

SteelMatters

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Your community magazine



Much of the work that was most critical was completed largely out of sight

BLAST FURNACE 5 BACK ON STREAM

After several months of intense work by hundreds of Tata Steel employees and contractors, Port Talbot's iconic Blast Furnace 5 (BF5) comes back to full production this month.

The furnace's life-extension project has been designed to give the iron-making facility at least another five to seven years of operation and to improve the stability of the process.

Project Sponsor Martyn Duggan said: "The project was a long time in the planning stage, with many items such as the heat-resistant refractory bricks that line the furnace, having to be designed and ordered many months in advance."

He continued: "The extent of the work has been enormous, with almost every part of the furnace undergoing

some form of repair, replacement or maintenance.

"While the most visible change – the replacement of the downcomer – took place early on in the project, much of the work that was most critical was completed largely out of sight."

A complete ring of the steel furnace shell has now been replaced, with new coolers fitted before being re-

lined with bricks. The refractory brick hearth (the lining at the bottom of the furnace) has been replaced along with both tap-holes (from where the liquid iron is drained).

The entire inside of the furnace has subsequently been sprayed with refractory material to protect the shell

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LEADERSHIP TEAM ANNOUNCED FOR PROPOSED JOINT VENTURE

Tata Steel and thyssenkrupp have today announced the members of the designated Management Board for the proposed European steel joint venture between the two companies.

Tata Steel and thyssenkrupp AG signed definitive agreements in June 2018 to combine their European steel businesses in a 50/50 joint venture. The proposed new company, to be named thyssenkrupp Tata Steel BV, headquartered in Amsterdam area will be positioned as a leading pan-European high-quality flat steel producer with a strong focus on performance, quality and technology leadership. The proposed joint venture is subject to merger control clearance in several jurisdictions, including in the European Union.

Andreas Goss, currently Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of thyssenkrupp's Steel division, will be the designated CEO of the proposed joint venture and chair the Management Board of thyssenkrupp Tata Steel BV. Hans Fischer, currently the CEO of Tata Steel Europe, will be the designated as the Deputy CEO and Chief Technology Officer of the proposed joint venture. Sandip Biswas, currently the Group Executive Vice President of Tata Steel Limited will be the designated Chief Financial Officer of the joint venture, while Premal Desai currently the Chief Financial Officer of thyssenkrupp Steel will be the Chief Strategy Officer of the joint venture.

Apart from the above appointments, it also proposed to appoint the top leadership team of the joint venture



From left: Andreas Goss, Hans Fischer, Premal Desai and Sandip Biswas make up the four-strong management board for the proposed joint venture between Tata Steel and thyssenkrupp

early in the new year. The designated management board members and the top leadership team of the joint venture will be responsible for the planning and execution of the post-merger integration and the long-term business strategy after the proposed joint venture has received the necessary regulatory approvals.

TV Narendran, CEO and Managing Director of Tata Steel said: "I firmly believe that the designated management board has a strong

combination of industry and leadership experience needed to ensure a successful and sustainable future for the proposed thyssenkrupp Tata Steel joint venture. This marks an important step forward in our preparations towards establishing the planned joint venture."

Guido Kerkhoff, CEO of thyssenkrupp said: "The new Management Board combines extensive technical expertise with in-depth operational experience to optimally align the joint venture

with future challenges of the industry and the needs of the customers. With this lean, four-member Executive Board, we have created the optimal staffing conditions to build a strong number two in the European flat steel market."

Both companies remain committed to constructive engagement with the European Commission as part of the ongoing regulatory review process. Both parties are working together to ensure the success of this transaction

as soon as possible.

Until the completion of the joint venture process, thyssenkrupp Steel Europe and Tata Steel in Europe will continue to operate as separate companies and as competitors and the incumbent organisation of the respective companies will continue to operate as currently. The members of the designated Management Board will also continue in their roles within their existing businesses until the formation of the joint venture.

MP praises steelworkers

On his latest visit to Port Talbot, Aberavon MP Stephen Kinnock praised both the company and the workforce for their commitment to sustaining the UK steel industry and local communities through investments such as Blast Furnace 5.

