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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BARBARA SMITH NAMED STEELMAKER OF THE YEAR AT AISTECH 2019 *Other Industry Leaders Recognized for Significant Contributions to AIST and the Global Steel Industry*

PITTSBURGH, 7 May 2019 — Barbara R. Smith, chairman of the board, president and chief executive officer, Commercial Metals Company, was named Steelmaker of the Year at [AISTech 2019 — The Iron & Steel Technology Conference and Exposition](#), managed by [The Association for Iron & Steel Technology \(AIST\)](#). The Steelmaker of the Year Award is presented annually by AIST to recognize notable leaders and their contributions to the steel industry.

Smith was honored on 7 May during the AISTech President's Award Breakfast, recognizing her for her leadership and strategic evolution of Commercial Metals Company. Through fostering a corporate culture of safety, community and customer service, investment in a second continuous process mini-mill in Oklahoma, introducing of spooled rebar to the North American market, and maintaining high customer satisfaction and profitability in the challenging long products market, Smith has positioned Commercial Metals Company as an industry leader.

In accepting the award, Smith said:

"It's a great honor to accept this distinguished award. In my mind, this award really belongs to the employees of CMC. They are the ones who diligently serve our loyal customers, and they are the ones who continuously improve our products and processes, consistently applying the latest technologies and innovation to take us to new levels of quality and productivity."

Other award winners announced during the President's Award Breakfast included:

AIST Distinguished Member and Fellow Award — Established in 1975, the Distinguished Member and Fellow Award is presented to an AIST member who has attained eminent distinction in advancing the technical development, production, processing and application of iron and steel and/or related activities of the industry, and has performed meritorious service to the association.

Harriet G. Dutka, technical marketing manager, SANGRAF International, Westlake, Ohio, USA

Dutka was given this award for her sustained contributions and leadership in the Electric Steelmaking Technology Committee training seminars resulting in the education of primary operations personnel, for her fellowship in creating a diverse and sustainable steelmaking community through participation in AIST study tours, and in recognition of her distinguished career in the steelmaking industry spanning more than thirty years.

"I do not have a grand story about how I dreamed to be a steelmaker from early childhood. When I started working (in the industry), my first thought was, "Just five years, and I'll go and get a real job.

Thirty years later, I believe I have found my real job. I just didn't realize it back then," Dutka said.

Yakov Gordon, technical director — ironmaking, Iron & Steel, Hatch Ltd., Mississauga, Ont., Canada

Gordon received this in recognition of his dedication and contributions to improving and expanding the science of ironmaking. A recognized expert in ferrous metallurgy, process design and technology development, he freely and frequently shares his knowledge with others. Through his commitment to research, pursuit of innovative technologies and devoted mentorship skills, he has become an internationally recognized leader in developing successful iron- and steelmaking processes.

Gordon said, "I would like to say thank you to all of those people who nominated me for this award. They all have contributed to my work."

Johannes (Hans) Schade, AK Steel Corp., Middletown, Ohio, USA.

Schade was awarded posthumously in recognition of his long-standing commitment to AIST, and for his exemplary career as a researcher, manager and mentor. His work in continuous casting technology, especially in tundish and mold operations, greatly advanced process knowledge related to steel cleanliness. His passion for technical excellence and innovation contributed significantly to the success of his longtime employer, AK Steel Corp., whom he faithfully represented at AIST Technology Committee meetings and in many technical papers and publications. Through his sharp wit and gentle, but outgoing demeanor, he inspired a generation of young professionals who have gone on to successful careers in the steel industry.

"Johannes knew from a very young age that he would be a metallurgist, just like his dad. Steelmaking was his life's work. One of the most gratifying parts of his career was bringing in college students for internships and hiring young engineers, mentoring them as they began their careers in the steelmaking industry," said Johannes' wife, Dory Schade, who accepted the award on his behalf.

AIST William T. Hogan, S.J. Lecture Award — Established in 1990, this honorary lecturer is selected in recognition of individual outstanding leadership to the iron and steel industry, with selected lectures covering trade, economics, steel industry operations, developments or forecasts.

David B. Burritt, president and chief executive officer, United States Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pa., USA

Burritt's lecture was titled "*Steelmaking for the Next Generation.*"

AIST Tadeusz Sendzimir Memorial Medal — This distinguished award was established in 1990 to perpetuate the memory of Dr. Tadeusz Sendzimir's achievements and engineering contributions in developing process equipment for the steel industry. The award is presented in recognition of an individual who has advanced steelmaking through the invention, development or application of new manufacturing processes or equipment.

Raul G. Quintero-Flores, president, Lumidim de Mexico S.A. de C.V., Monterrey, N.L., Mexico

Quintero-Flores was awarded in recognition of his contributions as co-developer and champion of the HYL direct reduction process for more than 40 years. A holder of five international patents related to direct reduction technology, Quintero-Flores' work has led to greater energy efficiency and higher productivity for the utilization of DRI in steel plants around the world.

