

## **European Commission Launches Strategic Dialogue to Strengthen & Sustain the EU Steel Sector**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: The European Commission has launched a Strategic Steel Dialogue to develop an action plan for the European steel sector that addresses key challenges, such as competitiveness, decarbonization, and fair trade. Chaired by Ursula von der Leyen, this high-level meeting will include discussions with representatives from steel producers, raw material suppliers, and various stakeholders across the industry. The goal is to ensure the sector's long-term sustainability, reduce carbon emissions, and strengthen its position in global markets.*

## **India's Dominance in Global DRI Production: A Snapshot of January 2025**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: In January 2025, global direct reduced iron production reached 9.32 million metric tons across 13 key producing countries, accounting for 87.4% of the total world production. India emerged as the largest producer with 4.81 million metric tons, followed by Iran, Russia, and Egypt. Despite a 4% month-on-month increase, global DRI production saw a 5.1% decline compared to January 2024. The country-wise production distribution sheds light on regional dynamics and growth prospects in the global iron market.*

## **Alabama Steel Plant's Shutdown: 79 Layoffs as Nucor Shifts Production to Texas**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Nucor Buildings Group is set to close its service center in Eufaula, Alabama, by late April 2025, resulting in 79 layoffs. The decision is part of a strategic shift in production, with the company redirecting its operations to a facility in Texas. This closure is the latest in a series of restructuring moves, which include a previous layoff of 230 employees in 2020. Nucor is working to relocate workers to other positions within the company.*

## **Baku Steel Eyes Italian Steel Market Amid Energy Partnerships & Industry Restructuring**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Azerbaijan's Baku Steel Group is negotiating with the Italian government to acquire the former Ilva steel plants, central to Italy's industrial base. The discussions include plans for a regasification plant in Taranto, which could redefine energy strategies and drive decarbonization. The bid from Baku Steel is set against competition from India's Jindal Steel, with varying strategies and employment impacts. The final decision will significantly influence Italy's steel sector, energy policies, and industrial landscape.*

## **Alchemia Entrusts KRUDO Industrial for the Sale of Rurexpol Steel Pipe Subsidiary**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Polish steelmaker Alchemia has appointed KRUDO Industrial, a Netherlands-based industrial services firm, to manage the sale of its steel pipe subsidiary, Rurexpol. This move follows Alchemia's decision to liquidate Rurexpol due to changes in the Polish and European steel industries. The subsidiary, which specializes in seamless steel pipes, represents a strong investment opportunity for those looking to expand into the Polish market.*

## **Outokumpu Secures a Strategic Raw Material Supply Deal with Greenland Resources for a Sustainable Future**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Outokumpu, the leader in sustainable stainless steel, has signed a ten-year off-take agreement with Greenland Resources Inc., ensuring access to high-quality molybdenum from Greenland. This deal, worth approximately USD 160 million annually, is crucial for Outokumpu's strategy to secure raw materials sustainably and competitively while reducing its carbon footprint. The agreement positions both companies to address Europe's reliance on raw material imports and strengthens their long-term sustainability goals.*

## **Welspun Corp Expands Global Reach with New Subsidiary in Spain for Export Growth**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Welspun Corp, a leading manufacturer of specialty steel tubes in India, has established a wholly-owned subsidiary, Welspun Europe, in Spain. This move aims to strengthen its export capabilities across various business segments. The subsidiary will focus on the trading of pig iron, crude iron, and a range of conduits and systems for fluid transport, such as ductile iron, carbon steel, PVC-O conduits, stainless steel pipes, and water storage tanks.*

## **A Steel Legacy: Brockhouse Forgings Secures Strategic Funding for Global Expansion**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Brockhouse Forgings, a West Midlands-based steel manufacturer with 140 years of heritage, has secured a significant funding package from UKSE to support its expansion into new markets. Specializing in forged steel components for sectors such as automotive, defence, and mining, the company aims to build on its long-established reputation and global presence to ensure its growth and sustainability for the next century.*

## **Outokumpu Exits Arbitration Dispute with Fennovoima Over EPC Contract Termination**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Outokumpu has successfully cleared itself from an arbitration proceeding concerning a dispute between Fennovoima Oy and Rosatom entities. The International Court of Arbitration ruled in Outokumpu's favor, confirming that the company was not liable for claims related to the termination of the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction contract between Fennovoima and RAOS Project. This decision marks the end of the arbitration process involving Outokumpu.*

## **Al Yamamah Steel Secures Major Deal for 380 kV Transmission Towers with Hyundai Engineering**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Al Yamamah Steel Industries has entered into a significant contract with Hyundai Engineering & Construction for supplying steel towers for a 380 kV ultra-high voltage transmission line project in Saudi Arabia's western region. The deal, valued at 46.64 million USD, marks a major milestone for the company in the power transmission infrastructure sector, with deliveries expected to start in September 2025.*

