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Arab Steel Summit 2025 Kicks Off — Shaping a Unified Vision for the Arab Iron and Steel Industry

The Arab Steel Summit 2025 was inaugurated under the patronage of H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion of Oman, with the participation of over 600 officials, investors, experts, and representatives of regional and international iron and steel companies. The event, organized by the Arab Iron and Steel Union, took place at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre.

H.E. Al Yousef stated that the iron and steel industry is no longer a traditional sector, but a strategic industry whose strength is now measured by its ability to reduce carbon emissions, embrace circular economy principles, and build resilient and secure supply chains.

“In Oman, we recognize that the future belongs to nations capable of combining economic competitiveness with environmental sustainability. Therefore, we welcome investments and partnerships that align with this vision,” he said.

He emphasized that the summit serves as a leading platform for exchanging expertise and discussing best practices in green steel production technologies, as well as addressing new sensitivities in global trade, such as carbon border adjustment mechanisms — efforts that strengthen Arab integration and help formulate a unified stance to safeguard regional interests and ensure the industry’s sustainability. H.E. Dr. Saleh bin Said Masan, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion for Commerce and Industry, noted that Oman’s hosting of the summit comes at a time when the world is witnessing profound transformations in supply chains, energy, and technology. These shifts, he said, require Arab countries to enhance industrial integration and adopt new strategies to keep pace with global changes.

Eng. Khalid bin Salim Al Qasabi, Director General of Industry at the Ministry, explained that Oman’s iron and steel sector is among the most promising industrial sectors, contributing about 2% of GDP, attracting billions of dollars in investment, and employing hundreds of qualified national professionals. He added that iron and steel exports account for roughly 40% of Oman’s total industrial exports.

Saleh Al Musalhi, Regional President for the Middle East and North Africa of Green Steel Projects at Vale, said the hosting of the summit and exhibition reflects Vale’s continued role in supporting industrial transformation in the region through the development of an integrated ecosystem for low-emission iron production, helping to advance green steel manufacturing. In an exclusive statement to Oman Newspaper, Eng. Ahmed Ezz, Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union, described Oman as a true treasure endowed with vast developmental potential in tourism, industry, and services, making it one of the most promising destinations for industrial investment in the region.

He praised Omani human capital, noting their genuine enthusiasm for production and industrial work, and emphasized that such a positive spirit is a key ingredient for the success of any development project.



18th Arab Steel Summit Praises Egypt's Stance on the Gaza Crisis

The 18th Arab Steel Summit, which began its sessions on Tuesday morning in Muscat, Oman, praised Egypt and President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi for their firm stance on the Gaza crisis and for resisting ongoing Israeli attempts to forcibly displace the Palestinian people.

This came during a speech delivered by Eng. Ahmed Ezz, Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union, who referred to the situation in the region amid the continued Israeli aggression on Gaza for the past two years, and the extensive efforts made to end the conflict, particularly by Egypt. He commended President El-Sisi's unwavering position since the beginning of the crisis and his categorical rejection of any forced displacement of Palestinians from their land.

Ezz called for an immediate end to the violence, displacement, and forced migration of Palestinians in Gaza, stressing that there remains hope for a peaceful resolution that would honor the strong and principled Arab stance in rejecting displacement plans and preserving Palestinian identity.

The summit gathered a large number of leaders and executives of steel companies and professionals in the industry, to discuss the challenges facing the sector and ways to overcome them in light of the protective trade measures recently imposed by some major economies, which have significantly affected the global steel market.

The event also featured the participation of Dr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, UN Special Envoy on Financing for Development.

Ahmed Ezz: Empowering the Private Sector and Facilitating Land Allocation Are the Keys to Sustaining the Steel Industry

Eng. Ahmed Ezz, Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union, emphasized that stimulating local demand for steel products in Arab countries begins with industrial growth, streamlining permit procedures, and facilitating land allocation for investors. He underscored the importance of empowering the private sector and supporting construction and infrastructure projects to ensure the industry's sustainability and competitiveness.

In his opening address at the 18th Arab Iron and Steel Summit in Muscat (2025), Ezz stated that the Arab steel industry represents a main pillar of growth and development, a major source of employment, and a driver of capacity building. He highlighted the pivotal role played by the Union — which has represented Arab steel companies for over half a century — in helping the sector seize emerging opportunities and overcome challenges.

Ezz pointed out several positive indicators: the Arab world is a leading producer of steel, its population continues to grow steadily, and this expansion provides strong prospects for rising steel demand, with the region now nearing 60 million consumers of steel products.

He added that Arab GDP continues to increase steadily, and that many Arab countries possess the resources and capabilities required for industrial success and sustainable growth.

The Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union emphasized that while growth prospects are promising, they depend on overcoming several key challenges. These include low per capita steel consumption in Arab countries compared to Western Europe, limited production of coils and flat steel products—the backbone of modern steelmaking—and declining export prices, which have reduced profitability relative to less complex industries that require far lower capital investment.

