

# Bulletin from the EUBOPEAU GOBBUTTTT for coal and steel

INFORMATION SERVICE • HIGH AUTHORITY • LUXEMBOURG

# RATIFICATION PROGRESS

At the end of September, five out of eleven parliamentary assemblies in the six Community nations had ratified the European Economic Community and Atomic Energy Community Treaties.

They were France's National Assembly and Council of the Republic, the Bundestag and the Bundesrat of West Germany, and Italy's House of Representatives.

The vote in the Italian lower house on July 30th produced the most unexpected political upheaval that has occurred so far in the steps toward ratification. The Nenni-Socialists in Parliament split with the Communists and voted en-bloc for Euratom while abstaining on the Common Market vote. The Nenni group explained that their action in abstaining was not due to "ideological opposition." They favored the Common Market in principle, believing that economic integration would bring "positive results" for all concerned. But they expressed the view that the Treaty did not give adequate guarantees on issues such as colonial policy, "democratic control" or the welfare of Italian workers. They also maintained that development and social funds were inadequate.

Ratification debate and voting in the Italian Senate and in the upper and lower chambers of the Belgian and Netherlands Parliaments are expected to take place in October. Luxembourg's unicameral Parliament is expected to ratify sometime before mid-November to complete the process.

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# **Technical Research**

An article in the Bulletin from the Coal and Steel Community for June-July, 1957, described the High Authority's \$1.2 million medical research projects now in full swing throughout the Community. But medical research is only one part of the whole research program launched by the High Authority. By the end of 1956 it had set aside for research purposes a total of \$9.52 million. Out of this total, a further \$5 million was earmarked for the High Authority's experimental housing for Community workers. The remaining \$3.32 million was devoted to the industrial research projects described in the following article.

## The Lag in European Industrial Research

A major problem at the outset of the Community was the need to promote and co-ordinate technical research in the coal and steel industries. Compared with the United States, Great Britain, and Soviet Russia, where such research is carried out on a large scale, the Community countries very often lagged behind. And even where large sums of money had been spent on necessary research in one country or another or in different sectors of industry, national divisions and the partitioning of markets made progress uneven. Lack of co-ordination, moreover, sometimes led to the reduplication of research projects and consequent waste of time, money, and effort.

## High Authority Action

Under terms of the Treaty creating the Coal and Steel Community, the High Authority is empowered to solve this problem in two ways. It is required to encourage and co-ordinate research into the production and use of coal and steel and to help make technical improvements more widely known. In addition, it may give financial assistance to important research projects provided that their results are made generally available within the Community. It has taken action along both these lines.

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#### **Co-ordinating Coal Research**

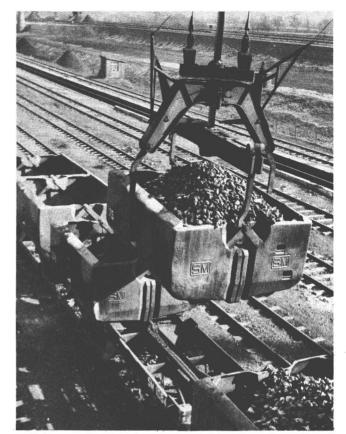
Its first step, in April, 1953, was to help collate the results of existing research by forming three international committees, two for coal and one for steel. Each consists of experts from the industries and research centers of the Community countries together with British participants. On coal, one committee deals with coking and other coal uses, the other with mining methods. The Coke Committee has so far examined such points as the preparation of coking coal, the operation of coke ovens, and research into other methods of increasing the yield of coal in gas and synthetic fuels. At the same time, the Mining Methods Committee has dealt with tunnelling technique, roof support, mechanical coal mining, and ventilation in the pits. Both Committees have worked in close collaboration with the technical experts who helped frame the Community's General Objectives Report which includes objectives for future research. Many of the projects recommended are already under way in the Community countries. Several have been singled out as especially important. These include:

- —the mechanization of coal mining and haulage, including new methods of working thin seams;
- —roof support and control and a greater use of mechanized methods of coal-face support;
- —the development and utilization of tunnelling machines;
- -the geological study of rock pressures;
- -the detection and elimination of firedamp;
- —improved underground ventilation and the development of air conditioning plant for mine use.

