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ESF 24
EUROPEAN STEEL FORUM

5–7 NOV 2024
MESSE ESSEN
ESSEN, GERMANY

Organized by

Event Host

HATCH
KÜTTNER
ABOUT THE FORUM

Steel industry executives from all over the world will present their perspectives, experiences, challenges and road maps to incorporating new technology and transforming their production value chain.

The program will emphasize practical solutions and economic drivers for technology innovation within the European and North American steel industry. Sessions will be devoted to the latest developments in CO₂-free steelmaking, CO₂-free energy, iron feedstock and plant designs.

Panel discussions will include candid conversation from European and North American industry leaders on key issues and opportunities in today’s landscape, as well as recruiting strategies to secure the steel workforce of tomorrow.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

The European Steel Forum historically attracts industry leaders from 29 countries. The event will be hosted in Germany for the first time since its inception and we look forward to having our greatest participation and largest global representation for this conference yet. Young steel professionals to veteran industry leaders will benefit from the expertise and experience presented at the forum.

FOR INFORMATION ON REGISTRATION AND SPONSORSHIPS
08:30 Welcome and Introduction
Representative from Hatch Küttner and Ronald Ashburn, Executive Director, AIST

09:00 Customer Vision on Green Steel Products
Responsible steel production is not only clean steel production, but also good business, as steel end users decarbonize their own supply chains. The steel industry is indeed ready and willing to be a reliable partner in this effort. But as consensus on the definition of green steel remains elusive, what do end users truly seek from producers? And how can governments throughout the world help resolve this issue? We'll ask a panel of steel customers about the products, the solutions and the relationships they'd most like to see from steel.
Moderator: Mauro Milocco, Executive Vice President, Danieli Germany

10:30 Break

11:00 Global Iron Feedstock Strategies for a Transforming Steel Industry
The availability and cost structure of raw materials to feed tomorrow’s steel industry are under scrutiny. The current preferred route of vertical integration, keeping material streams within one company, might not be the option for the future. Iron ore might be reduced where it is sourced or where energy (low-carbon electricity, natural gas) is available in abundance and competitive. Decoupling iron from steelmaking could be the path to look at future iron feedstock strategies, creating new players and global trade dynamics. In this panel, recognized experts will discuss and share their different perspectives on the future of iron feedstock.
Moderator: Felix Firsbach, Vice President, Badische Stahl-Engineering GmbH
Panelists:
- José Noldin, Chief Executive Officer, GravitHy
- Saeed Alghafri, Chief Executive Officer Steel, Emirates Steel Arkan (invited)
- Emile Scheepers, Manager – Customer Service Solutions, Vale (invited)

12:30 Lunch
14:00  **Innovation in Plant Design**
The search for greater efficiencies, safer environments and better-performing products is relentless, so innovation and steelmaking have gone hand in hand. That is evident in the newest steelmaking facilities, which are more automated, safer and better performing than ever. Representatives from the major technology providers will showcase some of their latest innovations and describe how they are aiding steelmakers in lowering carbon emissions and improving their competitiveness.

**Moderator:** Mauro Bianchi Ferri, Managing Director, Acciarium Srl

**Confirmed Panelists:**
- Rolando Paolone, Chief Executive Officer and Chief Technology Officer, Danieli Group, Danieli & C. SpA
- Thomas Hansmann, Chief Technology Officer, SMS group
- Harald Holzgruber, Chief Executive Officer, INTECO Melting and Casting Technologies GmbH
- Roberto Pancaldi, Chief Executive Officer, Tenova
- Gerald Wimmer, Vice President Converter Steelmaking, Primetals Technologies Austria GmbH
- Representative from Hatch

15:30  **Coffee Break**

16:00  **Industry Leader Panel**
European steel demand continues to face significant challenges: global overcapacity, geopolitical uncertainty, high inflation, monetary tightening and elevated energy prices. Even so, producers are executing on multi-generational investments necessary to meet climate goals. In this session, several industry leaders from both the EU and the U.S. will share perspectives on the difficult landscape, the policies that are needed to combat unfair trade, and opportunities for producers on both sides of the Atlantic to work together.

