

Azovstal continues environmental investments into reduction of technogenic burden

Azovstal Iron & Steel Works of Metinvest Group invested over 17.8 million UAH in environmental projects for the five months of 2011 as part of the integrated program of modernization and revamping of the Group's plants that envisages reduction of the technogenic burden and emissions.

The integrated program of modernization and revamping of Metinvest Group's plants covers the whole range of the metallurgical facility's environmental impacts including air emissions, water pollution and industrial waste generation; it also envisages installation of the state-of-the-art environmental controls in all metallurgical units. The environmental emissions are usually equal to 22% of the total amount of production modernization investments.

One of the important items of 2011 program was decommissioning of open hearth furnaces that resulted in complete cutoff of effluents discharge from Azovstal's waste water outlet No.3, stoppage of open hearth furnace slag generation and air emissions from open hearth furnaces. Also, the high-cost equipment for enhanced filtration and pumping of iron-containing sludge was fully modernized and commissioned by the end of May. The expenses for major repair were equal to about 7 million UAH. The efficiency of the equipment was thus increased almost 2 times. In addition, implementation of 33 more environmental actions has already been started this year.

Over the period 2006-2010 Azovstal's expenses for implementation of the actions intended for reduction of the environmental impact of metallurgical facilities were equal to about 280 million UAH. Year to year Azovstal increases the amount of funds channeled for compensation of the technogenic environmental impact. In 2011 118 million UAH are expected to be spent for environmental actions by Azovstal.

"Reduction of the environmental burden on Metinvest Group plants' presence regions is one of the company's high priority strategic tasks. The environmental actions must be high quality, long-term and, most importantly, effective," says Enver Tskitishvili, General Director of PJSC "AZOVSTAL IRON & STEEL WORKS". "That is why we do our best to maintain the environmental investments at the proper level compared to overall volume of our investments. The company's integrated plan of environmental actions is developed every year and we implement them consistently. I am sure that eventually it will lead us to positive changes and will improve the environmental situation in the city".

Reference:

PUBLIC JOINT STOCK COMPANY "AZOVSTAL IRON & STEEL WORKS" is a highly technological mill manufacturing a great variety of iron and steel products: slabs, steel bars and sections, rails, rail fasteners, squares, plates, metallurgical slag products.

Azovstal's production capacities allow manufacture of over 5,5 million tons of iron, over 6,4 million tons of steel including 4.4 million tons of BOF steel, over 4,4 million tons of rolled products. Design capacity for manufacture of rail fasteners is 285 thousand tons per year, milling balls 170 thousand tons per year.

Metinvest is an international vertically integrated mining and steel group of companies, operating assets in each link of the production chain from iron ore and coal mining and coke production, through to semi-finished and finished steel production, pipe rolling and coil production and production of other value-added products. The Group comprises mining and steel production facilities located in Ukraine, Europe and the USA and has a sales network covering all key global markets. The major shareholders of Metinvest are SCM Group (75% ownership) and Smart-Holding (25% ownership) partnering in Company's management.

METINVEST HOLDING LLC is the managing company of Metinvest group.