The Coal Research Committees have also collaborated with the Community Conference on Safety in Coal Mines which opened on September, 1956, and concluded its work early in February, 1957. This Conference was partly concerned with the development and improvement of instruments for the quick and accurate detection of firedamp and underground fires and for measuring the carbon monoxide content of the air underground. The Conference particularly stressed the need for a continuous recording apparatus which would indicate carbon monoxide content to within 1/1000 per cent over and above the intermittent, manually operated instruments now in use. To stimulate research in this field, the High Authority has made a special grant of \$200,000.

The more efficient use of fuel is one of the aims of the technical research program. Here a furnace worker at the Dortmund-Hoerder Huettenverein, Germany, watches combustion in an automatically controlled boiler.





Sufficient supplies of coke are essential for the making of steel. A part of the High Authority's research program is aimed at insuring that coke does not become a bottleneck in the community's expanding industries.

#### Joint Research on Steel

It is in steel research that the High Authority has made the greatest use of its powers to grant financial aid. A condition of such aid is that the research should be of widespread interest to Community firms and that those who receive the aid should themselves contribute a major part of the full cost. The total sum now set aside for research on steel amounts to \$3,083,000 divided among several of the many projects recommended by the Steel Research Committee. These include tests of various coke grades, technical conditions in steel-rolling, improvement of refractory materials, and methods of reducing the input ratio of coke at the blast furnaces.

## **Economizing Coke**

The High Authority's steel research program, like that for coal, is largely directed by the Community's long-term needs as forecast in the General Objectives Report. One of the main objectives is to ease the strain on limited scrap supplies by the development of steelmaking processes based on pig iron.

But sufficient supplies of pig iron in turn demand sufficient supplies of coke. Research can help to solve this problem by trying to broaden the range of coals suitable for coking and by seeking to reduce the input ratio of coke per ton of pig iron.

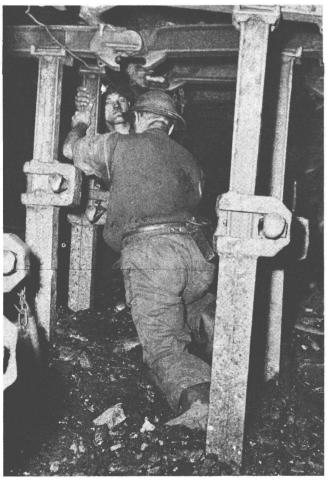
One million dollars, representing the biggest single sum so far allotted in the High Authority's technical research program, has been earmarked to make comparative tests of different grades of blast furnace coke. These experiments are to be carried out at the Dillinger Hüttenwerke in the Saar, with two identical blast furnaces, one using hard Ruhr coke and the other using coke made from

softer grades of coal less suitable for coking. The shortage of good coking fines has also led the High Authority to promote the use of sintering. But because this process is well developed, there is less need of further research in this field.

In June, 1956, the High Authority launched a series of research projects designed to reduce the input of coke in blast furnaces. To this end, it granted \$850,000 toward a three-year series of experiments in Liège in a low-shaft furnace operated as a small blast furnace. Here the tests can be carried out more quickly and more cheaply than in an ordinary blast furnace and there are particularly good facilities for preparing the burden. A further \$650,000 has been set aside for similar experiments and will be allocated to firms and research centers after consultation with the Technical Research Committee. In addition, the High Authority has made a grant of \$105,000 to accelerate the construction of an experimental furnace which will aid the work undertaken by the International Flame Radiation Study Committee to improve the thermal efficiency of various fuels.

# Refractory Materials and Rolling Mills

Alongside these projects, the High Authority has also promoted a systematic examination of the refractory properties of silica bricks used for the roof of open-hearth



Methods of roof support in coal mines is one of the projects being undertaken through the Community's technical research program. Here metal props are being shifted in the LaHouve mine in the Lorraine coal basin, France.

# Getting the Names Right

In the Common Market, as in a local market, the customer should know what he is ordering, and the supplier should, in turn, know what his customer wants. When the Common Market for coal and steel started, each of its member countries used a different terminology for its coal and steel products. Thus, one of the High Authority's research tasks was to develop a standard nomenclature and establish common measurements and standards. These have been dubbed "Euronorms" for use in dealing with Common Market products in all Community countries. Euronorms, which are still being established by a special co-ordinating group, are compared with the existing national standards and based on the work of the International Standardization Organization.

