



NEWS RELEASE

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STAINLESS STEEL INDUSTRY EXECUTIVE TO PILOT MARKETING ACTIVITIES

(Washington, DC) (October 9, 2003) – The trade association that represents the major North American stainless steel producers recently asked industry executive Stephan Lacor to spearhead domestic marketing initiatives aimed at developing new markets and increasing market share for stainless steel products.

The Specialty Steel Industry of North America (SSINA) appointed Mr. Lacor as the Chairman of its Stainless Steel Market Development Committee, comprised of marketing executives from member SSINA companies. According to Lacor, “As the new chairman, I hope to encourage the SSINA to build on past market development activities that promote the uses and benefits of stainless steel products across a variety of applications. I also want to spotlight the value that market development efforts bring to the industry.”

Lacor, a fifteen-year veteran of the stainless steel industry, is Vice President and General Manager of Mexinox USA Inc., a wholly-owned division of ThyssenKrupp Mexinox SA de CV. After starting in 1989 with Thyssen Krupp Mexinox as an outside sales representative, he quickly rose through the company’s commercial ranks. Promoted to his current position in 1997, he is responsible for all US operations of ThyssenKrupp Mexinox. Lacor also serves as Vice President and General Manager for ThyssenKrupp Nirosta North America, which handles all sales of ThyssenKrupp Nirosta products into the U.S. and Canada.

Lacor graduated with high honors with a degree in economics from De Paul University in Chicago, Illinois. He has an MBA from Lake Forest Graduate School of Management where he served as class valedictorian. Born in Paris, France, as a child he lived in France, Spain, Italy, England and Mexico. He moved to the United States in 1981 to attend De Paul. He is married with two children.

SSINA is a Washington, DC-based trade association representing virtually all continental specialty steel producers. Specialty steels are high technology, high value stainless and other specialty alloy products. Stainless steel is the largest specialty steel product category. While shipments of specialty steel account for only 2% of all steel shipped, annual revenues of approximately \$8 billion account for 14% of the total value of all steel shipped.

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