Mr Kinnock took time out of his busy schedule for a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to go inside the furnace where work is ongoing to replace the refractory lining.

Mr Kinnock said: "I've had the privilege of seeing the repair work in action, it's amazing work that the team is doing, and it's going to make such a difference to the steelworks and our entire community."

He continued: "There isn't a single family, street or community in Port Talbot that doesn't have a connection to our steelworks."

"I'd like to congratulate absolutely everybody who has been involved in the project; I'd like to congratulate Tata Steel for making this vital investment, and I'd like to wish everyone the very best of luck

so we can get the furnace firing again in the New Year."

ITV Wales also joined Mr Kinnock on his visit to the furnace and spoke to Executive Director HR, Tor Farquhar about the potential impact of differing Brexit scenarios.

Tor said: "What is most important to companies such as Tata Steel and our supply chain partners, is frictionless trade. While of course we are preparing for different outcomes, the thing that is most difficult for businesses to manage is the uncertainty."

The project team then took Mr Kinnock to see the shell plates that have been welded into place, before climbing up to the 43m level where he was awestruck at the unique view past Blast Furnace 4, and across his constituency and Swansea Bay.

The four metre square access hole that had been cut in the side of the furnace, has now been sealed to allow the re-bricking to continue.



Stephen Kinnock MP was full of praise for the company and workers on his recent visit to the blast furnaces

FROM PAGE 1 >

BF5 back on stream



The project has seen our workforce and contractor partners go above and beyond

and provide a smoother profile to aid the descent of the raw materials.

The mechanical apparatus that delivers raw materials to the top of the furnace, including the skips, chute and gearbox have also been overhauled.

Alan Coombs, Chair of the multi-union committee added: "This investment is absolutely critical for the future of steelmaking in Port Talbot; for our customers, for our employees and for the community."

"It will be great to be back on two furnaces and we can then look forward to more investments in the steelplant in 2019."

Martyn said that the work will not only assure a supply of steel for some years to come, but will also reduce the

environmental impact of the furnace.

He said: "Many of the issues that affect our local community have been caused by a lack of stability with the furnace."

"Much of the work we have done should improve that substantially."

"We have also overhauled and invested in the dust-extraction system to reduce airborne emissions."

Martyn concluded: "I would like to pay huge credit to all the people who have worked on, and supported, the project in some very challenging conditions."

"As with any project of this nature we had to overcome many challenges, but people's determination, hard work and expertise shone through."

MORE INVESTMENT FOR THREE NEW STEELPLANT CRANES

The steelplant at Port Talbot has the go-ahead to design, buy and replace a third main gantry crane to add to two already on order.

The Receiving Bay crane (Spring 2019), the North Charging crane (Autumn 2019) have been on the plan for some time, and now the North Teeming Bay crane (2020) is also firmly on the asset-improvement roadmap. Project Manager Mark Bowman said: "Some of these cranes have been in constant operation since 1969.

Among the many challenges Mark's team face, is the fact that these three major programmes of work have to be managed around the replacement of BOS Vessel 2 in July 2019.

He said: "This is fantastic news for the business, as the investment will not only improve the plant's integrity, but

will also include the latest technology to make our cranes safer, smoother, and more automated."

"We have specified and placed orders for the first two cranes already, with features including collision avoidance and hook engagement: both failures we've experienced in recent years. We're also looking at auto-pour systems for the charger crane."

The Receiving Bay and North Charging cranes are being made in Spain, then transported by roll-on, roll-off ferry to Swansea docks before their final journey onto site by road.

Mark continued: "This equipment isn't small – the Charging crane weighs around 900 tonnes, and the Receiving Bay crane has a span of 41m; the truck bringing it to site will be 55m long –

the length of half a rugby pitch.

"We have engaged with teams in IJmuiden to learn from their recent experiences, and we've used virtual reality 3D modelling to make sure the cab designs work for the crane drivers."

"We are making our plans to disrupt operations as little as possible. For the North Charging crane, we'll be making a 30m-high platform to carry the new crane, under which torpedoes can still enter the charging bay."

"For the Receiving Bay crane we'll be lifting it in from outside the bay to minimise the impact on caster operations."

