



ADVANCING THE TECHNICAL DEVELOPMENT, PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND APPLICATION OF IRON AND STEEL

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TOP STEEL EXECUTIVES HOLD TOWN HALL FORUM IN PITTSBURGH
Industry Safety a Top Concern

PITTSBURGH, May 13, 2008 — Seven leading steel industry executives took part in the AISTech 2008 Town Hall Forum, on Wednesday, May 7, to discuss industry issues as part of the Association for Iron & Steel Technology conference held in Pittsburgh last week.

Panelist included: Keith E. Busse, chairman and chief executive officer, Steel Dynamics Inc.; Joseph Curtin, president and chief operating officer, Tube City Div., Tube City IMS Corp.; Mario Longhi, chief executive officer and president, Gerdau Ameristeel; Russ Rinn, executive vice president, Commercial Metals Co., and president, CMC Americas; Louis L. Schorsch, executive vice president, ArcelorMittal, and president and chief executive officer, ArcelorMittal Flat Americas; R. Joseph Stratman, executive vice president, Nucor Corp.; and John P. Surma, chairman, chief executive officer and president, United States Steel Corporation.

Safety was identified as a top concern facing the industry, responding to a spike in first quarter '08 incidents which has resulted in 15 fatalities in the United States. All panelists affirmed that personnel safety is at the core of doing business and viewed the trend as disappointing compared to past years of low incidents.

“We believe we can achieve a zero incidence level, and we already have a Journey to Zero campaign. Safety is a high priority” said Louis Schorsch.

Russ Rinn added, “Our company has an employee-driven program based on observation where the team members look out for others; thereby, creating a culture of safety. There is nothing systemic about the increase in incidents that we can identify.”

John Surma noted, “Since 2003, our number one objective has been safety. It is ‘the’ most important thing in our company which ultimately leads to improved operations and overall stronger profitability.”

Regarding economic forecasts, the panelists concur that the steel industry now has a much more sustainable business model as compared to a decade ago. Industry forecasts project a 4-5% growth

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rate. Panelists agreed that the world market will create robust opportunities for the industry in the future.

The leaders also spoke about the environmental initiatives within their organizations.

“The steel industry has decreased energy intensity by 29% in the last 10 years,” said Busse.

“The industry hasn’t been given enough credit for the work already done.”

Stratman added, “Being more energy efficient only gets you part way. All sources and the total life cycle of the steel process need to be addressed. Science and technology leading to new ways to smelt iron oxide could possibly reduce the carbon imprint.”

The panelists also discussed topics such as the steel economy with a weak dollar, major capital expenditures, vertical integration, raw materials, climate change, the industry brain drain and other issues that have a profound impact on the global economy.

A DVD version of the AISTech Town Hall Forum will be available for purchase in June. Please contact AIST at 724.776.6040, ext. 1 for additional information.

AISTech 2008 was one of the largest gatherings of industry personnel in the world this year, with more than 8,300 people attending. The four-day conference program encompassed more than 350 technical presentations, and exhibits by 470 domestic and international companies.

AIST is an international technical association of more than 14,400 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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