



# Novolipetsk Steel (NLMK) – Duferco Joint Venture

November 2006

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#### Transaction summary

- NLMK-Duferco JV profile
- Transaction rationale and synergies
- NLMK-Duferco JV development strategy



### **Transaction summary**

#### Novolipetsk Steel (NLMK) and Duferco Group (Duferco) have agreed to establish a

Joint Venture (JV) to acquire certain steel production facilities currently owned by Duferco in Western Europe and the USA.

#### NLMK acquires 50% interest in the JV for approx. USD 805 mln

- Source of financing: NLMK's existing cash funds
- Duferco controls remaining 50% in the JV
- JV includes 1 steel plant and 5 rolling mills with total finished steel output in 2006 of 4.5 mln tonnes and a network of service centers
- Transaction is expected to be completed by the end of 2006
- Estimated synergy effect approx. USD 330 mln



#### The main companies to be acquired by the JV include:

INDUSTRIAL GROUP	EQUITY
Duferco Clabecq S.A. (Belgium)	99.7%
Duferco La Louvière S.A. (Belgium)	87.9%
Duferco Coating S.A.S. (France)	90.6%
Acciaierie Grigoli S.p.a. (Italy)	75%
Carsid S.A. (Belgium)	100%
Duferco Farrell Corp. (USA)	100%

#### DISTRIBUTION GROUP

► SAFEF Thionville S.A.S.	(France)	100%
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- SAFEF Belgique S.A. (Belgium) 100%
- Duferco France S.A. (France) 100%
- New Steel S.N.C. (France) 100%
- Duferco Profil Batiment S.N.C. (France) 100%
- Duferco Aciers S.A. (France) 99.9%
- Jemappes Steel Center S.A. (Belgium) 100%
- Manage Steel Center S.A. (Belgium) 50.1%
- Rosso Steel AS (Czech Republic) 50.0%





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# Joint Venture production facilities profile (1)

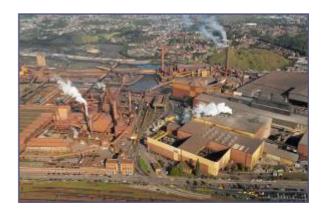
#### Duferco La Louvière S.A. (rolling mill)

- Flat products producer controlled by Duferco since 1999
- Production capacity
  - Hot rolled coils: 2.0 mln TPY
  - ✤ Cold rolled coils: 1.6 mln TPY
  - Wire rod: 0.36 mln TPY
- Finished steel production in FY2006\*: 2.1 mln tonnes
- Employees: 1508
- Location: La Louvière, Belgium

#### Carsid S.A. (steel mill)

- Semi-finished steel producer located in Belgium controlled by Duferco since 2004
- Production capacity
  - Slabs: 2.1 mln TPY
- Slab production in FY2006\*: 1.85 mln tonnes
- Employees: 1250
- Location: Marcinelle, Belgium







# Joint Venture production facilities profile (2)

#### Duferco Clabecq S.A. (plate mill)

- Thick plates producer controlled by Duferco since 1997
- Rolling capacity: 0.8 mln TPY
- Plate production in FY2006\*: 0.6 mln tonnes
- Employees: 542
- Location: Ittre, Belgium

#### Duferco Coating S.A.S. (cold rolling mills)

- Coated steel producer controlled by Duferco since 2003 comprising two production units – Sorral and Beautor
- Employees: 520
- Location: Strasbourg and Beautor, France
- Duferco Coating Sorral
  - Rolling capacity
    - Hot dip galvanized steel: 0.32 mln TPY
    - Pre-painted steel: 0.12 mln TPY
  - Finished steel production in FY2006\*: 0.27 mln tonnes
- Duferco Coating Beautor
  - ✤ Rolling capacity
    - Cold-rolled steel: 0.35 mln TPY
    - Electrogalvanized steel: 0.33 mln TPY
  - Finished steel production in FY2006\*: 0.24 mln tonnes







# Joint Venture production facilities profile (3)

#### Duferco Farrell Corp. (rolling mill)

- Flat products producer controlled by Duferco since 1999
- Rolling capacity:
  - Hot-rolled coils: 1.8 mln TPY
  - ✤ Cold rolled coils: 0.8 mln TPY
- Finished steel production FY2006\*: 1.6 mln tonnes
- Employees: 568
- Location: Farrell, PA, USA

