

PRESS RELEASE

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LIBERTY Ostrava's tubular products awarded environmental certification

LIBERTY Ostrava's tubular plant has been awarded a special environmental certificate, an Environmental Product Declarations (EPD), for the seamless and welded pipes it produces for the oil and gas, water, pressure vessels and construction industries. The EPD, which has been prepared in cooperation with the Technical and Test Institute for Construction Pilsen and verified by Electrotechnical Test Institute Prague, highlights Ostrava's long-term approach to environmentally responsible production.

EPDs, which are an independently verified and registered document following a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) of the environmental impact of products, are part of a global programme which operates in accordance with ISO 14025 and European standard EN 15804. LIBERTY Ostrava launched an LCA review of its products at the Technical and Test Institute for Construction Pilsen last year following growing encouragement from Scandinavian and German customers.

Michal Kolář, head of the quality management department at the tubular plant of LIBERTY Ostrava said: *"The certification company auditors analyzed all our production inputs and outputs, their characteristics, quantity and environmental impacts, and even the product disposal process at the end of its life cycle for all phases of a tube's production from the coke ovens all the way to the tube plant. The fact that we have obtained the EPD and it has been verified proves our responsible approach to the environment through the whole production cycle at LIBERTY Ostrava."*

The Ostrava steelworks has been producing pipes and tubes using two Stiefel Mills, on the St 4-10 seamless line since 1949 and on the St 140 mm seamless line since 1960, and at the tube welding shop. It supplies customers all over the world with seamless and welded pipes which are used for the extraction and subsequent transport of liquids and gases, for various pressure vessels, as well as for construction purposes.

Obtaining an accredited EPD is the result of a long-term, responsible environmental approach at LIBERTY Ostrava, supported by the continuous monitoring of the impacts of its production on the environment. The EPD outlines LIBERTY Ostrava's position to the environment and proves that it has adequate data on the environmental footprint of its products. The EPD provides quantified environmental overviews of the construction product on a scientific basis and provides customers with comprehensive product information which can be used in their own life cycle assessments of buildings and other structures.

The EPD, including its verification in Czech and English, is available on the LIBERTY Ostrava website and on the website of the Czech Environmental Information Agency (CENIA).

Note to editors:

Barbora Černá Dvořáková Head of Communications LIBERTY Ostrava	+420 606 774 346	barbora.cerna- dvorakova@libertysteelgroup.com
Paddy Toyne-Sewell Head of Communications - Europe GFG Alliance	+44 (0) 7767 498 195	Patrick.toyne-sewell@gfgalliance.com

LIBERTY Ostrava is an integrated steel company with an annual production capacity of 3.6 million tons of steel, which is used mainly in the construction, engineering and petrochemical industries. It is a domestic leader in the production of road safety 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, it has 6,000 employees. Thanks to above-standard greening, it manufactures its products with the least possible impact on the environment. The mill belongs to the LIBERTY Steel Group.

LIBERTY Steel Group is part of the global GFG Alliance owned by Sanjeev Gupta and his family. The GFG Alliance has three independent industry brands: LIBERTY Steel Group, the ALVANCE Aluminum Group and SIMEC Energy Group which share the same values and strive for a long-term sustainable future for industry and society. The GFG Alliance operates in 30 countries, with a total of 35,000 employees and a turnover of over \$ 20 billion.

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