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ESSAR STEEL ALGOMA COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BACKGROUND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 1, 2010

The following information is provided as background to the upcoming collective bargaining negotiations at Essar Steel Algoma Inc. (ESAI).

- Bargaining Units:** ESAI has two bargaining units both represented by the United Steelworkers.
USW 2724 represents certain salaried ESAI employees.
USW 2251 represents hourly ESAI employees.
- Expiry Dates:** The current collective agreements for USW 2724 and USW 2251 both expire on July 31, 2010.
- Collective Bargaining:** ESAI and USW 2724 and USW 2251 exchanged proposals on June 1, 2010.
- Locations:** All collective bargaining will take place in Sault Ste Marie.
- Bargaining Team:** ESAI's Bargaining Team is comprised of internal and external members:
- Internal Members:*
- Jim Rennie**
Acting Vice President, Human Resources
- Pramod Shukla**
Chief Operating Officer
- Victoria Chiappetta**
Vice President Legal and General Counsel
- Todd Goodfellow**
Manager Labour Relations



External Members:

Harvey Beresford

Harvey Beresford is a founding partner of the law firm Hicks Morley and is one of Canada's most highly regarded and sought after labour lawyers, negotiator and labour relations strategist. In his over 30 years of practice, he has gained a reputation for assisting employers and bargaining units, in the private and public sector, achieve collective agreements during complicated and difficult negotiations.

Tom Wood

Tom Wood is a well known leader in negotiating collective agreements between the USW and North American steel mills. His experience includes partnering with the USW leadership to develop a new era labour agreement that provided worker security and workforce flexibility. The basic agreement became the standard for North American integrated steel mills. In conjunction with the USW he helped introduced modern and flexible work arrangements into collective agreements which provide for sustainable plants and secure jobs.

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For regular information updates visit Steel Spot, the Essar Steel Algoma blog at <http://essarsteelalgoma.blogspot.com/>