

SSAB invests in its Nordic operations

SSAB will invest more than SEK 500 million in its Nordic operations to support the automotive growth strategy, increased production stability and reduced energy consumption. The investments will be made in operations at the Hämeenlinna and Luleå sites and the projects will start in late 2016.

SSAB will invest SEK 370 million to modernize the first section of the pickling line at the Hämeenlinna Works in Finland. The investment is being made to support SSAB's automotive growth strategy and secure the stable and long-term production of coated strip products. All steel strip at Hämeenlinna is pickled by passing it through hydrochloric acid baths before cold rolling and subsequent metal coating. The metal-coated strip products are sold directly to Automotive and Construction customers.

"Automotive is an important segment for us and one where we see clear potential for growth. The investments in Hämeenlinna will now support that strategy further," says **Olavi Huhtala**, Head of SSAB Europe

In Luleå, Sweden, an investment of SEK 156 million will be made in a new blower for hot metal production. The blower can be seen as the engine of the blast furnace and the installation of a new blower will reduce energy consumption and increase production stability.

"We work continuously to improve our operations and a new blower will have a positive impact on production stability throughout the entire production chain in Luleå. The new blower will also enable us to reduce energy consumption," says Olavi Huhtala

The investments are a part of the already communicated capital expenditure program. The projects are planned to start towards the end of 2016.

For further information, please contact:

Atte Kaksonen, Corporate Communications, atte.kaksonen@ssab.com,
phone: +358 20 593 8596

Åsa Bäcklin, Corporate Communications, asa.backlin@ssab.com, phone: +46 70 020 55 11

SSAB is a Nordic and US-based steel company. SSAB offers value added products and services developed in close cooperation with its customers to create a stronger, lighter and more sustainable world. SSAB has employees in over 50 countries. SSAB has production facilities in Sweden, Finland and the US. SSAB is listed on the Nasdaq OMX Nordic Exchange in Stockholm and has a secondary listing on the Nasdaq OMX in Helsinki. www.ssab.com.