"This is perhaps the most important day of my life to be recognized with this important award for my contribution to steelmaking technology through the development of the HYL process," he said

accepting the award.

John F. Elliott Lectureship Award — Established in 1990, this honorary lectureship is designed to acquaint students and engineers with the exciting opportunities in chemical process metallurgy and materials chemistry. This lecturer is selected in recognition of distinguished contributions in chemical process metallurgy and materials chemistry to the iron and steel industry.

Lawrence J. Heaslip, technical director, Interflow Techserv Inc., Grand Bend, Ont., Canada

Heaslip received this honor for his limitless dedication to furthering the knowledge and understanding of steelmaking. Heaslip's research has advanced our understanding of steelmaking thermodynamics, chemical process metallurgy and the materials chemistry behind steelmaking operations. As an educator in academia and industry alike, Heaslip employs a winning combination of technical expertise, rich sense of humor, and unbridled enthusiasm to bridge the gap between researcher and operator.

Heaslip said, "John F. Elliott was truly one of the greatest minds and most influential teachers of process metallurgy in the 20th century. I shall do my very best to ... stimulate the young minds this industry will surely need to face the emerging challenges of steelmaking practices of the future."

Howe Memorial Lecture — The Howe Memorial Lecture was established in 1923 to honor Henry Marion Howe, who helped turn steelmaking from an art into a science with his gift of observation and dedication.

Carolyn M. Hansson, professor, University of Waterloo, Waterloo, Ont., Canada

Hansson presented her lecture, "*What Have We Learnt About the Corrosion of Stainless Steel Since 1934?*" at AISTech 2019.

Benjamin F. Fairless Award (AIME) — This award was established in 1954 in honor of Benjamin F. Fairless, chairman of the board of United States Steel Corporation, for his intense interest in the technology and development of the iron and steel industry. This award recognizes distinguished achievement in iron and steel production and ferrous metallurgy.

Brian G. Thomas, professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., USA

Thomas received this award for his dedication to the steel industry in developing and sustaining industrial and academic collaborations both nationally and internationally. A globally recognized expert in continuous casting and tireless researcher, his work in partnership with industry has provided countless impactful scientific publications, innovations and tremendous insight for the industry over the past 30 years.

"I owe this to my mentors, including my adviser, (the late metallurgical engineering professor) J. Keith Brimacombe, who had so much wisdom to convey and whose ideas and memory still impact our society Today," Thomas said.

Hunt-Kelly Outstanding Paper Award (AIME) — This award recognizes the author(s) of the best published paper from AISTech conference proceedings or *Iron & Steel Technology* of the previous year. AIME awards US\$5,000 for first place, US\$2,500 for second place and US\$1,000 for third place.

First Place

- **Nozomu Oda**, Hitachi Metals Wakamatsu Ltd., Kitakyusyu, Japan

- **Yasunori Nozaki**, Hitachi Metals Wakamatsu Ltd., Kitakyusyu, Japan
- **Takumi Ohata**, Hitachi Metals Wakamatsu Ltd., Kitakyusyu, Japan
- **Paul Fleiner**, SinterMet LLC, Kittanning, Pa., USA
- **Tatsuya Tokunaga**, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Kyushu, Japan
- **Hidenori Era**, Kyushu Institute of Technology, Kyushu, Japan

These authors were selected to receive this year's honor for their paper titled "*State-of-the-Art' HSS Work Roll for Later Stands (F4-F7) in Hot Strip Mill Finishing Trains.*"

Second Place

- **James Bradley**, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA
- **Gregory Gabbert**, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA
- **Russell Mulligan**, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA
- **Garrett Flick**, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA
- **David Sena**, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA
- **Tyler Preall**, ArcelorMittal USA, Burns Harbor, Ind., USA

These authors were selected to receive this award for their paper titled "*Automation Enhancements to Improve Steel Production, Yield, Quality and Cost at the Burns Harbor Steel Producing Shop, ArcelorMittal USA.*"

Third Place

- **Rachael A. Stewart**, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., USA
- **John G. Speer**, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., USA
- **Brian G. Thomas**, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., USA
- **Amy J. Clarke**, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., USA
- **Emmanuel De Moor**, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, Colo., USA

These authors were selected for their paper titled "*Quenching and Partitioning of Plate Steel: Thermal Gradients and Microstructure Development During Quenching.*"

AISTech is the world's largest annual gathering of steel industry personnel. The four-day program encompasses more than 500 technical presentations, and exhibits by more than 500 domestic and international companies.

[AIST](#) is an international technical association of more than 17,500 professional and student members, representing iron and steel producers, their allied suppliers and related academia. The association is dedicated to advancing the technical development, production, processing and application of iron and steel.

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Editor's Note:

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