



*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](mailto:kcalva@tms.org) for consideration.*

## ***In Case You Missed It:*** **Business News from the Field**

### **Finnish Quantum Computing Firm Secures Seed Money**

***Espoo, Finland:*** Startup IQM Finland announced that it has raised \$13 million in funding to advance quantum computing and drive adoption of the technology. The funding comes from a variety of sources, including U.S.-based Matadero QED; Finnish companies Tesi, Maki.vcm, and OpenOcean; and German firms MIG Fonds and Vito Ventures. The company, a spinout from Aalto University and the Technical Research Centre of Finland, plans to leverage local research and advancements to bring quantum technology into common use. IQM hopes that advances in quantum computing will have a profound impact on fields such as materials science, pharmaceuticals, and finance.

### **Ongoing Interest in Purchase of British Steel North Lincolnshire, England:**

Negotiations are now underway with potential buyers over the purchase of British Steel Ltd., the U.K.'s second-largest steel producer. This follows an announcement

from the U.K. Insolvency Service and British Steel in May 2019 that the company had failed to secure a government lifeline and was entering into liquidation. Since then, the company has continued to operate as normal while it goes through this period of negotiation. British Steel has noted its preference to select a buyer interested in the purchase of the entire company, rather than individual components, and that it is striving for a solution that will preserve the jobs of more than 4,000 direct employees.

### **NSF Grant to Boost Supercomputing Capabilities**

***Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA:*** The Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center (PSC) will be expanding its capabilities thanks to a \$10 million grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The PSC, a joint research center operated by Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, will use the grant money to deploy Bridges-2, the newest iteration of PSC's Bridges system. The Bridges-2 project is being undertaken in partnership with Hewlett Packard Enterprise and is designed to accelerate discoveries and scientific breakthroughs by assisting with computation-intensive research. The system will be made available for research and educational needs at no cost, and at cost-recovery rates for other purposes.

### **Metso and Outotec Announce Merger**

***Helsinki, Finland:*** Metso Corporation has announced the merger of its main minerals technology business, Metso Minerals, with Outotec to create a new company: Metso Outotec. Metso is a major equipment and services provider within the mining, aggregates recycling, and process industries, while Outotec develops technologies and services for the mining, metal, energy, and chemical industries with a focus on sustainability. The merger intends to leverage the strengths of each organization with particular focus on their shared sustainability agenda. Metso Flow Control will not be included with the merger but will be listed as a separate entity.



***Brussels, Belgium:*** Three organizations have come together to create a cross-sector platform to advance novel approaches to the recycling of wind turbine blades in order to address the future of the 2.5 million tons of composite materials currently used in the wind energy sector. The venture, a collaboration between WindEurope, the European Chemical Industry Council (Cefic), and the European Composites Industry Association (EUCIA), aims to establish an industry standard for wind turbine recycling. This comes as the first generation of wind turbines in Europe approach the end of their operational lives and more than 12,000 wind turbines are expected to be decommissioned within the next five years. (Image courtesy of WindEurope.)