**Moderator:** Ronald Ashburn, Executive Director, AIST

**Confirmed Panelists:**
- Heike Denecke-Arnold, Chief Operations Officer, thyssenkrupp Steel Europe
- Michael Bott, Director Decarbonization Project, Dillinger Hütte AG
- Kristian Notebaert, Chief Operations Officer Decarbonization, ArcelorMittal Flat Carbon Europe

17:30  **Reception**
08:30  Welcome
Representative from Hatch Küttner

08:45  Structural Changes in the Iron Ore Industry to Meet the Carbon Neutrality Requirements of the Steel Industry
As the steel industry decarbonizes, it will continue to depend heavily on the iron ore industry to supply the required iron feed. The key question for steel producers is: what is the iron ore industry doing to help the steel industry to decarbonize? We will explore the outlook for the supply of different iron ore products such as blast furnace pellets and direct reduction-grade pellets over the next two decades. The presentation will evaluate different iron ore–producing regions such as Australia, Brazil, India and CIS on the readiness for decarbonization. The discussion will provide updates on the challenges for different iron ore producers or regions, and what new technologies and strategies could be adopted by iron ore producers for decarbonizing the steel industry.
Presenter: Siddhartha Sengupta, Principal, Hatch Advisory

09:15  Transformation of the European Steel Industry for Carbon Neutrality
The rebuilding of the European steel industry is well underway, with six green hydrogen–direct reduced iron (DRI) projects approved and 11 electric arc furnace (EAF) conversions in progress. Given the long-term projects so far, in combination with bridging technologies introduced at the production sites, it appears that the targeted 50% reduction in CO₂ emissions by 2030 is now secured. Still, much work remains. The panel will update attendees on the work completed to date and will give an outlook for the mid-term chances and challenges of the transformation.
Moderator: Jürgen Cappel, Managing Director, Cappel Stahl Consulting GmbH
Confirmed Panelists:
- Martin Pei, Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer, SSAB
- Kristian Notebaert, Chief Operations Officer Decarbonization, ArcelorMittal Flat Carbon Europe
- Boris Kohnen, Competence Center Metallurgy, thyssenkrupp Steel Europe
- Thomas Bürgler, Managing Director, Chief Executive Officer, K1-Met
- Sebastian Börner, Transformation Team, Dillinger Hütte AG

10:45  Coffee Break
### Carbon-Free Energy Sources for the European Steel Industry

Even as European steelmakers overhaul their mills for low-carbon steel production, one critical question remains unanswered: Will the steel industry have secured sufficient sources of renewable electricity and hydrogen by the time these projects come on-line? And even if they have, will the infrastructure be in place to facilitate the safe and sufficient transportation of hydrogen? During this discussion, experts in energy supply, gas production and energy infrastructure will share their views on Europe’s energy future.

**Moderator:** Johannes Schenk, Chair of Ferrous Metallurgy, Montanuniversität Leoben

**Panelists:**
- Thomas Germershausen, Director Green Steel, CWP Global
- Johann Rinnhofer, Chief Executive Officer, thyssenkrupp nucera Australia Pty. Ltd

### Financing Green Steel Projects

The transformation of the European steel industry is a daunting technical challenge, but it also is a tremendous financial challenge, requiring the deployment of billions of euros in capital. Our panelists will discuss the challenges associated with securing funding for green steel and the roles that governments, financial institutions, export credit agencies and commercial lenders are playing in this effort.

**Moderator:** Jonathan Lee, Senior Principal, Advisory Management, Hatch

**Panelist:**
- José Noldin, Chief Executive Officer, GravitHy

### Execution Strategies for Large-Scale Steel Projects

The transformation of Europe’s steel industry is predicated on a dual approach: significant investment in new technologies and greenfield projects alongside immediate, less capital-intensive improvements in existing facilities. In these challenging times, the successful implementation of such projects requires that producers overcome supplier and price instability, mitigate risk, and develop effective execution models. We'll hear from several experts on how producers are doing just that.

**Moderator:** Guus Kessler, Project Director, Tata Steel Europe

### Reception and Gala Dinner

Erich-Brost-Pavilion Zollverein
THURSDAY, 7 NOVEMBER

09:30  Plant Tour
TBD

*Please note program times and content is subject to change. For the most up-to-date information, visit AIST.org/ESF.

“Very informative sessions; a great networking environment.”

— European Steel Forum 2023 attendee