



## **Acme Steel Decommissions Primary Mill and Rolling Mill as Planned**

RIVERDALE, Ill., June 9 /PRNewswire/ -- Acme Metals Incorporated (NYSE: AMI) announced today that its subsidiary, Acme Steel Company, has ceased operation at its ingot-based primary and hot strip mills as planned, and has shifted all production to its new, more efficient, continuous thin slab caster and wide hot strip mill. Acme Steel's new plant is the first in the world to integrate the high-quality/low-cost benefits of traditional liquid steelmaking techniques with the efficiencies of state-of-the-art thin slab and rolling technology.

"The shuttering of the older operations is a significant step in beginning to recognize increased sales and anticipated cost savings," commented Steve Bennett, CEO and president of Acme Metals Incorporated. "Our priority continues to be to bring the new plant up to full production as quickly as possible to achieve the total potential benefits in cost reductions and new market opportunities. Our challenge remains to continue the development and production of all our various steel grades on a consistent basis and in larger volumes. We are confident of our ability to do this and look forward to the future opportunities created by our expanded capabilities."

Acme Metals Incorporated, through its operating subsidiaries, is a fully integrated producer of steel, steel strapping and strapping products, welded steel tubing, and auto and light truck jacks. Its common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol AMI and on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol AMK.

SOURCE Acme Metals Incorporated

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