Ezz reflected on his decades-long experience, noting: “When I began working in the steel industry in the early 1980s, global production was about 600 million tons. Today, the same amount represents the current global surplus capacity. This surplus doesn't come from China alone, but also from other regions, and much of it is being redirected to export markets.”



Experts: Infrastructure and Housing Investments Are the Main Drivers of Steel Demand in Arab Countries

Experts and decision-makers at the 18th Arab Steel Summit, held in the Sultanate of Oman on October 7–8, confirmed that infrastructure and housing investments are the primary engines of steel demand in Arab markets in the near term. They emphasized the importance of maintaining predictable and stable project pipelines to ensure the sustainability of local steel industries.

The experts highlighted the need to stimulate private housing and commercial projects by strengthening mortgage markets, providing land through planning and regulatory reforms, accelerating approval processes, and offering tax incentives or direct support to developers for building affordable and mid-range housing.

They added that the construction and private industrial sectors are vital drivers but remain constrained by limited access to financing, land allocation challenges, and bureaucratic hurdles. Facilitating mortgage systems, simplifying permits, and expanding public-private partnerships (PPP) would accelerate private-sector demand for steel.

The session, held as part of the summit, featured Dr. Alia El-Mahdi, former Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Political Science at Cairo University; Edward James, Head of Content and Research for the Middle East and North Africa at MEED; Bander Abdullah Al-Sulaim, Chairman of the National Committee for the Iron Industry in Saudi Arabia; and Dr. Soufiane Chaib Setti, Deputy General Manager of AQS – Algeria.

The session shed light on Arab investments in infrastructure and housing, their role in generating demand for finished steel products, and the reasons why the steel industry remains cyclical or stagnant in some markets. Discussions aimed to explore the scale and scope of infrastructure and housing investments in Arab countries and their direct impact on steel demand, analyze current trends and future projections in steel consumption related to construction and infrastructure, and assess the risks of demand concentration in large, publicly funded projects, as well as cyclical or stagnant patterns in local steel industries.

Dr. Alia El-Mahdi explained that the steel industry has backward linkages with mining and energy and forward linkages with construction and manufacturing sectors. She noted that steel production represents 1.4% of global GDP, and that there is a clear correlation between growth in steel output and GDP growth—though it differs between developing and developed nations due to their varying stages of economic development. Rapidly growing countries such as India and Vietnam have seen steel output expand faster than GDP due to urbanization, housing, and industrial expansion.

According to El-Mahdi, construction and infrastructure account for 52% of global steel demand. She noted that while both the public and private sectors drive demand, government demand tends to be strong for limited periods before fading, making the private sector the natural and sustainable driver of steel consumption. The more diversified an economy becomes, the higher its per capita steel consumption.



Ahmed Ezz warns of collapse of global trade system: calls for unified Arab industrial policy in steel sector

During the Arab Steel Summit held in Muscat, Eng. Ahmed Ezz, Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union (AISU), welcomed H.E. Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef, Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, and extended his gratitude to His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik Al Said for the warm hospitality and excellent organization of the event.

In his address, Ezz delivered a series of key messages — as Chairman of AISU — to Arab governments and Ministers of Commerce and Industry through Minister al Yousef.

Ezz said: “The world has changed. For three decades, we have followed its developmental and trade model, aligning our policies with the global economic system that promotes free trade. We adopted a development model that balanced domestic demand with the need for exports, reduced customs tariffs, committed to protecting intellectual property and trademarks, and signed trade remedy agreements. We even accepted being subject to anti-dumping, subsidy, and safeguard cases in times of export surpluses. We were ready to accept even more obligations under the international trading system — but those who created these rules have now abandoned them. Markets are closing, trade barriers are rising, and global trade rules are disappearing. The current trading system is on the verge of collapse, as if the World Trade Organization no longer exists.”

He continued: “The United States — regardless of administration — has adopted a consistent approach of raising protectionist barriers that harm international trade. The European Union has followed suit, imposing declining quotas on exports to its markets. Meanwhile, Arab markets are accused of not protecting themselves adequately against dumped imports from China, and we are blamed for having export surpluses simply because we do not shield our industries.”

Ezz added: “The voice of importers has become louder than that of producers — those who have neither the time nor luxury to lobby because they are focused on building and producing. What we urgently need is a unified, integrated Arab industrial policy for the steel sector. Such a policy should establish balanced protective measures — not because our steel industry is weak or inefficient, but because it faces relentless waves of protectionism worldwide. Our only viable path forward is to grow within our Arab markets.”

Omani Minister of Commerce: “Arab Steel Summit” is a Valuable Opportunity to Build New Partnerships

The Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion of the Sultanate of Oman, H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, expressed his hope that the 18th Arab Steel Summit and the accompanying International Iron and Steel Exhibition would serve as a valuable opportunity to exchange experiences and ideas, build new partnerships, and enhance joint cooperation for the benefit of national industries and economies. In his speech at the summit, organized by the Arab Iron and Steel Union and hosted by the Sultanate of Oman, Al Yousef emphasized the summit's distinguished status, reflected in its broad participation — bringing together around 600 participants, representing nearly 200 global companies from 50 different countries, along with over 20 exhibitors from leading Arab industrial firms and around 40 speakers including experts, policymakers, and industry leaders at both the Arab and international levels.



