr-B strength with the diameter of 711.2 mm and the wall thickness of 12.7 mm are produced according to API 5L standard.



In 2016, ChTPZ exported 263,000 tons of pipes, up by 31 pct YoY. In 2017 the group intends to increase exports, in particular to MENA markets.

## Bellara Steel Complex to be commissioned in April

**A**lgeria is set to open in April a steel complex in the Jijel province, 300 km east of Algiers, with an initial production capacity of 2 million tons of steel per year. The announcement was made by the country's Prime Minister, Abdelmalek Sellal, in Annaba, during a tripartite meeting between representatives from the government, workers and corporate sector.

He underscored that the Bellara steel complex is of great importance to the country since "it will consolidate the national strategy of ending steel imports." The information was published by news agency Algérie Presse Service (APS).

The project was launched in 2015. In a second phase, the production capacity will be ramped up to 4 mln tons per year. The steel plant will manufacture flat and specialty steels to be used, for instance, in the railway and auto industries. A contract to build the steel complex was given to Danieli Group which has chosen its Danieli Procome Ibérica (DPI) steel engineering subsidiary to provide equipment and services. DPI was responsible for the development, construction, supply and commissioning of a fully automated system for unloading raw materials and loading additives and ferroalloys into the melting and refining furnaces of the steel complex.

Cooperativa Muratori & Cementisti



(CMC) was in-charge of erecting two buildings that will host rolling mills 1, 2 and 3 (approximately 45 hectares) as well as some ancillary facilities having an area of approximately 10,000 m<sup>2</sup>.

In 2013, the governments of Qatar and Algeria have decided to enter into a joint venture for the construction of a steel complex in Algeria, at the industrial Area of Bellara, (Jijel). The planned steel complex will have a total production capacity of 4 million tons per year, while it is designed to produce 2 million tons of steel rebars in its first phase to meet the requirements of the local market, on a priority basis. The joint venture was signed by the two sides in 2013 for the construction and operation of the steel complex. Algeria (represented by Sider Co. & National Investment Fund) will hold 51% stake, while Qatar Steel International will hold the remaining 49% (represented by Qatar Steel 24,5%, and Qatar Mining 24,5%).

Algeria now imports about 3 million tons of steel rebars and wiring rods.