Now, with the third crane in the pipeline, plans are being made to complete the specifying and tender process for the Teeming Crane.



The North Charging crane in action, but getting ready for a well-deserved retirement

DEAR NEIGHBOUR

NEW YEAR MESSAGE



Jon

The new year is often a time of reflection, looking back at the previous year and looking forward to what the new year holds. The last 12 months have again been challenging for us as a business: for some months we have been operating with one furnace to accommodate the vital life extension for Blast Furnace 5; we also had an unexpectedly hot, dry summer, which unfortunately impacted upon our close neighbours much more than we could have anticipated. The Environment team has worked tirelessly to alleviate this as much as possible, but change will not happen overnight. The

business has already made a series of investments that will improve the site's environmental performance, but there are still more planned over the coming years aimed at improving the performance of our assets that will further assist in this.

I was pleased to welcome many members of the local community to our site before Christmas to speak with you in person about exactly what these investments will mean in real terms for our neighbours. There will be further sessions in the New Year, please check our social media feeds for more information over the next few months.

These challenges however, have highlighted to me what it is that makes our industry as resilient as it has been over the last few years – and that is our people.

Their hard work and dedication over the last 12 months and into the new year will, I'm sure, put the business further down the path of creating a sustainable steel industry in the UK.

The recent announcement of the proposed management board for the joint venture between Tata Steel and thyssenkrupp will also help galvanise the future of the UK steel industry.

With much to look forward to, it

is bittersweet for me to say that I will be leaving Tata Steel to pursue an opportunity outside of the organisation at the end of January. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 36 years in the industry starting as an apprentice for British Steel in 1983, but felt that it was time for me to take on a new challenge.

I know that with your support, and the dedication and passion of my colleagues I leave behind, the business can succeed and grow in order to provide jobs and a sound economic base for the community it serves for many years to come.



It's smiles all round as Tata Steel bags another supplier award

THE BEST MINT IN THE WORLD!

Tata Steel has been awarded best supplier to the Royal Mint, overcoming stiff competition to scoop the honour. This was the eighth Royal Mint awards where Direct Materials was one of the categories, and Tata Steel's seventh award.

Martin McDade, Royal Mint Financial Director, said: "This is a really tough category, as each year the bar is raised to ensure we exceed our customers' expectations and help the Royal Mint to

maintain its position as the best mint in the world. "To achieve this award, Tata Steel had to ensure a high exacting standard of consistent On Time In Full (OTIF) over a whole year. "And that is a challenge when supplying an organisation that operates 24/7 and touches a quarter of the world's population with a Royal Mint product." Having a weekly presence at the

Royal Mint site meant both parties could work in partnership, sharing vital information that in turn allows the supply chain process to operate efficiently and effectively. There were 36 entries in total across a range of services and suppliers, with seven shortlisted for this award. Account Manager Mark Davies said: "Our awards entry consisted of three main elements: unrivalled service from Steelpark; commercial/technical project

support and supply chain improvement – all of which will have contributed to Tata Steel securing the award. "However, it was the work we have undertaken on forecasting and the supply chain that Royal Mint particularly singled out, as this has previously been an area of challenge for both businesses." Royal Mint has a dynamic order book that provides constantly changing and evolving forecasts, but by working

more closely with its planning and purchasing teams Tata Steel has been able to capture changes as they arise. In summary, Mark said: "Since implementation some 12 months ago, we have maintained 100% supply continuity. "The award is a testament to the work the supply chain team has undertaken – in a nutshell, we contribute towards its vision of being the world's best mint."