#### Acciaierie Grigoli S.p.a. (heavy plate mill)

- Heavy plates and forging ingots producer controlled by Duferco since 2005
- Production capacity:
  - Heavy plates: 0.6 mln TPY
- Finished steel production in FY2006\*: 0.15 mln tonnes
- Employees: 135
- Location: Verona, Italy







# Joint Venture distribution facilities

#### Duferco Transformation Europe S.A. (DTE)

- Duferco Transformation Europe is wholly owned JV subsidiary comprising a network of service centers in the EU
- DTE consists of 9 companies located in Belgium, France and Czech Republic engaged in the distribution of products manufactured by JV companies and third parties
- Main equipment: slitting, cutting to length, blanking, profiling, laser cutting, pressing, folding lines
- Total product flow in FY2006\*: approx. 1.0 mln tonnes
   (85% group products, 15% external products)
- Employees: 473







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### **Transaction rationale**

- Production profiles make NLMK and Duferco natural partners
  - NLMK has excess upstream (liquid steel) capacity
  - Duferco lacks upstream capacity and has excess rolling capacity
- Strategies of NLMK and Duferco are complementary
  - NLMK aims to expand its upstream platform increasing production of low cost high quality slabs and to re-roll them in its core markets, including Europe and USA



Duferco aims to expand its rolling capacity increasing production of high value-added steel grades

#### NLMK and Duferco already enjoy substantial trade volumes

- During the last 10 years total trade turnover between NLMK and Duferco exceeded USD 1.5 bln in direct supplies (3.5 mln tonnes) and trading (2.8 mln tonnes)
- In the first 10 months of 2006 NLMK sales to Duferco reached USD 165 mln (supplies of 0.5 mln. tonnes of slabs).





### JV companies – slab/rolling balance

#### Thousand tonnes, FY2006\*

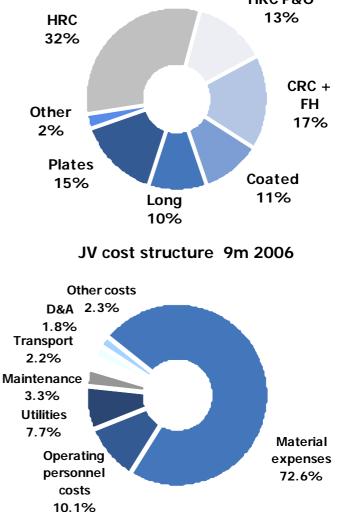
JV FINISHED STEEL PRODUCTION		INTERNAL SLAB PRODUCTION	
DUFERCO LA LOUVIERE+COATING	2 395	CARSID	1 800
DUFERCO CLABECQ	600	DUFERCO LA LOUVIERE	250
DUFERCO FARRELL	1 430	ACCIAIERIE GRIGOLI	50
ACCIAIERIE GRIGOLI	145		
TOTAL JV		TOTAL JV	
FINISHED STEEL PRODUCTION	4 560	SLAB PRODUCTION	2 100
incl. FLAT PRODUCTS	3 980		
TOTAL JV SLAB CONSUMPTION (incl. yield)	4 420	PURCHASED SLABS	2 320



# Joint Venture configuration advantages

- Well-diversified product portfolio with strong emphasis on value added flat products
- Over 70% of JV costs are material expenses with slabs purchasing costs being the main driver
- Currently JV meets nearly 48% of its slab requirements internally, the rest is purchased from third parties
- NLMK will meet increasing JV requirements in slabs to support current production and planned growth in flat steel output

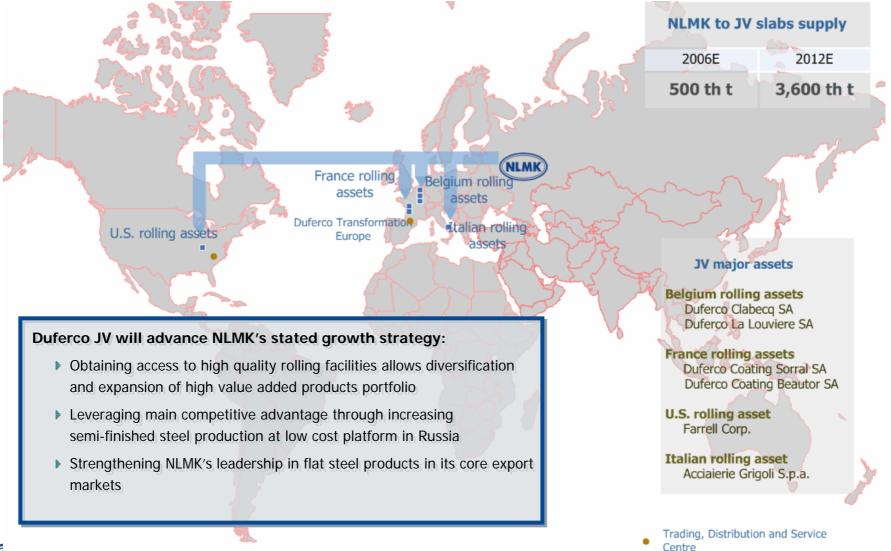
### JV product mix 2006 (mln tonnes) HRC P&O





