



ACME METALS HIRES BANKERS TRUST TO ADMINISTER DEFINED BENEFIT PLAN

CHICAGO, May 13 /PRNewswire/ -- Acme Metals (Nasdaq-NNM: ACME), a leading manufacturer and marketer of steel and steel fabricated products, has appointed Bankers Trust as trustee and custodian of Acme's \$187 million defined benefit plan. In addition to trustee and custodial services, Bankers Trust will also provide Acme with performance measurement and benefit payment services.

Bankers Trust will administer benefit payments for approximately 2,000 Acme retirees through the Bank's Retiree Service Center in Nashville. The Center's Voice Response System will allow retirees to access information about their accounts. Acme will also utilize the Bank's fully integrated on-line performance measurement and reporting system, BT-World.

"We chose to expand our existing relationship with Bankers Trust to include trustee, custodial, and other related defined benefit services because of their proven technology and superior performance analytics," said Jim Hoekwater, Treasurer of Acme Metals. "In addition, we feel confident that Bankers Trust will be able to meet the broadening needs of Acme Metals in the future in the area of employee benefits."

"We are pleased to have the opportunity to enhance Acme's relationship with Bankers Trust by providing traditional custodial and trustee services along with sophisticated reporting, performance measurement, and other customized trust services," said Paul McCloskey, Vice President and head of the Chicago area retirement services effort at Bankers Trust.

Acme Metals, based in Riverdale, Illinois, is a fully integrated manufacturer and marketer of steel, steel strapping and steel strapping tools, steel tubing and automotive and light truck jacks. The Company markets its steel products to customers in the industrial equipment, automotive, agricultural, pipe and tube, and industrial fasteners industries. Bankers Trust is a leader in master trust/custody services, defined contribution plan administration and education, as well as tax-exempt investment management. For clients worldwide, BT administers \$1.5 trillion in custodial assets and provides performance measurement services for 12,500 portfolios.