So far, 55 Euronorms have already been established covering pig iron and ferro-alloys. Sixteen additional Euronorms are at present being checked by experts and will then be submitted to the coordinating committee for final adoption. These are concerned chiefly with the application of certain testing methods, with technical delivery terms, and definitions.

For coal, the High Authority in 1955 prepared a comprehensive document for the six member Governments, to assist them in co-ordinating their work on international coal classification under the U.N.'s Economic Commission for Europe, in Geneva. This work is now completed and forms the basis for a full classification of the types and grades of hard coal produced in the Community. The High Authority is expected to publish the new classification lists in the near future.

furnaces. Two hundred seventy-eight thousand dollars was allocated to aid these tests which were carried out in a number of Community furnaces and completed in March, 1957. Further laboratory tests are now under way, and the full report on them is expected toward the beginning of next year. Finally, \$200,000 has been granted to a study of rolling-mill techniques. This is aimed at determining steel behavior under identical processes carried out in different mills and at isolating the various factors contributing to the formation and adherence of scale. The work on this project, including the laboratory testing, is now on the verge of completion and the final report will be submitted early in 1958.

#### Long-term Research Objectives

The expansion of Community industry is governed to a considerable extent by progress in scientific research and by the speed with which its results are put into practice on the broadest possible front. It is thus considered essential that research be concentrated on priority projects, that overlapping be avoided by co-ordination of technical studies, and that results be widely disseminated.

In this field, as in the sphere of investments, the High Authority's aid for vital projects is viewed as a catalyst to research undertaken in Community industries and serves as a necessary complement to its long-term objectives for coal and steel.

# HIGH AUTHORITY'S FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

On August 10th, the High Authority, Europe's first Federal Executive, celebrated the fifth anniversary of its establishment in Luxembourg in 1952.

Upon the occasion, Franz Etzel, Vice President of the High Authority, recalled: "It was not without skepticism that the start of the High Authority's activity was awaited. Today, Governments and Parliaments, trade unions and industrial associations, together with an important section of public opinion, have shown broad agreement in approving and following up this first step toward the economic unity of Europe. Only the positive results achieved by the ECSC have made possible the new strides forward which will be taken with the creation of the European Economic and Atomic Communities."

At the High Authority's first meeting, held on August 10, 1952, its first president, Jean Monnet, declared:

"Six Parliaments have decided, after mature reflection and by massive majorities, to create the first European Community, which merges a part of national sovereignties and submits them to the common interest."

In its five years of existence, the High Authority has held 389 meetings and has set up a single market for coal and steel throughout its six member states, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg. During this period both production and trade in coal and steel have undergone an unprecedented expansion.

#### **British Comment**

Commenting on the anniversary, the London FINANCIAL TIMES carried a main editorial under the title "Europe's Record."

"The fifth anniversary of the establishment of the European Coal and Steel Community," it said, "is an important landmark in the postwar efforts to free European trade. Not only has it been the first organization to succeed in enforcing practical moves toward the elimination of tariffs and restrictions within its own field, but it is also the direct ancestor of the proposed European Common Market. Although the fact was largely forgotten in Britain, the Coal and Steel Community had as one of its objects from its very beginning the establishment of a common market between Germany, France, Italy, and the Benelux countries for a much wider range of commodities. The 1955 Messina Conference, from which the present proposals directly sprang, was one of the periodic meetings of Community Ministers.

"The recent record of the Community is especially interesting in view of the establishment in the autumn of 1955 of a Council of Association including both Britain and the Community countries: for contrary to earlier fears, this Council has proved to be a practical and businesslike body. . . .

"The relation of Britain to the Coal and Steel Community bears an interesting similarity to the proposed relationship between the Common Market and the wider Free Trade Area. A great deal could be learned from the actual workings of the Council, and it is significant that officials have already met to discuss the implications of wider European Free Trade on the market for coal and steel."

# **President Mayer Announces Resignation**

The President of the High Authority, René Mayer, on September 18 announced his decision to resign from office as Member and President of the nine-man executive branch of the Coal and Steel Community. His decision to resign as from October 15 was communicated to the Governments of the six member nations of the Community.

