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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 6, 2009

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TITANIUM 2009 TO PROVIDE GLOBAL INSIGHT ON STATE OF THE INDUSTRY

TITANIUM 2009 marks the 25th annual conference and exhibition of the International Titanium Association. The event is scheduled for September 13 – 16, and is the only symposium held each year dedicated exclusively to the titanium industry.

Sponsored by Colorado-based ITA, TITANIUM 2009 will bring together key executives from the world's major titanium companies, along with international experts from across the supply chain, to analyze the state of the titanium industry. According to Michael Metz, TITANIUM 2009 conference chair, "The mission of TITANIUM 2009 is to give attendees global insights on supply, demand and current conditions in our key consuming market sectors throughout the world."

In addition to his role as conference chair, Metz is President of VSMPO – Tirus, US and serves as Vice President of the ITA board of directors. He went on to say, "The conference will provide an in-depth look at what is happening in our business globally in this time of economic upheaval and offer perspectives on what to expect in the future, so managers who attend will be better able to anticipate and respond to market forces."

Highlights of the conference will include presentations by representatives of the leading titanium producers in Europe, North America, and Asia on both world demand and supply trends. In addition, there will be hour-long panel presentations featuring with more than 40 experts examining key consuming industry sectors including commercial and military aerospace and corrosion resistance markets such as power generation and chemical processing. New manufacturing technologies are frequently presented at this conference as well. More than 70 exhibitors plan to host booths at the event.

In recognition of the significant growth of the Asian titanium industry, TITANIUM 2009 will be in Hawaii. "We expect a substantial delegation from the Japan Titanium Society and many industry participants from China, Korea and other Pacific Rim countries," according to Metz. The anticipated increase in Asian presence in particular is noteworthy, Metz continued. "The world is changing. Significant expansion in aviation, as well as general infrastructure investment, makes Asia one of the largest growth areas for titanium demand over the next decade. In addition, there is a significant increase in supply of titanium from Asia. As part of this conference we expect attendees to leave with a better understanding of the impact of these changes on the global industry." As always, there should also be strong European and Russian participation.

Over the past decade, attendance at ITA Annual Conferences has doubled, drawing over 1000 delegates from more than 30 countries for the past two years. Metz attributed much of that trend to increased participation beyond the traditional producers of titanium. "This growth has occurred as the supply chain for many industries has become more active. Many managers from prime contractors as well as sub-tier suppliers are coming as they recognize the efficiency of attending a meeting such as TITANIUM 2009. Because there are producers, distributors and fabricators from all parts of the world, across several consuming market segments, at the conference, it is a very cost effective means for the delegates to meet with a wide variety of customers and vendors in a single trip. At the same time, TITANIUM 2009 offers the only opportunity to hear from leading industry executives and attend panel discussions on market topics that affect each industry segment, all in one place."

International Titanium Association (ITA) is a not for profit, networking trade association representing the titanium metal industry. Established in 1984, the Association's main mission is to connect the public interested in using titanium with titanium specialists all over the world who may offer technical and sales assistance.

The ITA also supports committee activities, distributes publications, and sponsors a variety of technical educational workshops. The major annual TITANIUM Conference & Exhibition will be held this September 13-16th at the Hilton Waikoloa Village on the Big Island of Hawaii. More than 1,140 delegates attended TITANIUM 2008 from over 30 countries to study informed opinions from industry executives. More details may be found in the Conference section of the ITA Web Site at www.titanium.org.

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