Ahmed Ezz: We Need a Unified and Integrated Arab Industrial Policy for the Steel Sector

Eng. Ahmed Ezz, Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union, welcomed H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Oman's Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, during the Arab Steel Summit held in Muscat, the Omani capital.

Ezz stated, "The world has changed. Although we have followed its developmental and commercial path for the past three decades — aligning our policies with the global economic system that upholds the values of free trade and a development model balancing domestic demand and the need for exports — we reduced tariffs, adhered to intellectual property protection, and signed trade remedy agreements. Despite accepting to be part of anti-dumping, subsidy, and safeguard measures in cases of export excess, those who promoted these ideas have now abandoned them. Markets are closing, barriers are rising, trade rules are disappearing, and the current global trade system is on the verge of collapse — as if the World Trade Organization no longer exists."

He added that the United States, regardless of its changing administrations, has adopted a consistent approach of increasing protectionist barriers that harm international trade. The European Union has followed suit, imposing decreasing export quotas to its markets. "Even our Arab markets are now being accused of not adequately protecting themselves against dumped Chinese exports, while we, in turn, are accused of having surpluses to export simply because we don't shield our industries enough," Ezz noted.

Arab Iron and Steel Union announces the winners of the Best Arab Scientific Research Competition in steel field 2025

The Arab Iron and Steel Union (AISU) announced the winners of the Best Three Arab Scientific Research Papers in the Iron and Steel Industry for 2025 on October 8, during the 18th Arab Steel Summit, held in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman, on October 7–8, 2025. The first award was awarded to Eng. Ahmed Mehab, Refractories Manager at Arcosteel Company – Ashry Group – Egypt.

The second award went to Eng. Narottam Behera, R&D Expert at Emirates Steel – EMSTEEL Group – UAE, while the third award was went to Dr. Mostafa Anwar Metwally, Assistant Lecturer at the Department of Mining and Petroleum Engineering, Al-Azhar University – Egypt.

The companies affiliated with the winners were also honored — Mr. Ayman Al-Ashry, Chairman of Ashry Steel Group, and Mr. Ahmed Al Baloushi, Site Management Director at Emirates Steel, received recognition on behalf of their organizations.

The awards and certificates of appreciation were presented by Dr. Kamel Djoudi, Secretary General of Arab Iron and Steel Union, during the summit's proceedings, in the presence of a large audience representing leading Arab and international steel companies. The Arab Iron and Steel Union organized this competition with the aim of strengthening collaboration between universities, Arab research centers, and steel plants across the Arab world, to foster the development of the iron and steel industry in the region.



Oman Opens New Horizons for Arab Industrial Integration at Arab Steel Summit 2025

The Arab Steel Summit 2025, hosted by the Sultanate of Oman at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre, discussed the future of the iron and steel industry in the Arab region, with the participation of more than 600 officials, investors, experts, and representatives of regional and international companies in the sector.

The summit was inaugurated under the patronage of H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion. The 18th Arab Steel Summit, organized by the Arab Iron and Steel Union and Vale, served as an intellectual and industrial platform bringing together government leaders, the private sector, and academia in a comprehensive dialogue on the future of the Arab iron and steel industry.

H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef emphasized that the iron and steel sector occupies a pivotal position—not only for its role in supporting infrastructure, energy, and logistics sectors, but also for its connection to global issues such as the transition to a low-carbon economy.

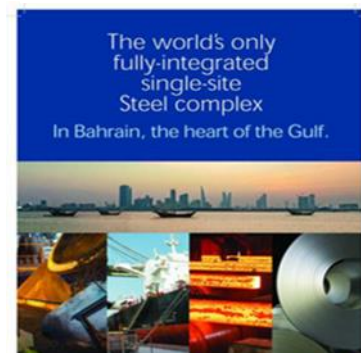
He noted that the iron and steel industries in Oman are among the most promising sectors, contributing about 2% of the GDP and attracting investments worth billions of dollars. The sector employs hundreds of qualified national professionals, while iron and steel exports account for nearly 40% of Oman’s total industrial exports.

The Minister added that Oman has begun preparing for these global shifts by investing in renewable energy and green hydrogen projects, encouraging factories to adopt Fourth Industrial Revolution technologies, developing incentive systems to attract high-value investments, and promoting local content through digital business facilitation platforms.

The summit’s sessions covered strategic themes, including Arab industry leaders’ visions for the sector’s future, supply security and value chains, new protectionist policies, and the role of innovation and advanced technologies in enhancing competitiveness and sustainability. Specialized discussions also addressed environmental and technological transformation in the steel industry, the development of a circular economy based on recycling and industrial scrap, alongside an exhibition highlighting the latest technologies and projects in iron and steel manufacturing.

