



France's AMR seeks permission for Guinea Bauxite mine



French bauxite explorer Alliance Minière Responsable said it filed for permission to develop a \$200 million mining project in northern Guinea. AMR seeks the right to mine bauxite in the West African nation's Boke district for at least 15 years, Romain Girbal, president and co-founder of the Paris-based company, said. The company wants to complete the development of the mine and lift annual output to 5 million metric tons of the ore by 2019, he said.

"We're on time with respect to our set schedule," Girbal said in the statement. Guinea has strong ambitions to develop the industry and has regulations in line with the best international practices."

Investment in Guinea's bauxite mines is key to unlocking faster economic growth in country which holds more than a quarter of the known reserves of the ore that gets processed into aluminium. Guinea will pass Australia to become China's main source of bauxite in 2017 as the International Aluminum Institute forecasts that shipments will reach 13 million metric tons this year, up from just 300,000 tons in 2015.

Privately held AMR's shareholders include French telecommunications billionaire Xavier Niel, along with former Areva SA CEO Anne Lauvergeon and Edouard Louis-Dreyfus, president of the shipping company that bears his name, the company said in January.

Glencore planning to buy bankrupt smelter in US

Swiss based ARG International AG, the trading house set up by Glencore Plc's is buying a bankrupt smelter in the United States, its first acquisition since its founding nearly three years ago.



Noranda Aluminum Holding Corp said, it sold its 263,000 tonne-per year New Madrid primary aluminum smelter in Missouri to ARG for USD 13.7 million in a court approved auction. Noranda filed for bankruptcy in February after struggling with a sharp downturn in aluminum prices amid a global glut.

Lucke's purchase represents a bet on one of the few remaining US smelters as producers struggle with low metal prices, high electricity costs and stiff competition from lower-cost producing regions like the Middle East and China.

Innovative Die Cast Design improves productivity and Wins Award



Innovative features such as Quiet Power Technology™, Just Check & Add™, and Mow N' Stow® have helped build on Briggs & Stratton Corporation's reputation for quality, value and performance. However, at Briggs & Stratton, innovation runs deeper than the finished products. A recent example of innovation occurred at the Murray, Kentucky manufacturing facility with the redesign of the cylinder head aluminium die cast for the 125cc and 140cc E-series engine made from a 383 aluminium alloy. This new die cast component won the Productivity award from the North American Die Casting Association's (NADCA) annual

International Die Casting Design Competition in September.

NADCA promotes awareness and growth of the die cast industry. For 43 years, NADCA has sponsored the International Die Casting Design Competition to promote increased use of die casting by

recognizing and publicizing outstanding designs, according to the Association's website. For each entry category, there are four equally weighted criteria: ingenuity of casting and/or product design, overall quality, cost savings as compared to other manufacturing processes and the part's contribution to expanding the market for die castings.

"NADCA's competition recognizes some of the most forward-thinking work in our industry; making this a special achievement for our team, as it's the second award we've received in two years," said Dave DeBaets, vice president global engine operations at

Briggs & Stratton. "Briggs & Stratton is dedicated to product advancement and competitions such as this one encourage growth and innovation for us and the industry as a whole."

Briggs & Stratton's casting, product engineering and die engineering teams collaborated in an effort to continuously improve manufacturability.

The team created the engine Overhead Valve (OHV) more efficiently by developing a new die cast cell that decreased the pull directions, reduced debris and eliminated the need for exhaust gaskets and machining assets.

All of these changes resulted in a scrap rate of one percent or less and a 300 percent increase in OHVs made per 12-hour shift. This advancement and impact on productivity will allow Briggs & Stratton to invest in new aluminium die cast cells to further innovate this field.

In line with Briggs & Stratton's constant pursuit of innovation and quality, small engines with this cylinder head have the best power-to-weight ratio of any push lawn mower in its class. The Murray facility currently casts 3.7 million heads for small engines used in primarily in lawn mowers.