

Contact: Shiu Ka Yue/ Lorna Wong/ Bryan Bian
Tel: 2801 6239 (90291865 / 90868623/ 96307030)

Date: 30 December 2008
Pages: 2

CHINA ORIENTAL APPOINTED ARCELORMITTAL'S SENIOR MANAGEMENT AS DIRECTORS TO STRENGTHEN COLLABORATION

China Oriental Group Company Limited ("China Oriental" or the "Company", stock code: 581) further strengthens collaboration with its substantial shareholder by appointing certain senior management of ArcelorMittal as the Company's executive director and non-executive directors to participate in the management of China Oriental. ArcelorMittal is an associate of a substantial shareholder of the Company.

China Oriental announced that Mr Muktesh Mukherjee ("Mr Mukherjee") has been appointed as Executive Director and Mr Ondra Otradovec ("Mr Otradovec") and Mr Jean-Paul Georges Schuler ("Mr Schuler") have been appointed as Non-Executive Directors of the Company with effect from 2 January 2009. Mr Mukherjee, Mr Otradovec and Mr Schuler are the senior management of ArcelorMittal, the world's largest steel giant. They have extensive experience in the production and sale of steel and financing, and are familiar with the PRC and global steel and capital market.

"We are very pleased to have Mr Mukherjee, Mr Otradovec and Mr Schuler joined our Board as Executive Director and Non-Executive Directors respectively. Their presence on the Board marks our further cooperation with ArcelorMittal, and their experience in the global steel and financial markets will benefit China Oriental's business development. ArcelorMittal's worldwide business exposure will help the Company to broaden its international perspectives, enhance its corporate development capability. The three newly appointed directors possess expertise and extensive experience in the development of steel business worldwide, which will facilitate cultivation and development of the Company's steel business at home and abroad. All this will further strengthen the ties between ArcelorMittal and the Company," said Mr Han Jingyuan, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of China Oriental's Board.

Mr Mukherjee had worked as a financial analyst before joining Mittal Canada. After working at Mittal Canada, Mr Mukherjee became the Director, Sales and Marketing, Long Products and Plate for ArcelorMittal International in Chicago, USA. Mr Mukherjee possesses rich sales and marketing experience. Currently, Mr Mukherjee is the General Manager of ArcelorMittal China, responsible for overseeing the relationship with China Oriental on behalf of ArcelorMittal.

Mr Otradovec had previously worked for an investment bank, responsible for financing. He is now the Vice President of Global Merger & Acquisition of ArcelorMittal. Mr Otradovec has been a Director of Hunan Valin Steel Tube & Wire Co. Ltd. ("Hunan Valin Steel"), a company listed on Shenzhen Stock Exchange, since 2005. Mr Otradovec is very experienced in financing and merger and acquisition.

Mr Schuler had been the Chief Operating Officer of ArcelorMittal Dudelange (formerly known as Galvalange-Luxembourg), and gained a lot of sales experience. Mr Schuler is currently the representative of ArcelorMittal at Hunan Valin Steel as well as Deputy General Manager and Director of Hunan Valin Steel.

China Oriental also announced that Mr Yu Jianshui (“Mr Yu”) has tendered his resignation as an Executive Director of the Company with effect from 2 January 2009. The number of executive directors of the Board of the Company remains six. After Mr Otradovec and Mr Schuler assuming their posts, the number of non-executive directors will increase to two.

About China Oriental

Listed on the main board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange on 2 March 2004, the Company is one of the PRC’s most efficient iron and steel producers. In November 2007, a subsidiary of ArcelorMittal, the world’s largest steel giant, became the strategic partner and substantial shareholder of the Company. The Group’s products are mainly sold domestically, with its major customers based in Northern China. Customers of the Company are downstream steel manufacturers who further process billets and strips into downstream steel products, which are used mainly in the construction industry and for the manufacture of machinery. In addition, China Oriental also produces downstream products including H-sections steel which has a leading position in the industry and other downstream products such as cold rolled sheets and galvanized sheets. China Oriental is an integrated iron and steel conglomerate.

China Oriental’s stable development has been recognised by, and supported by the markets at home and abroad. The Group stood out from over 600 privately-owned listed enterprises and ranked 10th of the “100 privately-owned listed companies in 2007” and ranked 34th in “Forbes 2007 Top Chinese enterprises”.

- End -

Issued by: China Oriental Group Company Limited
Through: CorporateLink Limited