

HIGH DUTIES SEE CENTRAL VIETNAM PROVINCE EXPORT RAW TITANIUM

Titanium is being exported raw from the south central province of Binh Dinh as local firms are discouraged by the cost for processing and the high duties on processed titanium.

Binh Dinh is home to six factories designed to process 179,000 tons of titanium a year but most of the 620,000 tons exploited in the province every year have been sold in its raw form to foreign businesses.

Local processors said it would be very difficult to find customers for refined titanium, like titanium 85 percent or more, because it is taxed 8 percent under a 2009 decree on export duties relating to natural minerals and other substances.

Given the investment in their factories including power and production lines, the processors said they lost VND882,000 (US\$48) on every ton of fine titanium exported. So they have chosen to operate slowly and tried to export raw titanium instead. Among titanium developers in the area is the Saigon-Nhon Hoi Industrial Zone Joint Stock Company, which allowed to exploit titanium from an area of 630 hectares where the company has been permitted to build an economic zone.

This has raised public concern that some firms might register some real estate projects only to earn money from titanium and leave their projects untouched once it has been exploited. [Details](#)



SRI LANKA MINERAL SANDS EYED BY INDIAN STATE FIRMS:REPORT

India is looking to buy more rutile and ilmenite mineral sands from Sri Lanka, a media report said quoting Kerala state industries minister Elamaram Kareem.

Sri Lanka's *The Sunday Times* newspaper in a Kerala dateline report said two state-run firms Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd and Travancore Titanium Products Ltd was looking to import more mineral sands from Sri Lanka.

The newspaper report said there was not enough ilmenite to feed the full capacity of the Titanium plant.

[Details](#)

TITANIUM MINING COMPANY DEBUTS

Sai Gon-Quy Nhon Mining Co. (SQC) listed 100 million shares on the Ha Noi Stock Exchange, becoming the 248th code and the fifth mining company listed on the capital city's bourse. The company is a member of the Sai Gon Invest Group (SGI) and International Titanium Associates, founded in 2006, specialising in titanium ore exploitation and processing, and infrastructure development for titanium processing. The first phase of the company's titanium slag plant in Phu My District in the central province of Binh Dinh began operations in July with an annual capacity of 60,000 tons of titanium slag and 30,000 tons of cast iron.

AEROSPACE TITANIUM SURCHARGE ON RISE FOR FIRST TIME IN OVER TWO YEARS

For the first time in more than two years, the raw material surcharge on standard aerospace titanium is rising.

The Allvac unit of Allegheny Technologies (ATI) informed customers that its first-quarter charge on 6 aluminum/4 vanadium bar has risen 13 percent to \$3.92 per pound from \$3.47 per pound in the fourth quarter last year. Monroe, North Carolina based Allvac is considered a major producer of bar. [Details](#)

BOMBARDIER ADDS AMARI AS SUPPLIER

Global metal distributor Amari Aerospace has recently been added to Bombardier Aerospace's list of approved suppliers, after being granted approval by Bombardier's Belfast operation. Having made further investment at their Southampton facility in processing and test equipment. [Details](#)

WIND POWER PROJECTS OVERLAP WITH TITANIUM MINES

According to Binh Thuan's Department of Industry and Trade, the government of Binh Thuan Province has decided to suspend the licensing of new wind power development projects because many of the potential areas for wind power development overlap on titanium mines. Dinh Huy Hiep, vice director of the department, stated that, although there was high potential for developing wind power in the province, the province had to limit new wind power projects because the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment was still surveying titanium mines in the province. He said many sites with high green energy development potential had been assessed to hold large reserves of titanium.

The province has already approved 12 wind power projects with total electricity capacity of some 1500MW. Meanwhile, total wind power potential in Binh Thuan have been forecast at 4000MW, so there is much room for new investors. Mr Hiep said that with any site having potentials of both wind power and titanium, the province would ask the government to give priority to wind power projects with a duration of 50 years, and after that the land would be returned for titanium extraction. Titanium reserves in Binh Thuan are estimated at around 500 million tonnes. If the annual extraction output is 2.5 million tonnes of crude titanium, then it will take some 200 years to get all the titanium. [Details](#)

ALLEGHENY TECHNOLOGIES BEGINS PRODUCING TITANIUM

Two and a half years after it was announced and 19 months after it broke ground, Allegheny Technologies USD 460 million facility in Rowley, Utah, US will begin producing titanium sponge immediately. Market conditions slowed the construction timetable and start of production at the plant — originally planned for the end of 2008. The company hired the majority of its 100 employees in the third quarter of 2009 and has spent the past three months training them for specific technical assignments. [Details](#)

PANZHUIHUA STEEL ACHIEVES TITANIUM RECOVERY TARGETS

According to sources from the department of Panzhihua Iron & Steel Corporation "We have made an output target of 380,000 tonnes of Titanium concentrate this year based on the functioning of the expanded and improved Ilmenite Separating Project, which came with technology breakthroughs even across the world in separating and recycling coarse ilmenite and tiny particle ilmenite". That means the mill's leading status in Titanium resource recovery technology over the globe has been cemented. As learned, the city Panzhihua where the steel mill is based abounds in Titanium resource, but the mill has always been bothering about the development and utilization of its own low grade resource. It has also become a crux of the world in this field. [Details](#)

KENMARE AIMS TO DOUBLE TITANIUM PRODUCTION AT MOMA, MOZAMBIQUE

Kenmare Resources aims to double production at its Moma titanium project in Mozambique. Kenmare MD Michael Carvill told the Reuters news agency that the company is currently working towards expanding on the 700,000 tonnes of ilmenite expected to be produced from Moma this year. According to Carvil, the titanium market is facing a global supply shortage from 2011 onwards, and Kenmare intends to ramp-up production in Mozambique to plug the gap. [Details](#)

ITA SEEKS PAPERS FOR TITANIUM 2010 CONFERENCE

The International Titanium Association (ITA) has issued a "call for papers" to be presented at the 26th Annual Titanium Conference and Exhibition, which will be held 3-6 October at the Gaylord Palms Hotel and Convention Center, Kissimmee, Florida.

The ITA is seeking papers that address the latest technical, marketing, business and application trends driving the international titanium industry. Those submitting papers should gear their presentations to titanium suppliers, users and members of the academic/research community.

Topics to be considered for conference presentations by the ITA will include trends for demand and supply; manufacturing and part-design innovations (powder metallurgy; casting and forging); business trends for key markets (aerospace, automotive, medical, consumer and industrial); global trade (sourcing of materials, concerns regarding transportation and logistics, establishing business relationships in new markets); and financial outlooks that will affect the titanium business in the near term.

The deadline to submit papers for TITANIUM 2010 is March 1. A presentation abstract of no more than 500 words should be sent to the ITA via e-mail at: conference@titanium.org. The ITA will notify those papers selected by April 1. [Details](#)