Getting hands-on with digital engineering

Cutting-edge 3D technology is helping to give engineers and customers the full picture. Staff at Product Engineering in Research & Development have been utilising computer-aided engineering to promote the use of advanced and ultra-high strength steels to Tata Steel customers. In a recent Government-funded project with a leading off-highway manufacturer, engineers applied these techniques to investigate the most efficient structure for an excavator dig-end component, the dipper. Manufacturers were especially interested in reducing the weight of those components. "The dipper is a welded, box-like structure which has not changed substantially in more than 50 years, so the customer was looking for a new design which would give it a market

leading position," said Neil Wilkins, Manager of the Port Talbot Design Office. "The project was a way of funding R&D work to look at not only new grades of steel but also new welding, joining and analysis techniques." Neil and his team were brought on board by Principal Research Engineer Janka Cafolla, who was impressed with the 3D work produced in the previous design of a new coke car. She said: "Various design iterations were used as the foundation for several brainstorming sessions with the customer aimed at developing a new solution for manufacture in the existing factory environment. "As part of this process it was felt that a physical model would benefit the brainstorming process so, utilising the 3D printing capabilities offered by the design office in Port Talbot, several

small models of various stages of the optimisation process were produced, followed by a large model of the final optimised design. "As a result of the project, and the customer's satisfaction with the 3D printed prototypes, Neil and his team have found themselves very much in demand." Design Engineer Daniel Lilygreen said: "Being able to get something from screen to hand really brings it to life, and we were able to provide the customer with a scale model of the final product they could hold and feel. "The physical models proved invaluable in the brainstorming discussions, allowing engineers to get hands-on with the design ideas. "Computer-aided engineering is all about providing a new way of looking at the design process, and we are helping customers achieve that ambition."



The 3D printer at Port Talbot is helping to provide engineers and customers with a new way of looking at the design process

Neil concluded: "The whole project was a big success, producing a completely new design concept with a weight saving of 30% compared to the current design. "The customer is now looking to

patent this concept, which uses ultra-high strength steels instead of standard structural grades. This will lead to a significant increase in the overall net margin of the material supplied by Tata Steel."

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'T'WAS THE SEASON FOR GIVING

Christmas was a time for giving with many local charities and organisations receiving festive treats from generous employees at the steelworks. More than £1,400 in cash was donated by our employees to be used towards the purchase of food vouchers and hundreds of gifts were donated to a local school – as more than 90 children were identified as possibly going without a present or any food across the Christmas period. Employees from across the Port Talbot site rallied together to ensure no child went without. Service users at the Forge Centre in Port

Talbot were given a business donation to purchase food for their annual Christmas lunch and presents for all attending. This is the fifth year the business has given and it was great to see that the hard working nurses organising and giving up their own Christmas day for others were recognised across local media outlets. Thrive Women's Aid in Port Talbot had a treat when it received Christmas-themed goody bags to hand out to those attending its Children and Young Persons service and for the children of its service users. Happy New Year!



Gifts bought with generous donations from staff at the steelworks

Community event gives back

Charity and community group representatives were welcomed to our Academy building for an evening of celebration, where more than £15,000 from the Tata Steel Richard Burton race was donated.

The race took place in Cwmafan on Sunday 4 November and saw more than 1,800 runners in the main race and 350 children take part in the mini-miler. Representatives from groups including the Port Talbot YMCA, Scouts, Cwmafan and Pontrhydyfen RFC and



Many ran in teams, sharing in the glory and elation crossing the finish line together

Talbot Reds women's rugby were all in receipt of donations and praised the race committee for always thinking of them each year and giving back to community sports groups, encouraging

health and fitness in the community. Many of the charity representatives on hand to collect their donations, also took the time to raise awareness of their own organisation and the services they provide in the local community. Race Director Shaun Tobin and the race committee also provided donations to a number of individuals who were facing adversity and hardship, including a four-year-old local girl diagnosed with Leukaemia in

September 2017 who was taking part in the mini-miler section of the race (alongside her family) to raise funds for Latch, the children's leukaemia charity. Taken by her bravery and kindness at such a young age, the race committee decided to award her with a donation so that she would be able to treat herself. Hub Director Jon Ferriman was on hand to present the cheques and commented how humbling the evening

was, with every story putting daily struggles into perspective. Now in its 36th year, the race is gaining momentum and growing bigger each year. Despite this, its roots remain firmly local, with all race proceeds being spent within the wider Port Talbot area ensuring the Tata Steel Richard Burton race legacy is one of encouragement – for those taking part in sports and being active citizens in their community.



