

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Almex's CastRightII™ confirms its rank among D.C. Cast Slab Ingot Automation Systems**

*Long Beach, California, USA - February, 2012*—A highly automated and safety-conscious aluminium D.C. Slab casting plant is a dream come true according to plant owners, managers, and casting operators. This dream has become a reality for the staff of one plant in China where Almex's industry-leading equipment, process technology, and automation have proven their value in performance and safety.

Almex is proud to announce that its most recent project, a complete turn-key plant installation in Xuzhou City, China, has been commissioned with great success. The 75 metric ton slab casting plant, owned and operated by Shanghai Datun Energy Resources Co., Ltd., is configured to process aluminum scrap and primary ingot and use cutting edge processes in direct chill casting of 5 strands of slabs in 1xxx, 3xxx, 5xxx, and 8xxx series aluminum alloys in nine different ingot sizes.

The plant has been equipped with Almex's patented LARS® Degassing systems, Filtrex™ Ceramic Foam Filtration, Mega™ D.C. Casting Machine, CastRightII™ Complete System Automation, Almex's comprehensive water management system, complete process technology and know-how, and also Almex's Deep Bed Filter for the processing of high purity aluminum for foil stock applications.

The project's success is closely attributed to the carefully coordinated training provided by Almex. Classroom seminars, in addition to round the shifts hands-on training in the field, were provided to the greenfield site's personnel.

The CASTRIGHT II™ Automated Casting Control System, developed by Almex, regulates the entire casting operation, integrating Allen-Bradley PLCs with HMI interface designed with InduSoft Web Studio and Visual Basic 2010 to ensure an intuitive and all-inclusive control system. Casting information is used to print casting reports that include graphs of the casting processes as well as all discrete information entered by the operator. Finally, the stored data is optimized to reduce the actual size of the database so that casting data can be stored in the database for the entire life of the casting system.

Almex prides itself on delivering casting systems that are cleaner, simpler, flexible, and more cost-effective and works hard to stand by one of their mottos, "Simplicity that Works." In order to maintain such high standards, Almex provides a software solution that offers maximum functionality in maintaining and monitoring its casting equipment.

## About Almex USA Inc.

Almex USA is the leading supplier of commercial and aerospace aluminum billet and slab casting technology and equipment. The Company's products include LARS<sup>®</sup> Degassing Systems, Mega<sup>™</sup> DC Casting Machines, Billet/Ingot Casting Systems, and CastRightII<sup>™</sup> Automated Process Control. Almex is also engaged in equipment and process research involving new capabilities and green technology for efficient recycling of aluminum alloys and has supported the aluminum industry since 1995. Almex is also the recipient of the "Excellence in Exports" Award from the United States Department of Commerce. Trade and Service Marks of Almex USA Inc. are property of the company registered and protected in the United States and other countries.

## About Shanghai Datun Energy Resources Co., Ltd

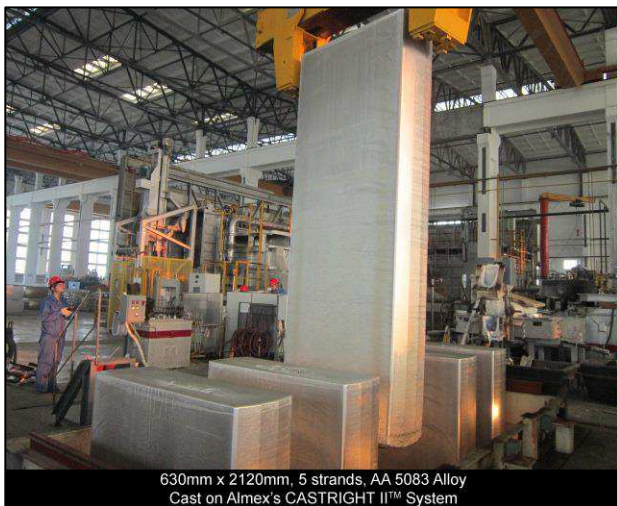
Shanghai Datun Energy Resources Co., Ltd. is principally engaged in coal mining, processing and distribution. The Company also involves in railway transportation, thermal power generation, as well as manufacture and distribution of aluminum ingots. The Company's major products are raw coal, washed coal, electrolytic aluminum and aluminum processing products. The Company operates its businesses primarily in domestic market. During the year ended December 31, 2010, the Company produced approximately 9.09 million tons of raw coal, 3.45 million tons of washed coal, 276,000 degrees of electric power, and 108,700 tons of electrolytic aluminum.

### *Media Contact:*

*Marketing and PR*

*Tel. +1-714-522-7340*

*Email [admin@almexusa.com](mailto:admin@almexusa.com)*



630mm x 2120mm, 5 strands, AA 5083 Alloy  
Cast on Almex's CASTRIGHT II<sup>™</sup> System



Almex's Training Team (front row) and trained staff  
sitting on a slab and proudly displaying their certificates.

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