



Do you have business or industry news of interest to the minerals, metals, and materials community? Submit your announcement or press release to Kaitlin Calva, JOM Magazine Managing Editor, at kcalva@tms.org for consideration.

In Case You Missed It: Business News from the Field

Hexcel Opens New Carbon Fiber Plant

Isère, France: Advanced composite materials producer Hexcel opened a new facility in the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region of France, allowing the company to cover the entire carbon fiber production chain. The €200 million, 37-acre plant, located in Isère, will be used to make carbon fiber and polyacrylonitrile (PAN) precursor, with a goal of meeting the growing demand for carbon composite materials by aerospace customers. Hexcel also plans to launch a 3,500 square meter research and development center in the region in the first quarter of 2019, with a focus on new processes and out-of-autoclave technologies.

thyssenkrupp AG to Split into Two

Essen, Germany: Multinational industrial engineering conglomerate thyssenkrupp AG announced plans to split into two separate companies, thyssenkrupp Materials AG and thyssenkrupp Industrials AG. The plan, approved by their Supervisory Board on September 30, 2018, intends to allow the businesses to better develop and concentrate on their individual strengths. The new capital goods company, thyssenkrupp Industrials AG, will incorporate thyssenkrupp's elevator, automotive supplier, and core plant construction businesses. thyssenkrupp Materials AG will include materials services, 50 percent interest in the future

steel joint venture, and the slewing bearings, forging, and marine businesses.

Total Announces Major Gas Find Offshore U.K.

Shetland, United Kingdom: French oil and gas company Total SA announced a major gas discovery on the Glendronach prospect, located offshore of the U.K., to the west of Shetland. The reservoir is under 300 meters of water and in a formation below the Edradour reservoir, allowing fast development due to existing infrastructure around the Edradour field and the Laggan-Tomore facilities of the Shetland Gas Plant. The reservoir, estimated at approximately one trillion cubic feet of recoverable resources, is operated by Total E&P U.K. with a 60 percent interest alongside partners Ineos E&P UK Limited and SSE E&P U.K. Limited (20 percent each).

Petrobras, Equinor to Jointly Pursue Offshore Wind Projects

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Semi-public Brazilian petroleum company Petrobras and Norwegian energy company Equinor have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to evaluate a joint business development in the offshore wind energy industry in Brazil. The MOU includes plans to research other potential areas of cooperation, such as the development of renewable energy initiatives. While the agreement does not establish obligations for either party to undertake any business, it does indicate their intentions to develop offshore wind projects together.



Santiago, Chile: Major copper producer Codelco submitted an environmental impact assessment last October to finalize its Rajo Inca project. The project aims to extend the life of its aging Salvador mine, which is currently due to run out of ore by 2021. By changing from an underground mine to an open pit mine, Salvador plans to continue operations for an additional 40 years, increasing output by 30 percent. The expected investment for this project would be approximately one billion dollars, with production of refined copper increasing to 90,000 tonnes of refined copper from the 62,000 tonnes produced in 2017. The project is part of a \$39 billion, 10-year upgrade plan. (Photo courtesy of Codelco.)