# Joint Venture supply flow

Duferco JV is in line with NLMK's stated 'Sustainable Growth Strategy 2007-2011'





# Preliminary synergies analysis

#### Duferco JV synergy effect is estimated at USD 55 mln per year starting 2010. Total cumulative

#### synergy effect is estimated at USD 330 mln

Industrial configuration (incl. slab synergies)	NLMK plans to increase slabs supply to the JV rolling facilities from 1.2 mln tonnes in 2007 to 3.6 mln tonnes in 2012
\$262 mln	This will support output growth and guarantee balanced utilization of JV production facilities
Plate market synergies	<ul> <li>Optimization of product mix and logistics between DanSteel, Duferco Clabecq and Acciaierie Grigoli</li> </ul>
\$51 mln	<ul> <li>Commercial synergies due to market share increase</li> </ul>
Commercial and marketing synergies <b>\$17 min</b>	<ul> <li>Expanding customer reach and market penetration through utilizing JV service centers network and distribution capabilities in Europe and the US</li> <li>Achieving proximity to customers in the largest and most stable export markets</li> </ul>
Diversification	<ul> <li>Decreasing earnings sensitivity to steel prices fluctuations due to regional and product diversification</li> <li>Strengthening market share in value added flat products</li> </ul>
R&D synergies	<ul> <li>Cost savings resulting from optimization of R&amp;D and new product development efforts (mainly in flat products and plates)</li> </ul>
8	

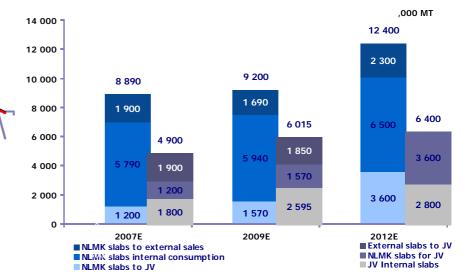
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# Semi-finished product strategy

- Volatility of finished steel sales is lower than that of slabs on a long-term basis
- Global slab supply is expected to grow faster than finished product
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the NLMK Technical Upgrading Program is focused on increasing production of slabs for JV purposes
- NLMK slab supply to JV companies will grow to 3.6 mln TPY by 2012

NLMK-JV COOPERATION



Standard deviation to 60% average period price ratio: slab 42.7% 50% HR 38.1% 40% CR 33.9% 30% 20% 10% 0% -10% -20% -30% -40% 2001Q1 2001Q4 200401 200404 200503 200602 2002Q3 2003Q2 Slab — HR coil -CR coil

Steel price volatility \*



USD/t

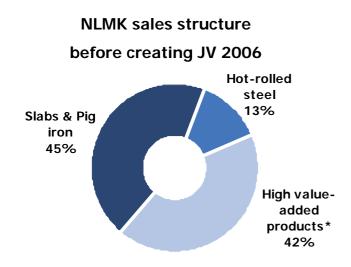
\* Slab – CIS export, FOB Baltic/Black Sea port, coils – nominal period average base prices, fob parity point EU. Source: CRU. MB

# High value-added product strategy

Obtaining access to high quality rolling production facilities in core markets

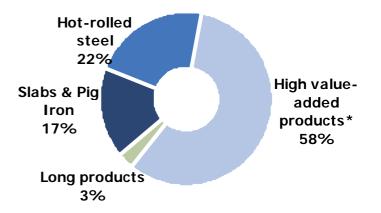
Development of high value-added product portfolio that results in the reduction of earnings sensitivity to steel cycle Per cent share of high value-added steel\*, %





NLMK+JV sales structure in

2012 after investment program



Note:





# **Novolipetsk Steel (NLMK)**

