

Hyundai-POSCO begins construction of new US\$5.8 billion facility in Louisiana

North America

Hyundai Steel Co. held a ceremony to celebrate the kickoff of construction for the new US\$5.8 billion Hyundai-POSCO Louisiana Steel LLC electric arc furnace-based integrated steel plant in Ascension Park, La., USA, reported PR Newswire.

The mill, part of Hyundai Motor Group's US\$26 billion U.S. investment commitment, will supply green steel sheets to automakers across North America. It will have an estimated capacity of 2.7 million metric tons annually and is expected to begin production in 2029, PR Newswire said.

"As America strengthens its manufacturing leadership, steel will continue to power the next chapter of its industrial resurgence. We are proud to contribute to that vision and to the future of Made in America. Together, we will turn our shared ambitions into greater productivity and prosperity," said Euisun Chung, executive chair of Hyundai Motor Group.

The project is a joint venture between Hyundai Steel, POSCO, Hyundai Motor Co. and Kia Corp.

Cleveland-Cliffs, DOE to invest US\$1 billion in Middletown Works

North America

Cleveland-Cliffs Inc. announced that it and the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) will each invest US\$500 million, for a combined US\$1 billion, to upgrade Middletown Works in Middletown, Ohio, USA.

The company said the investment will be used over the next four years to upgrade the facility while maintaining steel production. The investment will go toward upgrades to the blast furnace, advanced material

handling infrastructure and artificial intelligence-enabled process control technologies. They will also construct an advanced cogeneration facility to capture and utilize blast furnace gas to generate electricity and steam for use on-site.

"Through our cooperation with President Trump's Administration and the U.S. Department of Energy, we developed a project reliant on proven technology that improves operational efficiency and competitiveness," said Lourenco Goncalves, chairman and chief executive officer of Cleveland-Cliffs.

"The DOE's support for this project is a testament to the importance of preserving the blast furnace route to produce automotive-exposed grade steels in the U.S., while advancing American energy dominance," Goncalves continued.

The company said the project will employ over 1,500 workers at peak construction. Completion of the blast furnace rebuild is planned for the first quarter of 2030.

U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance and other elected leaders from Ohio were hosted at Middletown Works to celebrate the investment.

U. S. Steel relights Gary Works blast furnace after US\$350 million reline

North America

United States Steel Corporation has completed a US\$350 million reline of its largest blast furnace and has returned the unit to service, the company announced in September.

Capable of producing 2 million metric tons of hot metal, the No. 14 furnace is the largest furnace at the company's Gary Works in Indiana as well as U. S. Steel's domestic fleet.

"The return of Blast Furnace No. 14 is a great example of disciplined execution at U. S. Steel and is a testament to the skill, dedication and unwavering focus on safety demonstrated by our employees, contractors and partners," said U. S. Steel president and chief executive officer David Burritt.

"This investment positions Gary Works to continue serving customers, supporting American manufacturing, and creating value for years to come," Burritt continued.

The project required more than 1 million labor hours from employees and contractors and was completed with a zero days away injury rate. The reline included replacement of the furnace's refractory lining as well as restoration of critical systems designed to support safe, reliable operation and extend the furnace's productive life.

During the outage, teams also completed extensive maintenance on supporting infrastructure, including the furnace gas, cooling water, hoisting and stove systems.

"The achievement reflects the commitment, expertise and teamwork of the thousands of people who helped execute an important, strategic project at Gary Works," the company said.

U.S. Army, Metallus commission new manufacturing assets

North America

The U.S. Army and Metallus Inc. held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate commissioning a bloom rehear furnace, roller furnace and supporting equipment to increase production of high-fragmentation (HF-1) steel at the facilities in Canton, Ohio, USA.

The U.S. Army said the new production capacity will strengthen the domestic munitions supply chain. At full capacity, it will be able to produce enough HF-1 steel to manufacture over 120,000 155-mm metal parts monthly.

"Today marks the latest in a massive campaign of strategic investments — valued at nearly US\$6 billion — within our Defense Industrial Base. To put that into perspective, the Army's ammunition enterprise has opened 16 new facilities over the last two years. That is more than we have opened in the last 40 years combined," said Alicia Johnson, a

colonel and project manager for Combat Ammunition Systems (PM CAS).

