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Castrip® Process Achieves 100,000 Ton Milestone and Sets Gauge Record.

For Immediate Release

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (June 17, 2003) – The first commercial installation utilizing the Castrip® Process at Nucor Corporation's Crawfordsville, Indiana plant has surpassed the 100,000 ton cumulative production milestone. With start-up in May 2002, Nucor has been steadily progressing towards full commercial production of steel sheet with a target range of 0.7 to 2 mm (0.028 to 0.08 inches). Along with the production record, Castrip LLC also announced that the plant has produced steel sheet down to a thickness of 0.84 mm (0.033 inches).

One of the key features of the Castrip process is the ability to produce ultra-thin hot band gauges that can compete with traditional cold rolled material in many applications. Nucor's production crews at Crawfordsville have been steadily reducing the average gauge produced through the plant since operations began. Production during the month of April 2004 ranged from 0.84 mm to 1.6 mm (0.033 to 0.063 inches). This range is below, and complementary to, the range of thicknesses produced with Nucor's existing thin slab caster at Crawfordsville.

Castrip UCS material from Nucor has been introduced to the market as hot rolled; cold rolled and galvanized products through the Crawfordsville sales team. The products have been primarily utilized in the construction and agricultural markets in end use applications such as structural decking, studs, purlins, strapping, rollformed panels, welded tube, etc.

The Castrip process has a design capacity of 500,000 tons per year from a single strand. Nucor is in the process of increasing capacity at the Crawfordsville EAF shop in order to enable sufficient steel supply to the Castrip facility in addition to its existing operations.

Based in Charlotte, N.C., Castrip LLC (www.castrip.com) is a joint venture of Nucor Corporation, BlueScope Steel Ltd. of Australia and Ishikawajima-Harima Heavy Industries (IHI) of Japan. The company was formed to market and license the intellectual property developed jointly by its three owners, related to the twin-roll casting of carbon and stainless steels.

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CASTRIP® is a registered trademark of Castrip LLC.