

HIGH AUTHORITY

Information Service

PRESS RELEASE

Community Coke Output

Luxembourg, August 24: Community coke output in July reached 6,278,000 metric tons - its highest level since the record March total, according to provisional figures released by the Statistics Division of the High Authority. The July figure compared with 6,075,000 metric tons in June and 5,787,000 in July 1955.

For the first seven months of the year the Community's coke production reached 43,102,000 metric tons - 10% more than the figure of 39,213,000 tons for January-July 1955. Increasing efforts to raise coke output reflect one of the Community's chief preoccupations - that continued expansion in steel output should not be held up by a threatening bottleneck in coke.

The breakdown of coke production by member-countries was follows (in metric tons):

	<u>July 1956</u>	<u>Jan.-July 1956</u>
Germany	3 652 000	25 054 000
Belgium	605 000	4 167 000
France	1 017 000	7 030 000
Saar	358 000	2 435 000
Italy	295 000	1 977 000
Netherlands	351 000	2 439 000
TOTAL	<u>6 278 000</u> =====	<u>43 102 000</u> =====

Pit-head coke stocks rose slightly during July to 495,000 metric tons from 442 000 at end-June, but were still well below the level of 763,000 tons held at pit-heads at end-July last year.

Community iron-ore output in July totalled 6,557,000 metric tons, compared with 7,250,000 in June and 6,133,000 in July 1955. For the seven-month period output totalled 46,938,000 metric tons, against 43,222,000 for the corresponding period of 1955, making an increase of 3,716,000 tons or 8.6%.