To fund the three capital investments, PM CAS, an office under the Army's Portfolio Acquisition Executive Agile Sustainment and Ammunition, along with Army Contracting Command in New Jersey, leveraged an Other Transaction Agreement worth US\$99 million.

"The work done at Metallus and elsewhere is another important step in furthering a credible deterrence with the added industrial capacity to sustain combat operations over time," Johnson continued.

The company said in addition to HF-1 steel, the expansion will increase production for metals in precision rockets, advanced guided missiles and bombs to support Department of War munitions requirements.

TYASA starts up new Danieli-supplied SBQ plant

North America

Talleres y Aceros S.A. (TYASA) has started up its new Danieli-supplied special bar quality (SBQ) plant in Ixtaczoquitlán, Mexico, the equipment supplier announced.

The SBQ production complex features a hot rolling mill with a 4-pass, four-roll draw sizing block, straightening and peeling lines and a water treatment plant. It also includes an additional drawing line and a heat treatment line, which are undergoing installation.

Cold commissioning began in April 2026, and the plant rolled its first hot billet on 25 May. The first bar, processed on 6 July, confirmed dimensional accuracy, stable rolling parameters and equipment reliability.

Danieli was presented with the provisional acceptance certificate on 4 August. It has now entered the performance testing phase.

Nucor Building Products plant set for expansion

North America

Nucor Corp. announced it will spend US\$59 million on expanding its Vulcraft Indiana manufacturing facility in St. Joe, Ind., USA, to include production of steel grating products.

"We are pleased to be growing our Vulcraft business in Indiana with this investment to better serve our customers and strengthen our downstream production capabilities, advancing our mission to Grow the Core and Expand Beyond," said John Hollatz, executive vice president of fabricated construction products at Nucor.

The company said the expansion will create 20 new full-time jobs. This project marks the fourth investment the company has made in Indiana recently.

SMS group to supply Hybar with second continuous mini-mill

North America

Hybar LLC has selected SMS group to equip what will be its second rebar mill in Osceola, Ark., USA. According to SMS group, Hybar will employ SMS group's continuous mini-mill system (CMT® 550), which will complement Hybar's existing line and create the world's first example of a twin CMT plant.

Hybar said the second CMT will increase reinforcing bar production capacity by 630,000 short tons annually. It will produce bars in diameters ranging from 12.4 mm to 35 mm and in bundles of 1 to 4 metric tons. The new mill will be powered by an existing solar array and battery storage system, reducing carbon emissions by up to 35%.

"Building on the success of our first CMT mill at Hybar's Osceola site to produce long products, we see huge potential to expand our capacities here at Osceola by combining logistics and labor expertise

already on-site with this CMT twin solution," said David Stickler, chief executive officer of Hybar. "This enables us to effectively respond to the increasing demand for green long products by taking advantage of shared utility costs."

The meltshop will include an electric arc furnace with EDGE DC design and a twin ladle furnace station, the X-Pact® AURA, modular architecture and a comprehensive digital package. A high-speed single-strand endless caster with CONREX mold tube technology will connect the meltshop to the rolling mill with an induction equalization furnace, the companies said.

The rolling mill will have 14 housingless stands and a 6-pass MEERdrive® high-speed finishing block. After rolling, a TBK MEERgauge autonomous laser measurement system will allow for dimensional verification, process optimization and improved tolerance utilization. It also has an integrated high-speed delivery (HSD®) system.

Groundbreaking is expected for late 2026, with start-up scheduled for 24 months later.

ArcelorMittal Duisburg looks to future following end of hot metal supply

Europe

ArcelorMittal announced it plans to continue to supply its Duisburg site's wire rod mill with semis (billets) after the end of its hot metal supply in September 2027, subject to the supervisory board.

The company said it explored several options to continue hot metal supply or decarbonizing the production of steel, but none of them were economically viable. The steel shop and billet rolling mill in Duisburg will no longer be part of the production process and therefore will shut down. A few ArcelorMittal sites and other external producers in Europe will supply the site with the required semis instead.