Jon Ferriman presented with commemorative plaque for over a decade of support for the Tata Steel Richard Burton race by Shaun Tobin, Race Director and his wife Anna Tobin one of the key race organisers



Stephen Kinnock MP enjoyed running the race again



Little Celyn took part in the mini-miler

Engagement sessions outline environmental improvements

During November a number of engagement sessions were held with local residents who directly contacted Tata Steel during the summer with concerns about the increased volumes of dust in the community.

Led by Hub Director Jon Ferriman the sessions, which were held at the Tata Steel Training Academy, aimed to highlight the work undertaken to date as well as to discuss the ongoing and planned environmental improvements being implemented across the Port Talbot site.

The local residents who attended also had the opportunity to meet with the Heavy End management team and technical experts, to ask questions about business and environmental performance and to provide their own feedback on Tata Steel's environmental performance as well as our communication with and contribution to the Port Talbot community.

Planning is now under way to organise bi-annual community engagement



Coke Oven Works Manager, Dean Vincent spoke about the improvements planned at the Coke Ovens over the next few years

activities, which will be open to all local residents based in community locations.

More information about the format, location and timings of these sessions will be made available via our official social media channels and 'Steel Matters' once details are finalised.

Thank you to all residents who

attended the sessions and have given feedback so far.

Should you wish to contact Tata Steel about an environmental concern, please call our Community Support Helpline on 0800 138 6560 which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.



Ian Gofton, Works Manager Heavy end taking attendees through the BF5 project detail



The X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) spectrometer recently commissioned at the Harbourside labs



The XRD will support process improvements, aid with new product development and help the business bring more testing in-house

TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT SUPPORTS IMPROVEMENTS

A joint project between the Environment department and the Laboratories will help the business to better understand sources of dust.

Investment was secured for an X-Ray Diffraction (XRD) spectrometer as part of a suite of projects to bring about environmental improvements across the Port Talbot site, with the instrument commissioned at the Harbourside laboratories in a record 10 weeks from project approval to

completion.

Peter Barnes, Labs Section Manager explained: "XRD is a state-of-the-art technique that is ideally suited to analysing dust. It uses a small beam of X-Rays which interacts with the space between atoms. Each crystalline component has its own fingerprint so it's possible to work out what's in the dust, even if we only have a minuscule amount to work with."

He added: "This is an exciting

investment for the business: not only does it pay for itself in under a year by not having to use an external lab, but it's a versatile piece of kit that will add value in other areas too. It will support process improvements at the Sinter plant, it will help with new product development by analysing steel phases and it will enable us to bring more occupational health testing in-house".

The Environment department will now begin an ambitious programme

of sampling from deposition gauges in numerous locations around site, as well as taking samples from the local community.

"We are delighted to have access to this new piece of equipment," said Jason Massey, Environment Engineer. "The increased capacity of the XRD will allow for an extensive fingerprinting exercise to be carried out, whereby the fallout samples gathered will be compared to samples of process

materials from across our site, allowing for accurate fallout identification.

"Furthermore, new XRD will allow for a rapid analysis of fallout following an event. This will help us identify the source of the fallout, resolve the issue and feedback to all interested stakeholders in a timely manner. This is crucial in relation to our continued efforts to support our neighbours and reduce impact on the local community."

WORDSEARCH COMPETITION

Your chance to win one of two £50 Morrison's vouchers

When you have found all eight words in the puzzle opposite either email us, with a picture of your completed puzzle attached, or put in the post (we must receive it by February 25) to:

Community.committee@tatasteel.com
The Editor - Steel Matters, Communications, AGO Offices, Tata Steel, Margam SA13 2NG
by February 25 to be in with a chance of winning.

January Investment Joint Venture Thyssenkrupp

Tata Steel Steel Blast Furnace Steelmaking

Name

Age

Address

Contact number

W	S	T	P	O	L	B	W	I	F	A	J	Y	R
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The Cold Truth – you could make the difference

Popular Swansea Sound and the Wave DJ Siany is shining a light on homelessness and Tata Steel is proud to support the stations efforts to help make a difference to the lives of homeless people and families in South-West Wales.

A month of activities and awareness raising will culminate in a sponsored sleep-out at the Liberty Stadium on 20 February, where members of the public will get to experience one night of homelessness to raise vital funds for local charities, TrampFace, Llamau and Matthew's House.