In his letter of resignation, M. Mayer recalled that he was appointed to office on June 1, 1955, on the occasion of the Messina Conference which marked the relaunching of the European idea. His resignation came at a time when five out of eleven parliamentary bodies in the six Community countries had already ratified the Rome Treaties. He declared that by the action of placing his office at the disposal of the Governments, he hoped to facilitate their task of appointing new Members and Presidents to the executive branches of the three European institutions—thereby permitting the "relance" to begin harmoniously.

The former French Premier has not revealed his future plans. However, in accordance with the ECSC Treaty, he will continue to exercise his functions until a new President is nominated.



# Britain Appoints Free Trade Area Minister

The Rt. Hon. Reginald Maudling, British Paymaster-General and House of Commons Representative for the Ministry of Power, has been appointed to supervise and co-ordinate negotiations for Britain's participation in a Free Trade Area, it was announced from No. 10 Downing Street on August 8th. The announcement added: "There will be extensive discussions and negotiations between the United Kingdom and other countries during the next few months." The importance attached by Britain to the establishment of a close link with the general Common Market was further stressed on September 17 when Mr. Maudling was made a member of the Cabinet.

Mr. Maudling will serve in liaison with the other departments of State concerned, including the Foreign Office, the Treasury, the Board of Trade, the Commonwealth and Colonial Offices, and the Ministry of Power itself, whose responsibilities include steel.

Before his appointment as Paymaster-General in January, 1957, he had been Minister of Supply for nearly two years. He had also been Economic Secretary to the Treasury, a Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Civil Aviation, and a member of the Conservative Parliamentary Secretariat responsible for all economic and financial matters.

# Agreement on European Diploma

A Baccalauréat Européen, a European secondary school diploma, will be awarded to pupils graduating from the European Coal and Steel Community's School in Luxembourg, as the result of an agreement signed on July 15th by representatives of the Community's six member Governments.

The certificate, the first of its kind to cut across national educational frontiers, will give to pupils in the School belonging to the six member countries a school-leaving certificate, equivalent in all respects to that given in their schools at home. The diploma will give them equal status

with students from national secondary schools in applying for entrance in any European university.

The European School came into existence in 1953 to meet the needs of the children of officials working for the Community. It was granted official recognition on April 12, 1957, when its Statute was signed by the six countries' representatives.

The School, which has some 370 pupils of nine nationalities, divided into nursery, primary, and secondary grades, has a common curriculum for the different language sections. The school-leaving examination will be run by an international jury presided over in turn by a university professor from each of the Community countries.

# **New Mobility for Community Workers**

Skilled coal and steel workers in the Community are now eligible for "labor passports" enabling them to seek work freely in any of the six Community states.

As of September first, broad categories of workers covering 29 trades in the coal industry and 27 in the steel industry will be able to obtain from their regional employment services an ECSC labor card.

This card will enable the holder to work at his trade in any of the six countries without applying for a national labor permit normally required of foreign workers. He will also be able to accept an offer of employment made by an employer in any of the six countries, either through direct application or through the normal employment services.

The issue of the card is one of the measures which, by aiding the free circulation of labor, is expected to promote the "upward harmonization" of living and working standards throughout the Community.

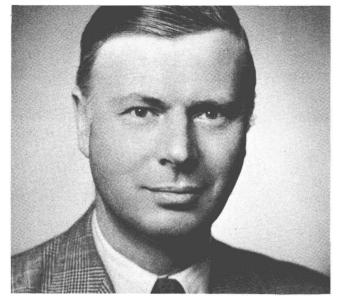
The availability of the labor card is the result of ratification on June 1, 1957, by Luxembourg—the last of the six member states to ratify—of a Community convention proposed by the High Authority and approved by the Council of Ministers on December 8, 1954.

An employee of Luxembourg's national labor office was one of first recipients of the recently-issued "labor passports." The labor pass shown in the photograph enables Jean-Pierre Muller to apply for work in any of the other five Community countries.





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Max Kohnstamm, former Secretary General of the High Authoriy, to speak in the U.S. on Euratom.