## **North Star Cuts First Steel for Groundbreaking Hybrid-Electric SOV for EnBW's Wind Farm**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: North Star and Cochin Shipyard marked a significant milestone on February 25, 2025, with the first steel cut for a hybrid-electric Service Operations Vessel intended for EnBW's He Dreiht wind farm off Germany. The vessel, expected to be operational by the end of 2026, will provide accommodation for wind technicians and logistics support for the maintenance of 64 offshore wind turbines, using advanced green technologies like electric propulsion and future methanol fuel compatibility.*

## **FLSmidth Secures Landmark Order for Vertical Tower Mills, Reinforcing Global Leadership in Sustainable Mining**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: FLSmidth has been awarded the largest single order of steel media tower mills from an Indian mining customer. The 18 FTM-5000 vertical tower mills will play a key role in one of the largest and most efficient iron ore beneficiation plants globally. These advanced mills will significantly enhance energy efficiency and reduce environmental impact, aligning with FLSmidth's MissionZero strategy to reduce energy, water, and media consumption in the mining industry.*

## **US. Steel Imports Surge in January 2025: A Robust Demand for Finished and Structural Steel**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: In January 2025, the U.S. saw a notable increase in steel imports, with total imports reaching 3,065,000 net tons, marking a 20.2% increase compared to the previous year. Imports of finished steel rose by 26.5% from December 2024. Key steel products such as heavy structural shapes, reinforcing bars, and oil country goods saw significant growth. The largest suppliers to the U.S. were Canada, Brazil, Mexico, South Korea, and Japan, with Brazil showing the most dramatic increase.*

## **Dongkuk CM Raises Alarm Over Chinese Steel Influx: A Push for Market Protections**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Dongkuk CM has filed a complaint against the influx of low-priced Chinese galvanized and color-coated steel plates, citing concerns over market distortions and product quality. The complaint highlights the significant rise in imports from China, which now accounts for over 90% of the domestic market share, driving down prices and potentially compromising safety standards. Dongkuk CM, along with industry peers, seeks urgent regulatory action to safeguard the local steel industry.*

## **Siderperu Reports Strong Profit Growth in 2024, Driven by Increased Shipments**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Siderperu, a Peruvian steel producer, reported a significant increase in profits for 2024. The company achieved a net profit of \$48.1 million, up from PEN 115.7 million in 2023. This growth was driven by a rise in shipment volumes, even though the average product price slightly decreased. Net sales rose by 1.9% to PEN 2.429 billion, while both gross and operational profits surged by 52.5%.*

## **Fenix Resources Expands Horizon with Acquisition of CZR Resources to Boost Iron Ore Production**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Fenix Resources Limited, an Australian iron ore producer, has entered into a binding agreement to fully acquire CZR Resources, a mineral exploration company. This acquisition includes CZR's Robe Mesa iron ore project, one of the largest iron ore assets in Pilbara, Western Australia. With this move, Fenix Resources aims to expand its operations and triple its iron ore production, reaching about 140 million metric tons. The deal positions Fenix to become a major player in the Western Australian iron ore sector.*

## **Simandou Iron Ore Project: A New Global Player Amid Shifting Demand Trends**

February 27, 2025

*Synopsis: Rio Tinto is preparing for the launch of its Simandou project in Guinea, aiming to supply 60 million metric tons of iron ore per year. Despite weakening demand from China, the world's largest iron ore importer, the project holds promise due to its high-grade material and strategic importance. The project is expected to significantly impact the global iron ore market, with Simandou's first cargo arriving by the end of 2025, potentially altering market dynamics.*

### **Revolutionizing Material Bonds: The Power of Magnetic Pulse Welding in Joining Dissimilar Metals**

*February 27, 2025*

*Synopsis: Scientists at Novosibirsk State Technical University, in collaboration with the Lavrentiev Institute of Hydrodynamics, have developed a breakthrough welding technology called magnetic pulse welding. This technique allows the joining of previously incompatible materials like aluminum and steel without the need for heat-based processes. By using high-speed impacts, magnetic pulse welding creates strong, durable connections with numerous applications in automotive, electronics, and pipe manufacturing industries. This method is faster, safer, and environmentally friendly compared to traditional welding technologies.*

### **Strengthening Concrete: The Elevated Temperature Resilience of Steel Fiber-Reinforced Rubber Concrete**

*February 27, 2025*

*Synopsis: Steel fiber-reinforced rubber concrete exhibits remarkable resilience after exposure to high temperatures, making it a prime candidate for applications requiring fire resistance. This study examines the effects of steel fibers and rubber particles on SFRRRC's mechanical properties, such as compressive, tensile, and flexural strengths, when subjected to temperatures ranging from ambient to 800°C. The results reveal improved strength and durability, offering potential in high-risk environments like industrial kilns and nuclear power plants.*