H.E. Dr. Saleh bin Said Masan, Undersecretary for Commerce and Industry at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, stated that Oman’s hosting of the 2025 Arab Steel Summit comes at a time of profound global transformations in supply chains, energy, and technology, calling on Arab nations to enhance industrial integration and adopt new strategies to keep pace with global changes.

He affirmed that the iron and steel industry is a cornerstone of industrial development and a main driver for infrastructure, energy, and construction projects. The summit, he added, is a key opportunity for investors to meet and learn about Oman’s competitive advantages, attracting high-quality investments that strengthen its regional and international competitiveness. Oman’s hosting of this event, he noted, underscores its growing role as a regional hub for metallurgical industries and a gateway for raw material trade in the region.



Arab Steel Summit to chart future of regional industry

The Arab Steel Summit 2025 opened at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre under the patronage of H E Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.

Organised by the Arab Iron and Steel Union (AISU) and hosted by Vale, the two-day summit has brought together more than 600 officials, investors, and experts from leading regional and international companies in the steel industry. The event provides a key platform for dialogue among government representatives, private-sector leaders, and academics on the future of the steel sector in the Arab world.

Sessions are addressing issues such as the long-term outlook of the Arab steel industry, security of raw-material supply, value-chain integration, and the impact of new trade policies. Discussions also cover innovation, sustainability, and the transition to low-emission steelmaking, alongside recycling and circular economy initiatives. An international exhibition running alongside the summit showcases the latest industrial technologies and projects across the value chain.

H E Dr Saleh bin Said al Masan, Undersecretary for Commerce and Industry, said Oman's hosting of the summit comes at a time of major changes in global supply chains and energy markets. He noted that these shifts call for stronger regional integration and strategies aligned with global industrial and environmental transformations. "The iron and steel sector remains a cornerstone of industrial development, forming the backbone of infrastructure, energy, and construction projects," he said.

Dr Masan added that the event reaffirms Oman's position as a regional centre for metallurgical industries and a gateway for raw-material trade. He said the country aims to promote cooperation among Arab nations and build a more sustainable and competitive steel industry through innovation and technology, in line with its green economy and carbon neutrality goals.

At the opening CEO session, titled Visions of Arab Industry Leaders for the Future of Steel, industry heads, including Eng Ahmed Ezz of Ezz Steel, Hatim Senhaji CEO – Maghreb Steel, Eng Saeed al Remeithi of Emsteel, and Dr Mohamed al Faqih of the Libyan Iron and Steel Company discussed market challenges, the transition to hydrogen-based steelmaking, and the need for coordinated Arab action to achieve value-chain stability.

Saleh al Muslahi, Chief Executive of Mega Hubs – Middle East and North Africa at Vale, said the summit highlights the region's shared ambition for low-carbon industrial growth. "Our partnership with Oman reflects a common goal to enable low-carbon iron production and build the foundations of green steel. Oman's vision, energy resources, and location place it at the centre of that transition," he said.

AISU Chairman Eng Ahmed Ezz said Oman's selection as host reflects the country's growing influence in shaping the regional industrial agenda. He added that collaboration among union members and partners such as Vale is key to transforming dialogue into concrete cooperation, advancing innovation, and strengthening competitiveness across the Arab steel industry.



Global Industry Leaders Exchange Insights in Muscat on the Future of Arab Steel

The Arab Steel Summit 2025 kicked off at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre, running for two days under the patronage of H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion. The event brings together more than 600 officials, investors, experts, and representatives from regional and international companies in the iron and steel sector, organized by the Arab Iron and Steel Union.

The summit serves as a key intellectual and industrial platform that unites government perspectives, the private sector, and academia in a comprehensive dialogue on the future of the Arab iron and steel industry. Its main sessions address strategic themes such as industry leaders' visions for the future, supply security and value chains, emerging protectionist policies, and the role of innovation and advanced technologies in boosting competitiveness and sustainability. The event also includes specialized discussions on environmental and technological transformation, the development of a circular economy based on recycling and industrial scrap, and a dedicated exhibition showcasing the latest technologies and industrial projects in the iron and steel sector.

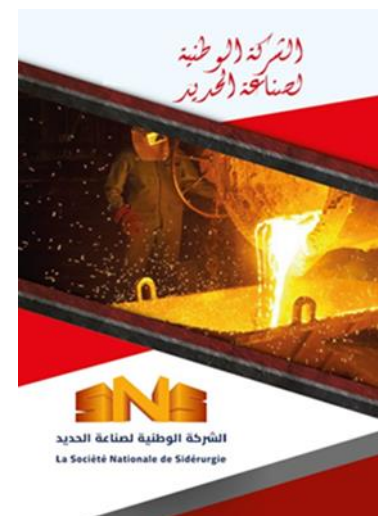
In his opening address, H.E. Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef highlighted the summit's leading status, reflected in its wide participation — nearly 600 participants representing over 200 global companies from 50 countries, along with 20 major industrial exhibitors and around 40 speakers, including experts, decision-makers, and industry leaders at both Arab and international levels.