# Former High Authority Official to discuss Euratom in the U.S.

The former Secretary General of the Community's High Authority, Max Kohnstamm, will address two U.S. conferences on Atomic Energy being held in October.

Now Secretary General of the Action Committee for a United States of Europe, M. Kohnstamm will give an address before the 12th American Assembly at Arden House on the 19th of October and before the fourth annual meeting of the Atomic Industrial Forum in New York City on October 29th. M. Kohnstamm is regarded as an authority on the political aspects of the new European Atomic Energy Community Treaty. Earlier this year, he served as one of the principal drafters of the report "A Target for Euratom" which set forth the tasks, problems, and goals of the new European atomic community. At Arden House, M. Kohnstamm will discuss Euratom's probable relationship with the United States. The American Assembly's subject is Atoms for Power: United States Policy in Atomic Energy Development.

# Community's Executive Dispels Rumor of New German Steel

#### **Concentration**

The High Authority made an unprecedented move on October first when it issued a denial that the approval of a new large-scale German steel concentration was in the offing.

The denial was prompted by a prediction made last summer by Wilhelm Deist, German Socialist member of the Common Assembly, who said that in the near future there would be only eight rather than 12 major steel-making enterprises in West Germany. Herr Deist's statement was interpreted as meaning that the High Authority might be prepared to allow the Vereinigte Stahlwerke, the giant trust that had dominated Germany's steel industry before the war, to be re-established. The Vereinigte Stahlwerke combine was one of the big German trusts broken up by the Allied High Commission's de-cartelization program after the war.

The High Authority's statement said flatly: "that a re-constitution of the Vereinigte Stahlwerke, which was deconcentrated by the Allies, could not be authorized if a demand for authorization were submitted."

Under Article 66 of the Coal and Steel Community Treaty, the High Authority has the power to authorize or deny new concentrations of coal and steel industrial firms whether by merger, acquisition of shares, loans, contract, or other means of control. It examines each application for concentration (thus far mainly mergers) to determine if the proposed concentration would hamper or endanger competition in the common market.

# Free Trade Unions Urge Single European "Capital City"

# Community Labor Leaders Seek Common Policy for New Communities

The Committee of 21, representatives of some 12 million Community workers who are members of unions affiliated to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, urged at a meeting in Luxembourg on September 26th that the institutions of the three European Communities—the existing Coal and Steel Community, and the Economic Community and the Atomic Community shortly to come into existence—should be together in one city. The Committee urged that national interests give way to European considerations in selecting Europe's "capital city."

The Committee also demanded trade union representation at all levels in the new European bodies and an equal share for workers' representatives of the seats in the future Economic and Social Council, which will advise the European Economic Commission.

A general meeting grouping about 70 representatives of the six countries' trade union federations has been called for November to fix a common social and economic policy which they wish to see followed in the new institutions. They will also confirm the mandate of the proposed Coordinating Committee of the free European trade unions, which will be formed to ensure effective trade union collaboration vis-a-vis the new institutions.

The meeting of the Committee of 21 was presided over by M. Robert Bothereau, Secretary-General of the French "Confederation Generale du Travail—Force Ouvriere." M. Bothereau was officially named spokesman of the Confederation of Free Trade Unions of the six countries to the Interim Committee on the Common Market in Brussels and to the Governments of the six Community countries.

# REFERENCE MATERIAL: Common Market; Free Trade Area; Euratom

In the past year, a considerable number of articles, pamphlets and studies have appeared dealing with the Common Market, Free Trade Area and Euratom. Following is a list of some of those published in the United States and in Britain. Articles which have appeared in the daily press are not included. Views expressed in articles listed are solely those of the author, sponsoring organization, or publication.

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# Official Translations of Treaties Available

The European Economic Community Treaty and the European Atomic Energy Community Treaty have been issued in official English language versions by the Secretariat of the Interim Committee for the Common Market and Euratom in Brussels.

Bound, paper-backed copies of the Treaties, including the protocols, annexes, and conventions, are available through the Information Service of the European Coal and Steel Community, 220 Southern Building, Washington 5, D. C. The price per copy of the Common Market Treaty is \$1.40; of the Euratom Treaty, \$1.00.

