

Press Release

Linde seals long-term gas contract with Corus in the UK

Munich, 11 January 2008 – The technology group The Linde Group has signed a long-term supply contract for industrial gases with international steel producer Corus, part of Tata Steel. The agreement involves the construction of a new air separation unit (ASU) at Corus' Scunthorpe site (North Lincolnshire) for around EUR 80m.

"This agreement seals the long term future of our relationship with one of our largest customers in the UK and confirms our market leadership in this key market," said Dr Aldo Belloni, member of the Executive Board of Linde AG.

The new ASU with a capacity of 1,600 tonnes per day (tpd) oxygen as well as smaller quantities of nitrogen will go on-stream in mid-2010 in order to support the increase in steel output from the site. The Linde investments also involve refurbishment of the existing ASU and a significant extension of the pipeline network supplying the steelworks.

The Linde Group is a world-leading gases and engineering company with around 50,000 employees working in more than 70 countries worldwide. Following the acquisition of The BOC Group plc, the company has sales of around 12 billion euro per annum. The strategy of The Linde Group is geared towards earnings-based growth and focuses on the expansion of its international business with forward-looking products and services.

For more information, please see The Linde Group online at <http://www.linde.com>

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