He stated: “Oman Vision 2040, launched by His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik — may God protect him — has laid the foundations for a national economy built on diversification, innovation, and sustainability. All government units closely monitor and diligently implement its performance indicators. Within this framework, the Industrial Strategy 2040 places the industrial sector among Oman's top national priorities, with ambitious goals to increase its contribution to GDP, boost non-oil industrial exports, and expand a knowledge- and technology-driven production base.”

H.E. Al Yousef further noted that the iron and steel industry in Oman is one of the most promising sectors, contributing around 2% of GDP, attracting billions of dollars in investments, and employing hundreds of qualified Omani professionals. Iron and steel exports, he added, represent about 40% of Oman's total industrial exports.

H.E. Dr. Saleh bin Said Masan, Undersecretary for Commerce and Industry at the Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, emphasized that Oman's hosting of the 2025 Arab Steel Summit comes at a time of profound global transformations in supply chains, energy, and technology. These shifts, he said, call upon Arab nations to enhance industrial integration and adopt new strategies to stay aligned with global changes. He added that the summit offers an important opportunity for investors to connect and explore Oman's industrial competitiveness, helping to attract strategic investments that strengthen the sector's regional and global standing.

For his part, Eng. Khalid bin Salim Al Qasabi, Director General of Industry at the Ministry, stated that summit sessions discussed key issues such as global overproduction, new protectionist policies, raw material supply security, and the future of direct reduction technology amid fluctuating energy prices. He also highlighted the growing role of scientific research in developing more sustainable and efficient production solutions.



North Africa

Algeria: Saifi Ghrib Inaugurates Rebar Production Unit in M'Sila

Prime Minister Saifi Ghrib inaugurated a rebar production plant in M'Sila on Tuesday, as part of a working and inspection visit to the province, commissioned by President Abdelmadjid Tebboune. In his first stop, the Prime Minister inaugurated the rebar production unit belonging to the public company FONDALE, a subsidiary of the National Steel Industry Holding (SNS) in M'Sila. This industrial project, located in Draa El Hadja in the municipality of M'Sila, is a recovered asset under the national operation to reclaim state-owned properties and assets. It was officially transferred to the Public Algerian Foundries Company (FONDALE) on August 10, 2024. The plant specializes in steel and iron production, covering a total area of 23.9 hectares, with an investment of around 226 million Algerian dinars. It is expected to create approximately 450 direct jobs, achieve an annual production capacity of 650,000 tons, and generate an added value of 5.7 billion dinars to the national GDP.

Following the inauguration, the Prime Minister inspected the plant's overall condition after maintenance work and toured various production lines, issuing instructions to ensure the facility assumes its rightful industrial role. Before the inauguration, Ghrib attended a presentation on the public economic enterprise FONDALE, which manages the rebar production plant. The company's main activity is the production and marketing of cast-iron and steel molded parts, and it has been reinforced with new units through the recovery of misappropriated assets — including the newly inaugurated rebar production unit.

In his remarks, Zine El Abidine Ouiss, General Manager of FONDALE, stated that this initiative aligns with President Abdelmadjid Tebboune's program aimed at strengthening the national economy, making it "a new building block in the structure of Algeria's industrial sector."

According to official statements, the Prime Minister will also inaugurate the Euro Trophy Parts plant in the Maqqara municipality.

In his third stop, Saifi Ghrib is expected to visit areas affected by recent floods in the province.

The Prime Minister is accompanied by Minister of Interior, Local Authorities and Transport Said Saayoud, and Minister of Industry Yahia Bachir.

Tosyali Algeria Aims for \$1 Billion in Export Revenues This Year

Tosyali Algeria aims to achieve \$1 billion in export revenues during the current year, according to Alp Topcuoglu, a member of the company's Board of Directors. In a press statement on the sidelines of the 13th North Africa Energy and Hydrogen Conference & Exhibition (NAPEC 2025), currently taking place in Oran, Topcuoglu said that "export revenues are expected to reach \$1 billion this year and exceed \$1.5 billion next year." He added that the company has exported 1.5 million tonnes of steel products so far this year, including rebar, wire rods, iron pellets, anti-corrosion spiral pipes, and other types and sizes of steel pipes — some of which are used in hydrocarbon industries and flat steel production. These exports were shipped from the ports of Oran, Arzew, and Mostaganem to European Union countries, notably Italy and Spain. Regarding the planned green hydrogen production plant, developed in line with renewable energy goals to meet the needs of the iron and steel industry, in partnership with Sonatrach, the U.S.-based Hecate Energy Global Renewables, and Tosyali Algeria, Topcuoglu revealed that the project is currently in the study phase and will take three years to complete.



Algeria : First Iron Ore Pre-Processing Unit to Be Launched by End of April 2026

Algeria is set to commission its first iron ore pre-processing unit at the Gara Djebilet mine in Tindouf Province by the end of April 2026, with an annual production capacity of 4 million tonnes, according to Belkacem Soltani, Chairman and CEO of the National Mining Industrial Group (SONAREM).

