

GOVERNMENT TO LEND AIRBUS £340M

The UK government is to give plane manufacturer Airbus up to £340m in loans for new projects, which is expected to secure 5,000 jobs.

The investment, announced by Business Secretary Lord Mandelson on a visit to Airbus, will be in the design and development of the A350.

It was welcomed by unions as a way of sustaining jobs at plants at Filton in Bristol and Broughton in North Wales.

The investment is smaller than those made by France and Germany in the A350.

France and Germany, the UK's partners in the project have promised to invest 1.4bn euros (\$2bn; £1.2bn) and 1.1bn euros respectively. [Details](#)

FIRM PROTESTS AT TITANIUM MINING DELAYS

The firm planning to mine titanium in Kwale has protested over delays in clearing it to start operations. Tiomin Resources Incorporation says there are "outstanding issues" that need to be resolved.

Tiomin has long accused the government of dilly-dallying in giving it access to land where the mining will take place.

It says the government had failed to move farmers from Kwale, which is believed to have more than 3.2 billion tonnes of the mineral or 14 per cent of the world's total titanium resources.

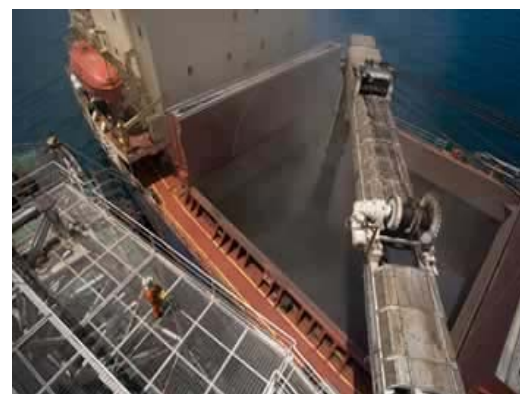
This, according to the company vice-president Jim O'Neill, has delayed the signing of a \$25 million (Sh1.9 billion) deal with a Chinese conglomerate, the Jinchuan Group.

The deal would have given Jinchuan a 70 per cent stake in the Kwale Mineral Sands site. [Details](#)

KENMARE RESOURCES CROSSES THE LINE IN THE SAND

For many shareholders in Kenmare Resources it's been a long, long haul. But after a number of false starts, it is beginning to look as if the company's 100% owned flagship project Moma is at last heading for full production, having crossed the operational breakeven line in May.

The Moma Titanium Minerals Mine in northern Mozambique is exploiting one of the largest mineral sands projects in the world. At a capital cost of over \$500 million, Moma has not been cheap – although it has come in at around half the cost of Rio Tinto's similar QMM project in Madagascar. Nor has it been trouble free. Whilst mining commenced in April 2007, and first shipments from Moma commenced in December 2007, on-going plant problems at all levels - originally described by Chairman Charles Carvill as "teething problems" - have bedevilled the project.



Turnkey contractors, working under a fixed price contract, delivered a mine that simply wasn't capable of handling the required throughput in a number of key areas, a matter which was confirmed - after recurrent problems during the preceding year - by a series of performance tests carried out in November last year under independent supervision. Since then, it has taken Kenmare many months, working with the contractors, to ensure that all plant operations and installations are capable of meeting their production targets. [Details](#)

TITANIUM PLANT TO RESUME PRODUCTION IN TWO YEARS

The Rs 2000 crore integrated titanium plant proposed to be set up near Chhatrapur in south Orissa's Ganjam district is expected to resume production in the next two years.

The plant is being set up by the Titanium Products Private Limited (TPPL), a joint venture company between Kolkata-based Saraf Agencies and the Russian government. [Details](#)

TITANIUM BRIDGE CONTEST ANNOUNCED

The University of Akron has teamed with the Defense Metals Technology centre in North Canton, Ohio, to sponsor a design contest for an all-titanium pedestrian bridge that will connect two parts of The Akron campus. Using titanium, to build a bridge would be a first, according to metal experts, who say that this project is an expensive undertaking [Details](#) [Details](#)

RTI TITANIUM SPONGE PLANT CANCELLATION VIEW GROWS

The chance for further reversal of the domestic titanium industry's sponge production build up appeared to grow this week amid indications that RTI International Metals Inc. is moving closer to possible cancellation of its planned greenfield plant. [Details](#)

TZMI PUBLISHES TITANIUM ANALYSIS

TZMI has just released its 17th edition of Mineral Sands Annual Review which provides an analysis of the titanium and zircon industry's performance during 2008 plus a view on the short to medium term outlook. The impact of the global economic crisis which took hold during the fourth quarter of 2008 has been dramatic, with virtually no industry left untouched. An entire chapter has been devoted to discussing the crisis and the potential impact that it may have on the industry. [Details](#)

VSMPO-AVISMA POSTPONES TITANIUM EXPANSION

Russia's VSMPO-Avisma, the world's largest titanium producer, has postponed a major increase in production until 2014, two years later than planned, due to the financial crisis, a company official said. Looking beyond the corporate-speak however, is the massive upset to titanium draw-down plans caused by the Airbus A350 and Boeing 787 delays. [Details](#)

PERRYMAN CO. COMPLETES TITANIUM INTEGRATION PROJECT

Perryman Co. has completed its integration project at its California Technology Park site with the installation of a \$40 million titanium breakdown facility.

The Houston-based company said in a press release that installation of the breakdown equipment on the 40-acre campus, completes the final phase of its expansion and vertical integration strategy that began four years ago, allowing it to be self-sufficient from melt to finished products.

"From the start, our goal was to meet our customers' needs by providing a steady, consistent and reliable supply of quality titanium products regardless of market conditions," said Frank Perryman, president and chief executive officer of Perryman Co.

With the completion of the breakdown facility, Perryman Co. is now able to convert ingots up to 32 inches in diameter. The facility has the capability to produce various sizes and configurations of titanium products. [Details](#)

DMG AUSTRALIA'S UNIVERSAL MILLING MACHINES AID STONEGLASS IN TITANIUM MACHINING

DMG Australia says its DMU 50 and DMU 50 EVO universal milling machines are being used by Stoneglass Industries to machine titanium used in dental implant systems.

Stoneglass Industries uses four of DMG Australia's Deckel Maho manufactured DMU machines in Australia, and five in America.

According to Stoneglass Industries, the sales support provided by DMG Australia was instrumental to its choice. After a few years of research and development, Stoneglass Industries started milling titanium in Australia in 2008. [Details](#)

TIMET REPORTS SECOND QUARTER 2009 RESULTS

Titanium Metals Corporation reported net income attributable to common stockholders of \$8.6 million, or \$0.05 per diluted share, for the quarter ended June 30, 2009, compared to \$47.3 million, or \$0.26 per diluted share, for the quarter ended June 30, 2008.

The Company's net sales were \$205.7 million for the second quarter of 2009 compared to \$297.3 million for the second quarter of 2008, a decrease of 31% principally resulting from lower volumes and average selling prices. Average selling prices are lower due to competitive pricing pressures resulting from lower demand for titanium products and declines in raw material costs, primarily titanium scrap, which have contributed to lower selling prices for certain products under long-term customer agreements, in part due to raw material indexed pricing adjustments included in certain of these agreements [Details](#)