



TT IRON STEEL COMPANY

TT Iron Steel Company Ltd.
Savannah East, 5th Floor, 11 Queens Park East
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

TT Iron Steel Company Ltd. executes sales and purchase agreement to acquire Point Lisas Iron and Steel Plant

Plans to produce low carbon emission/green steel

Port of Spain, June 7, 2023. TT Iron Steel Company Limited (“TT Iron” or “TTIS”) has signed a sales and purchase agreement with Mr. Christopher Kelshall, the liquidator of ArcelorMittal Point Lisas Ltd. (In Liquidation), to acquire the iron and steel plant in the Point Lisas Industrial Estate, Couva, Trinidad. Completion of the transaction is subject to approval by the Government of Trinidad & Tobago.

The plant is one of the largest steel mills in the Americas pairing low carbon emission, natural gas based Direct Reduced Iron (DRI) technology with Electric Arc Furnaces for steelmaking. Originally constructed in 1980, the plant deployed cutting edge technology at the time which was renewed by continuous investment over the years. Initial refurbishment and restart of the plant is expected to cost US\$150-200 million (TT\$1-1.4 billion) over the next 24 months with further investment required thereafter.

Currently, 70 percent of the world’s steel is made using traditional coal-based blast furnaces that emit 2.0 to 2.5 tonnes of CO₂ per tonne of steel produced. The remaining 30 percent is made using electric arc furnace technology (0.8 to 1.5 tonnes of CO₂ per tonne), primarily fed by recycled/scrap steel and/or low carbon emission Direct Reduced Iron, as at Point Lisas. Direct Reduced Iron is produced from iron ore smelted with natural gas and/or hydrogen which has lower carbon emissions than coal-based technologies. The plant historically used natural gas however TT Iron intends to transition to green hydrogen in the coming years as it becomes commercially available. This will reduce the plant’s carbon intensity to 0.4 tonnes of CO₂ per tonne of steel produced. Restarting the iron and steel plant and then transitioning to green hydrogen will put Trinidad and Tobago back on the map as a world leader on the cutting edge of low emission steel production technology.

More than 1,000 jobs will be created during the refurbishment and start-up phase and, when fully operational, the plant will create long term employment for 500 skilled workers. TT Iron believes that restart of the plant will indirectly create many more jobs - for instance through maintenance and construction services, port services, downstream manufacturing (for instance of reinforcing bar, fencing, etc), demand for green hydrogen and renewable energy, etc.

Founder, President, and Chief Executive Officer Mr. Gus Hiller is a veteran of the steel industry and no stranger to the Trinidad and Tobago. He spent six years of his career on the Point Lisas estate at the helm of Nucor and has managed and operated steel plants across United States of America and Canada.

Commenting on the purchase agreement, Hiller said: “We believe there is great potential for the plant to return to the forefront of global steelmaking technology and performance. Our team was drawn to Trinidad and Tobago due to its strategic location, skilled workforce, potential to be a



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hydrogen leader and an enabling business environment. We are confident we will be able to bring on stream and operate an efficient, cutting-edge steel mill which we expect, and hope, will start production within the next 12 to 18 months; certainly, no later than December 2024. The restart of this plant will create a long-term sustainable industry that generates secure employment and wealth for the citizens of Trinidad & Tobago for generations to come.”

In addition to providing additional revenue, significant foreign exchange to the treasury, and increased employment (TTIS will utilise more labour per molecule of natural gas/hydrogen on the island), Chairman of TTIS Joel “Monty” Pemberton said: “The restart of the local steel industry continues the vision of the Trinbagonian pioneers who conceived it, and we are enhancing this vision with the full use of green hydrogen in the shortest possible time frame; this is the fuel of the future. TTIS is passionate about the development of the downstream manufacturing sector of higher value iron and steel products in Trinidad & Tobago, this will further increase employment and wealth creation in the country. Our ESG principles are anchored in producing lower carbon products, the promotion of entrepreneurial activity in Trinidad & Tobago through the development of the downstream manufacturing sector, establishing an apprenticeship program for youth development, thereby creating sustainable employment for generations in the clean energy industry.”

Commenting on TTIS’s acquisition of the steel plant, Christopher Kelshall said: “I am thrilled to see this asset being acquired by a company focussed on the development of Trinidad & Tobago, especially with the future use of green hydrogen. The investment by experienced industry veterans, will see Trinidad & Tobago continue to be a credible player in the global steel industry. Further, this investment represents a significant step to continue to diversify the downstream energy industry in Trinidad and Tobago.”

TT Iron was represented by the law firm Dentons. Attorney Shalini R. Campbell, Managing Partner - Trinidad and Tobago, led the transaction and was supported by Rachel Welch-Phillips, Partner - Corporate Commercial | Head of ESG & Sustainable Finance. Both are Directors on the Board of TTIS along with Chairman Pemberton, underscoring the Company’s commitment to sustainable development and good environmental and social governance.

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Standing: Mr. Christopher Macintyre, Ms. Odette Clarke, Mr. Ramesh Gangabisson, Mr. Ashmead Ali
Sitting: Mr. Joel “Monty” Pemberton, Mr. Gus Hiller, Mr. Christopher Kelshall, Mr. Keith Daniel



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TT Iron Steel Company Profile

TT Iron Steel Company Ltd. ("TTIS" or "TT Iron") is a private company established under the laws of Trinidad and Tobago.

The Point Lisas Iron and Steel Plant utilizes green, low carbon emission technologies for steel production which we believe are critical to decarbonize the global steel industry. Greater than 70% of steel globally is made using coal-based blast furnaces which emit roughly two tonnes of carbon dioxide per tonne of steel produced. The Point Lisas Iron and Steel Plant is based on electric arc furnaces and direct reduction using natural gas, a green process with less than half of the emissions from a coal-based steelmaking facility. While this process is used in less than 10% of steel mills globally, we believe it is the future of steelmaking.

Initially, TT Iron intends to restart (1) Direct Reduced Iron unit #3 ("DR3") - a MIDREX DRI unit built in 1999 with 1.35 million tons per year capacity and (2) the Electric Arc Furnace based melt shop and attached rolling mill. TT Iron intends to produce value added steel products for export and for local consumption within Trinidad and Tobago.

The facility at Point Lisas can be further decarbonized by substituting natural gas with green hydrogen and we are working closely with partners in Trinidad to develop a local green hydrogen supply chain. After it has been restarted, the facility will also be the largest recycling operation in the Caribbean consuming scrap and waste tyres generated in Trinidad and Tobago to make steel products.

TTIS will operate in compliance with the highest international standards for employee safety, environmental protection, and responsible governance. We look forward to working closely with all stakeholders to restart the facility while making a positive impact on the environment, population, and economy of Trinidad.

TTIS is led by a team of Trinidadian and international individuals with extensive experience in the iron and steel industry and the restart of formerly distressed assets.