“The company’s absolute priority is securing the long-term future of ArcelorMittal Duisburg, for our customers, our employees and the wider community. We are therefore advancing our plans to supply the wire rod mill to ensure continuity of supplies for all our customers, beyond September 2027,” said Sanjay Samaddar, chief executive officer of ArcelorMittal Europe Long Products.

ArcelorMittal Gandrage, which currently receives its supply of semis from Duisburg, will source them from other ArcelorMittal sites and purchase billets from external suppliers, the company said.

A redundancy plan for employees at Duisburg was expected to start in September.

Hydnum Steel receives €150 million to build green steel plant on Iberian Peninsula

Europe

Hydnum Steel announced it has received a €150 million investment from the Co-investment Fund (FOCO) by COFIDES to build the Iberian Peninsula’s first green steel industrial complex in Puertollano, Spain.

The company said the facility will be digitally integrated, using an electric arc furnace powered by green hydrogen and 100% renewable energy. This will reduce scope 1 and 2 CO₂ emissions by up to 98% compared to a blast furnace. It will feature endless strip production (Arvedi ESP), continuous rolling technology and a water treatment system.

“Through FOCO, we support projects that help transform strategic sectors for the economy. Hydnum Steel is a clear example of this, combining industrial innovation, sustainable production, and the development of productive capabilities. Its launch will contribute to accelerating the decarbonization of European industry and progressing towards a more sustainable

economy,” said Ángela Pérez, chairwoman and chief executive officer of COFIDES.

The total investment for the facility will be over €1.5 billion. COFIDES and PERTE II for Industrial Decarbonization are backing the project along with a group of other industrial and financial partners. Russula is promoting the project, the company said.

The company said it plans to commence earthworks and construction at the end of 2026.

Salzgitter AG’s new hot straightening machine now operational

Europe

Salzgitter AG subsidiary Salzgitter Mannesmann Grobblech GmbH announced its new hot straightening machine is now operational at its plant in Mülheim an der Ruhr, Germany.

The company said the plant is expanding its capabilities in sheet metal processing and improving its access to new applications and markets, focusing on the energy infrastructure sector. The machine was developed in collaboration with Buma Engineering & Anlagenbau GmbH to special specifications to enable production of heavy-gauge, high-strength sheet.

“Thanks to our investment in the hot straightening machine, we — as specialists in heavy plate — are able to further expand our expertise in the infrastructure sector for the future market of wind energy,” said Hans-Jaan Rachner, managing director of technology and finance at Salzgitter Mannesmann Grobblech GmbH.

The company said it invested tens of millions to dismantle its old machine and install a new system. Special tracks were installed over the cooling beds to allow for the foundation to be put down and the installation of the new system while demolishing the old one. Only a brief shutdown was required for

dismantling, installation and commissioning, the company said.

Primetals Technologies, JSW Steel partner for two projects

Asia

Primetals Technologies announced it has successfully started up JSW Vijayanagar Metallic Ltd.’s (JVML) Toranagallu plant in Karnataka, India, and received an additional order for two large pelletizing plants at JSW Steel’s Paradeep facility in Odisha, India.

The companies said the project at JVML’s facility included two 350-metric-ton LD converters, primary dedusting systems, two 350-metric-ton ladle furnaces, secondary dedusting for the whole meltshop and two 2-strand continuous casters. Primetals Technologies also provided level 1 and 2 automation for the converters, ladle furnaces and casters.

The primary dry dedusting system is the first Primetals Technologies has installed in India. The first converter set a record as the initial lining campaign reached over 6,000 heats. Both converters have received their final acceptance certificates.

The continuous casters produce slabs with widths between 900 to 1,650 mm and thicknesses of 22 or 260 mm. They can handle steel grades including ultralow-carbon to high-carbon, including deep-drawing, structural, peritectic, and high-strength low-alloy grades, as well as microalloyed and low-alloy steels, strip grades, and high-silicon electrical steel.

The project at the Paradeep facility includes two pelletizing plants with an estimated capacity of 8 million metric tons each, annually. Primetals Technologies said it will provide complete plant design, engineering services, key process equipment, complete process automation, and advisory services for construction and implementation. ♦