

Blast furnace shutdown in Oxelösund

SSAB has today decided to shut down blast furnace operations at SSAB Special Steels' mill in Oxelösund. The outage is unplanned and expected to last for two weeks.

The decision to shut down was made after unusually high temperatures in the mantle of the blast furnace. This will be further investigated. The blast furnace was fully refurbished as recently as 2011, with additional work completed in 2016 and was thus fitted out to last until the conversion to electric arc furnace in 2025. Necessary measures are estimated to take around two weeks, followed by the restart of the furnace.

The outage will mean repair costs, underabsorption and lower shipments, which together is expected to impact SSAB Special Steels result by a total of around SEK 150 million, mostly impacting the third quarter of 2018.

SSAB Special Steels will utilize SSAB's global production capacity to minimize delays to customers during the outage. The division is also looking into opportunities to bring forward part of the planned maintenance scheduled for the fourth quarter of the year.

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This information is inside information that SSAB AB (publ) is obliged to make public pursuant to the EU Market Abuse Regulation. The information was submitted for publication, through the agency of the contact person set out above, at 6.30 pm CET/CEST on August 29, 2018.

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