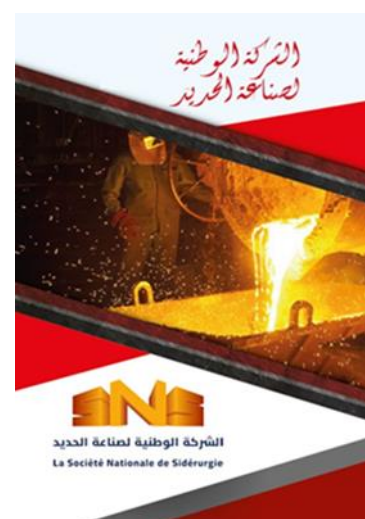
In an interview with APS, Soltani explained that the plant — currently under construction at the mine site — will crush, grind, and dry-screen the extracted raw material before storing and transporting it. He noted that the adopted technologies will enable a recovery rate exceeding 85%.

The project, whose foundation stone was laid by President Abdelmadjid Tebboune in late 2023, is part of Algeria's strategy to enhance the value of its mineral resources by developing the Gara Djebilet mine, one of the largest iron ore deposits in the world, with reserves estimated at 3.5 billion tonnes.

Meanwhile, work is progressing at a rapid pace on the construction of the first iron concentrate production unit, also with a capacity of 4 million tonnes per year, under a partnership between FERAAL (a subsidiary of SONAREM) and Tosyali Algeria. The project is expected to be expanded to reach 10 million tonnes per year of iron concentrate and pellets by 2032.

This facility aims to produce high-grade iron concentrate (63%) while reducing the phosphorus content, a crucial step before producing semi-finished materials for Tosyali's steel complex in Oran.

Soltani also revealed that several major international companies from the United States, India, and China have shown strong interest in investing and cooperating in Algeria's mining sector, particularly at Gara Djebilet. He noted that joint working groups have been established between SONAREM and some of these firms to develop modern methods for phosphorus reduction and accelerate local technical testing, thereby speeding up the project's implementation.



Gulf Area

EMSTEEL Leads the Steel Industry Toward Global Sustainability

The United Arab Emirates has solidified its position as a regional and global leader in the steel industry, supported by national strategies focused on industrial sustainability, production efficiency, and the country's goal of achieving climate neutrality by 2050.

At the forefront of this transformation is the EMSTEEL Group, through its subsidiary Emirates Steel, which has become a key player in driving sustainable growth by developing advanced steel solutions and meeting the growing demand for high-quality steel products used in major strategic projects both within the UAE and abroad. This has further strengthened the UAE's status as a regional and international hub for the steel industry.

The group contributes approximately AED 6.2 billion to Abu Dhabi's GDP and accounts for 10% of the emirate's total non-oil manufacturing sector, while holding a 60% market share of the UAE's steel market.

Strong Performance

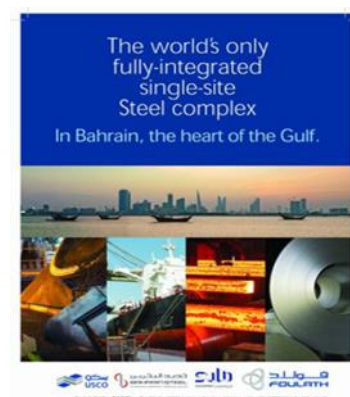
Eng. Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi, CEO of EMSTEEL Group, affirmed that the company delivered a strong performance in the steel sector during the first half of 2025, as sales of finished steel products grew by 24% year-on-year, reaching 1.616 million tonnes. This growth was driven by rising demand and full utilization of production capacity, enabling the company to convert semi-finished products into finished goods that better meet customer needs.

“Al Yamama Steel” Launches First Wind Energy Systems Factory in Yanbu

Under the supervision and support of the Ministry of Energy, Al Yamama Steel Industries inaugurated the commercial production of its Wind Energy Systems Factory at its new headquarters in Yanbu Industrial City, marking a pioneering step in supporting the national transition to clean energy and contributing to the goals of Saudi Vision 2030.

The factory is one of the most advanced facilities specializing in the production of steel towers, with an annual production capacity of 50,000 tons of high-quality towers. These towers reach over 130 meters in height and up to 6 meters in diameter, making them suitable for supporting the latest wind turbines.

The factory features an innovative work environment and is managed efficiently by a specialized team of experts, positioning it as a leading center in the renewable energy sector and contributing to meeting the needs of both local and international markets, according to the Saudi Press Agency (SPA).



World

EU Steel Tariff Hike Sparks Fears of a Major Crisis in the UK Industry

The UK steel industry has warned of what could become the biggest crisis in its history, following the European Union's decision to cut tariff-free import quotas by 47% compared to 2024 and to double import duties on steel exceeding those quotas from 25% to 50%.

Gareth Stace, Director General of the trade association UK Steel, said the sector is facing "the greatest crisis in its modern history," urging the UK government to take urgent action to secure dedicated quotas for British producers under the EU's new system, to prevent severe losses in production and exports.

