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Corus Strip Products UK completes implementation of Broner Planning and Scheduling Solution

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Watfo'rd UK, 17th September 2007. Broner Metals Solutions, the world's leading provider of supply chain planning, scheduling and manufacturing execution systems, specifically for the Metals Industry, has announced that Corus Strip Products UK has successfully completed the implementation of Broner Planning & Scheduling solutions, that will enable Corus to achieve major improvements to business performance and flexibility.

The Broner solutions have been implemented at the Port Talbot and Llanwern plants in South Wales. Corus now has a state-of-the-art decision support capability, that allows them to respond better to changing business needs and priorities, and to manage the business according to the more aggressive KPIs (Key Performance Indicators) demanded by today's competitive marketplace. These are directed in particular, at improving on-time delivery.

The project was managed by a dedicated team from both Corus and Broner. The new solution provides closer working between the planning functions, and the scheduling of the hot mill, cold mill and finishing lines, as well as new editing capabilities that will improve responsiveness to change. Hot connect functionality which was sponsored by Corus and developed jointly, has also significantly increased the energy savings made at the Port Talbot plant.

A key factor in delivering success, was the total commitment of all levels of Corus management and staff, to a major culture change to move from a 'tonnes-based' approach to focus on 'schedule adherence' and customer needs.

Shirley Solomon, Future Systems Landscape Manager at Corus Strip Products UK, said, "This was a high profile and demanding project. The Broner solutions provided the tools that were essential to support the major change in culture focussing on schedule adherence. The project is already delivering significant improvements to operational KPIs.

Most important is on-time delivery, where Broner is helping us to move towards our goal of 'Best-in-Class' customer service. "

About Corus

Corus is an international company, providing steel and aluminium products and services to customers worldwide. With an annual turnover of over £9 billion, the company is comprised of four Divisions, Strip Products, Long Products and Distribution & Building Systems.

Corus Strip Products UK is part of the Strip Products Division and produces Hot rolled steel strip and cold rolled and metallic coated steel.

Corus is a subsidiary of Tata Steel, the world's fifth largest and second most global steel producer. With a combined presence in nearly 50 countries, including Corus, Tata Steel has 84,000 employees across five continents and a pro forma crude steel production of 27 million tonnes in 2007.

About Broner Metals Solutions

Broner Metals Solutions specialises entirely in delivering value to the Steel and Aluminium industries. We provide Supply Chain Planning, Scheduling and Manufacturing Execution Systems and Consultancy, which improve shareholder value, through: reduced inventory; shorter manufacturing lead times; increased throughput; improved delivery performance

and better customer service.

All Broner Metals Solutions products have been developed specifically for the Metals industry. Our Product range includes Demand Management, Sales and Operation Planning, Availability To Promise, Capability To Promise, Advanced Planning and Scheduling and Manufacturing Execution solutions.

The Broner Metals Solutions team has 30 years experience in improving the performance of metals supply chains worldwide. We are the global corporate standard supplier of production scheduling and MES solutions to the world's largest steel company, ArcelorMittal, as well as supplying metals companies such as Baosteel, Dofasco, Cosipa, CSN, Gerdau, Nippon Steel, Norandal, OMK, Taiyuan Steel (TISCO), TMK and Usiminas.

Broner Metals Solutions is part of Hyperion Systems Engineering Ltd.

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