Last year's appeal raised a staggering £20,000 and the team aim to better that total this year.

Jamie Pritchard, The Wave Drive Time Show presenter commented: "After the huge success of last year's event, The Cold Truth 2019 is going to be even bigger and will help raise much needed awareness and funds for the charities involved, which each do vital work in the local area for the homeless community.

"I'm so proud to be able to be a part of this campaign and I'm really looking forward to meeting everyone who's

signed up to sleep out to support the cause.

"It will be a long cold night sleeping out under the stars with nothing more than cardboard and a sleeping bag, but worth every minute if we can help change lives.

"A massive thank you to Tata Steel for supporting this campaign year after year – we couldn't do it without you."

If you would like to sign up for the sleep out and find out more about the chosen charities, head to The Wave website for more information.

THE COLD TRUTH

SLEEP OUT 2019

TATA STEEL

THE WAVE IS BRINGING YOU THE COLD TRUTH ON HOMELESSNESS IN SOUTH WALES.

HERITAGE CORNER

We're heading back to the 80's this edition with a trio of Port Talbot memories...



22 April 1988 and four members of the site's accounts department were retiring. Irene Gatti, Neville Evans, Len Howell and John Rees had a combined total of 133 years' service between them. Irene was also the first-ever female to be employed in the General Offices at the then Abbey Works in 1951!

If you have any pictures of memories to share, please get in touch with us – use the hashtag #porttalbotsteelmemoires across social media or drop us an email community.committee@tatasteeleurope.com we would love to hear from you



October 1989 saw the official opening of the Princess Royal Theatre in Port Talbot by Princess Anne. She was also on hand to unveil a sculpture and fountain at the front of the building. The sculpture had been manufactured on site at the central engineering workshops.



8 STEEL NEWS, APRIL 17, 1986

The last word in sponsored running

What must be the last word in sponsored runs was undertaken by Dil Robbins, Port Talbot Works cold mill, some weeks ago.

He was part of a 10-man road relay team running from John O'Groats to Land's End. Starting out on a crisp March morning the team completed the "course" in 4 days, 3 hours, 47½ minutes and the distance covered was 800 miles of which Dil's contribution was 100 miles.

The whole purpose of the run was to raise money for Morriston Hospital.

Dil is a vastly experienced runner and a prominent member of the Corporation's team in the West Glamorgan Cross Country League.

17 April 1986 and Dil Robbins, Cold Mill Port Talbot was celebrated for his part in a 10-man relay race team running from Jon O'Groats to Land's End. Dil, an experienced runner, was a prominent member of the company's corporate team and was running to raise money for Morriston Hospital.



Cymric choir provided wonderful entertainment



Macmillan coffee morning was also an opportunity for employees to get some advice

Charity success

The fundraising team from Port Talbot's branch of Macmillan Cancer came to our Port Talbot site in December and hosted a special Christmas-themed coffee morning with mince pies, Christmas crafts and the opportunity for employees to get some cancer-related advice. The morning was a great success, with £365 raised.

Port Talbot's Cymric Choir were also on site for the morning and sang some carols and festive favourites for employees as they enjoyed their cake and coffee.

We look forward to hosting the team from Macmillan in 2019 and hope to help them raise even more money!



WE DID SOMETHING GREAT

This is to thank **Tata Steel** for supporting people affected by cancer by allowing us to hold a Christmas coffee morning and raising £365.

Thank you for your support

SteelMatters

GET IN TOUCH

We'd love to hear from you!

Follow us on Facebook [@tatasteeluk](https://www.facebook.com/tatasteeluk) or Twitter [@tatasteeluk](https://twitter.com/tatasteeluk)

Drop us an email community.committee@tatasteeleurope.com

Stay informed by signing up for our monthly electronic newsletter and for Port Talbot Works announcements www.tatasteeleurope.com/en/sustainability/communities/newsletter

Need to contact our Community Support Line? Call us on 0800 138 6560, or email community.support@tatasteel.com

Apply now for a Community Award of up to £250: www.tatasteel.sponsor.com