In a statement, the European Commission said the move responds to demands from workers, producers, and several member states to "provide stronger and more lasting protection for the European steel industry," noting that the new measure will replace the current safeguard regime when it expires in June 2026.

According to Emily Savitch, Head of Industry at RSM UK, the EU's decision poses a significant threat to the British steel sector, highlighting that the EU accounts for around 80% of the UK's steel exports.

The announcement has sparked widespread anger across Britain's industrial and political circles, as the country is already grappling with a sharp decline in steel production, factory closures, and thousands of job losses — while US tariffs of 25% on UK steel exports remain in place.

Turkey's billet imports up 58.1% in January–August 2025

In August this year, Turkey's imports of billet and bloom totaled 378,190 tons, down 16.5% compared to July but up 38.6% year on year, according to preliminary data released by the Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK).

The value of these imports reached \$187.79 million, decreasing by 15.5% compared to the previous month, but increasing by 26.4% year on year.

During the period from January to August, Turkey's imports of billet and bloom amounted to 2.90 million tons, marking a 58.1% increase year on year, while the total value rose by 39% to \$1.45 billion.

In terms of supplying countries, Malaysia ranked first with 699,483 tons, up 121.8% year on year, followed by Russia with 644,300 tons (up 69%) and China with 521,354 tons. Two Arab countries were also among Turkey's top 10 billet suppliers — Oman with 126,452 tons and Algeria with 70,748 tons.



Steel Crisis .. China's Production Ignites a Global Tariff Race

In a world where trade tariffs are rapidly escalating, it's not only steel that's melting — but also the delicate balance of global economies and trade alliances. The metal that once built cities, bridges, and empires has once again found itself at the center of a fierce new battle among the world's largest economies.

Global Production

Global steel production rose by 0.3% year-on-year to 145.3 million tons in August, while output for the first eight months of this year declined by 1.7% to 1.23 billion tons.

China Leads the Way

China continues to dominate the global market, producing over one billion tons last year and accounting for 55% of global steel output from the beginning of this year through the end of August.

Top 10 steel-producing countries

Country	Aug 2025 (Mt)	% change Aug 25/24	Jan-Aug 2025 (Mt)	% change Jan-Aug 25/24
China	77.4	-0.7	671.8	-2.8
India	14.1	13.2	108.9	10.2
United States	7.2	3.2	54.6	1.6
Japan	6.6	-3.4	54.1	-4.5
Russia	5.5	-4.6	46.1	-4.8
South Korea	5.2	-6.1	41.1	-3.5
Türkiye	3.4	7.9	24.9	0.2
Germany	2.6	-10.5	22.4	-11.9
Brazil	2.9	-4.6	22.2	-1.5
Iran	1.6	17.9	19.8	-3.6

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- East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya)
- South Africa (Durban)
- India (Chennai, Kolkata)
- Sri Lanka (Colombo)
- Bangladesh (Dhaka)
- Myanmar (Yangon)
- Thailand (Bangkok)
- Vietnam (Ho Chi Minh City)
- Cambodia (Phnom Penh)
- Laos (Vientiane)
- Philippines (Manila)
- Indonesia (Jakarta)
- Malaysia (Kuala Lumpur)
- Singapore
- Brunei (Bandar Seri Begawan)
- Timor-Leste (Dili)
- Australia (Sydney, Melbourne)
- New Zealand (Auckland)
- South America (Brazil, Chile, Peru)
- Europe (London, Paris, Frankfurt)
- Middle East (Dubai, Riyadh, Doha)
- Africa (Cairo, Lagos, Accra)
- Asia (Singapore, Jakarta, Manila)
- Oceania (Sydney, Melbourne)

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Chinese Dominance

China's massive industrial expansion has upended competitive dynamics, flooding global markets with low-cost steel products in volumes far exceeding global demand. This oversupply has driven many economies to adopt protectionist trade policies, imposing tariffs on steel imports to shield their domestic industries.

European Crisis

The European Commission has doubled import tariffs on steel to 50%, while cutting duty-free import quotas by 47% to 18.3 million tons per year, in an effort to protect the European steel industry — which is operating well below capacity.

Industry Response

Many European steel associations and producers welcomed the move, calling it a major step toward protecting a sector that employs around 300,000 people directly, despite losing nearly 100,000 jobs over the past fifteen years.

Trump's Pressure

The European move came as a direct response to U.S. pressure, after the Trump administration imposed similar 50% tariffs on imported steel. In June, former President Donald Trump stated that the tariffs would “protect the domestic industry, making it stronger than ever before.”

Other Nations Join In

It's not just the U.S. and the EU — Canada is now engaged in a WTO dispute with China after imposing 25% tariffs on Chinese steel products, justifying the move as necessary to protect its domestic industry from cheap imports.

A Fragile Balance

Ultimately, China's steel abundance has proven to be a double-edged sword: on one hand, it has fueled industrial growth worldwide with affordable raw materials; on the other, it has prompted major economies to raise trade barriers in defense of their local markets.

Metal Exchange 12/10/2025.