# **Newsbriefs**

## **Question to Italian Government**

The High Authority is awaiting a reply from the Italian Government on a query concerning continued tax discrimination in favor of the Italian shipbuilding industry, which contravenes provisions of the ECSC Treaty.

Last December the Italian Government informed the High Authority that it was considering a bill to remove the discrimination, which includes exemption from customs duty and business tax on imported steel for use in naval construction and the remission of the business tax on home-produced steel intended for this purpose.

# Austrian Rail Transport Agreement

A railway rate agreement was signed on July 26th in Luxembourg between the Austrian Federal Government, the members states of the ECSC, and the High Authority. It marked the end of negotiations begun last autumn between the Federal Government and the High Authority which had received a mandate from the Governments of the Community's six member states to negotiate the rate agreement.

The aim of the Agreement is to abolish "breaks in rates" at the Austrian frontier for Community goods in transit between the German-Austrian and the Italian-Austrian frontiers. It is hoped that its application will develop the volume of such traffic to the advantage of both partners to the Agreement.

Under the Agreement a Transport Commission is to be set up to deal with any practical problems which may arise. A similar agreement with Switzerland came into force on July 1, 1957.

# Fuel Economy: the Rational Utilization of Coal

The major coal producers of the European Coal and Steel Community decided at a meeting arranged by the High Authority in Luxembourg to co-ordinate their future action on fuel economy. They agreed to summarize the progress each of them has so far made individually in investigations into the rational utilization of coal, so that an exact comparison can be made.

In view of the efforts already made to ensure rational utilization of coal by certain large groups of consumers, the producers decided to concentrate their action on the two groups, "miscellaneous industries" and "domestic consumption."

# Pierre Uri on Common Market at Oxford

M. Pierre Uri, a Director of the High Authority's Economics Division, lectured at the Liberal Summer School at Oxford University on August third to the fifth. His subject was the general Common Market and the proposed Free Trade Area.

The MANCHESTER GUARDIAN wrote: "Perhaps . . . the key phrase in M. Uri's address was the European integration of 'goods, men, and minds' . . .

"The scheme for the Common Market was a balanced whole, designed not just for the free movement of goods and the removal of barriers, but for the greater productivity and prosperity of member countries. It extended to all goods, including food and services. The real obstacles were not tariffs but the complex, deeply rooted system of internal regulations which impede competition between countries. . . ."

# Britain and Community Plan Joint Energy Study

Great Britain and the Community will collaborate on a joint assessment of their long-term energy problems. The project was announced in Luxembourg after the ninth meeting of the Coal Committee of the Council of Association between the United Kingdom Government and the High Authority. The new joint study will co-ordinate the slightly different bases of the previous work completed separately and will enable both partners in the Council of Association to frame in like terms their energy policy for the future.

The Committee discussed the present coal situation and the British delegation informed the High Authority that the United Kingdom was prepared to increase its exports to the Community for the second half of 1957 by about 300,000 tons. This additional tonnage would consist of coal for heating and steam combustion.

# High Authority Eases Direct Access to Ruhr Coal

The High Authority has eased substantially conditions under which Community wholesalers may buy their supplies direct from the three independent Ruhr coal-selling agencies.

The three agencies were set up by the High Authority on March 31, 1956, after it had dissolved the former German coal-selling cartel GEORG (Gemeinschaftsorganisation Ruhrkohle). (Cf ECSC Bulletin, April, 1956.)

Under the system revised on July 26th, a wholesaler who wishes to buy direct from the three coal-selling agencies need only have sold on the Common Market during the previous year:

- 1) a total of 60,000 tons (instead of 75,000 tons) of Community coal;
- 2) in his own sales area 30,000 tons (instead of 40,000 tons) of Community coal;
- 3) in his own sales area 9,000 tons (instead of 12,500 tons) of Community coal bought from one of the three agencies.

# Common Assembly Meeting in Rome

The fall session of the Community's Common Assembly will be held in Rome from November fifth to ninth. One of the main topics on the agenda was expected to be a discussion on the problems facing the Community at the end of the transition period which expires next February. There was also some reflection upon whether the Rome session might not be the final meeting of the 78-man Assembly before it is reconstituted as a 142-member Assembly to deal with Common Market and Euratom affairs as well as Coal and Steel Community business.