

PRESS RELEASE

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LIBERTY Ostrava supplies steel for the construction of a bridge in Georgia

LIBERTY Ostrava has completed a major contract worth tens of millions of crowns involving production of 900 tonnes of weathering steel in the form of equal angles. They are now being delivered to Georgia where they will be used for the construction of a bridge.

"The biggest strength of weathering steel is its high corrosion resistance. The steel can be used for structures with designed life of up to 100 years without the need for any corrosion protection of the surface," said Zdeněk Vašek, head of the development of high added value products at LIBERTY Ostrava.

The fundamental property of weathering steel is enhanced resistance to atmospheric corrosion. Steel gradually forms a layer of oxides (patina) on its surface, which significantly slows down the corrosion of the material. Due to its properties, it requires minimal maintenance. Gradually, the colour of the steel changes to orange, light brown and finally to dark brown, giving the steel structures a unique look. Weathering steel is especially destined for structures of bridges and high voltage towers or used as cladding.

"The use of weathering steel is advantageous from both the economic and environmental aspects. The steel excels in long life and minimum maintenance requirement. And naturally, it is 100 per cent recyclable," added Gunjan Choudhary, Director Sales Longs and Tubes at LIBERTY Ostrava.

LIBERTY Ostrava produces weathering steel in the continuous casters and subsequently the heavy- and the medium-section rolling mills and the hot-strip mill. The company produces and supplies this type of steel in the form of merchant bars, angles, flat bars, sheets and strips.

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LIBERTY Ostrava is an integrated steel business with an annual production capacity of approximately 3.6 million tonnes per annum serving primarily construction, machinery and oil & gas industries. The company is a domestic leader in the manufacture of road barriers and tubes. In addition to the Czech market, it supplies its products to more than 40 countries around the world. Together with its subsidiaries in Ostrava, the company has 6,000 employees. The company manufactures its products with a minimum possible environmental footprint. The mill is part of LIBERTY Steel Group.

LIBERTY Steel Group is part of GFG Alliance, a collection of global businesses and investments owned by Sanjeev Gupta and his family. The Alliance is structured into three core industrial pillars: LIBERTY Steel Group, ALVANCE Aluminium Group and SIMEC Energy Group, independent of each other yet united through shared values and a purpose to create a sustainable future for industry and society. GFG Alliance employs c.35,000 people, across 30 countries and has revenues of >USD \$20bn.

www.libertyostrava.cz

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