Commodity	Prices \$	Commodity	Prices \$
Iron ore, 62% Fe – China -\$/t, CFR ex-Australia	104.5 ▲	Brent crude	62.73 ▼
Coki g coal Australia \$/t, FOB	191.1 -	Natural gas	3.11 ▼
Ferrous scrap, HMS 1&2 (80:20) Turkey \$/t, CFR ex-USA	350 ▲	Gold	4,017.00 ▲
Square billet, 125-150 mm CIS \$/t, FOB	430 -	Silver	50.07 ▲
Rebar, 8-32 mm Turkey \$/t, FOB	550 -	Copper	4.48 ▼
Wire rod, 6.5 mm China \$/t, FOB	475 -	Aluminium	2,545.75 ▼
HRC, 3-12 mm China \$/t, FOB	473 -	lead	2,012.00 ▼



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EU Imposes 50% Tariffs on Steel Imports

The European Union has introduced a new package of steel import tariffs aimed at protecting its struggling industry, in a move that mirrors the protectionist policies of former US President Donald Trump.

In a statement released on Tuesday, the European Commission announced that the bloc will impose a 50% tariff on steel imports exceeding the newly reduced quota, which will be cut by around 45% to 18.35 million tonnes per year.

This means that only about 10% of Europe's steel consumption will remain exempt from the new tariffs. EU Industry Commissioner Thierry Breton (or Stéphane Séjourné, per the statement) described the measure as "one of the most restrictive trade actions in Europe's history."

He explained that the tariffs are intended to counter the influx of subsidised Chinese steel products, alongside high energy costs and weak domestic demand, all of which are threatening Europe's traditional industrial base. The move comes as the EU seeks to align its trade policies with the United States, which already applies 50% tariffs on most steel and aluminium imports, as part of a broader effort to coordinate responses to Chinese competition.

The new tariffs—still subject to approval by EU member states and the European Parliament—are expected to significantly impact the UK steel industry, as around two-thirds of British iron and steel exports go to the European Union.

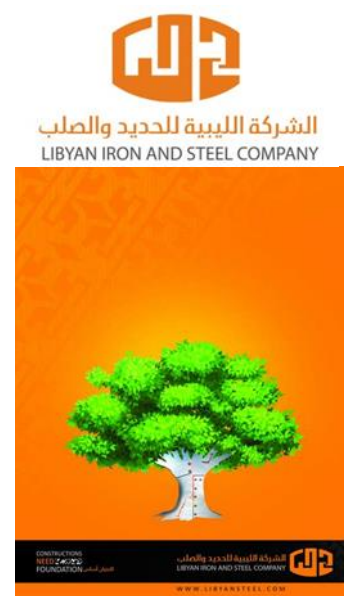
ArcelorMittal Shuts Down Fos-sur-Mer Blast Furnace After Major Fire

On October 8, 2025, a significant fire broke out at ArcelorMittal's Fos-sur-Mer plant, one of France's largest integrated steel facilities. The fire began on two conveyor lines carrying raw materials to the steelmaking shop and quickly spread to nearby structures, according to local reports.

Internal fire brigades, supported by local emergency teams, battled the flames for several hours. While there were no reported casualties, the fire caused major damage to mechanical and electrical systems.

ArcelorMittal confirmed that the fire compromised the load-bearing structures of the conveyors and destroyed the electrical substation, leading to the immediate shutdown of blast furnace No. 2. The company stated that the furnace would remain offline for at least two days, though the closure may be extended depending on the results of a technical assessment. The steelmaking shop is vital to the plant's production chain, supplying slabs for downstream rolling and finishing lines. Its closure has disrupted overall production. Currently, the plant is relying on existing slab reserves, which could be depleted quickly if repairs take longer than expected.

The incident underscores the critical importance of maintaining infrastructure in integrated steel plants and the challenges of ensuring continuous production during unforeseen emergencies. ArcelorMittal is assessing the damage and preparing repair plans to resume operations while minimizing impacts on its supply chain.



Technology

SMS Group to supply advanced tube production line to Maruichi in Japan

Maruichi Stainless Tube Co. Ltd., a leading Japanese stainless steel tube manufacturer, has commissioned SMS group to supply a complete production line for extruded stainless steel tubes at a new greenfield plant in Shimonoseki, Japan. SMS will provide heating systems, a forming tube extrusion press, and automation technology.

The fully electrified heating systems include preheating, intermediate heating before perforation, and final heating before extrusion. Core forming units feature an expansion press and a next-generation horizontal tube extrusion press with a water quench tank. The extrusion force will increase from 20 to 50 meganewtons, expanding production dimensions.

The plant will use a highly automated system to improve productivity, reduce human error, and ensure consistent quality. SMS's MIDIS (Management Information Diagnostic Indication System) production control system will enable real-time monitoring, data analysis, and process optimization. Construction of the factory is set to finish at the end of 2026, with equipment installation and production start-up planned in fiscal 2027 after JIS certification. SMS emphasized the project's focus on innovation and efficiency.

SMS group



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