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## QuesTek awards licenses to Latrobe Specialty Steel

*Tuesday, 24 Nov, 2009*

QuesTek Innovations LLC announced that it has awarded licenses to Latrobe Specialty Steel Company to produce and sell Ferrium® C61™ and C64™ alloys. These are the first licenses granted by QuesTek to make commercially and market these two alloys using QuesTek's compositions, processing expertise and intellectual property.

Ferrium C61 and C64 are premium quality carburizing steels that offer high core strength, high fatigue strength, high temperature resistance and high surface hardenability. Ferrium C61 can achieve case hardness of 60-62 Rockwell C hardness, while Ferrium C64 can achieve case hardness of 62-64 HRC. The alloys were designed to permit gas quenching and to use conventional low pressure carburization technology in order to minimize distortion, to reduce manufacturing times, and to give dial in carburized case hardness profiles. The 900-950°F tempering temperature of these alloys provides a 400-600°F increase in thermal stability relative to incumbent alloys, yielding superior oil out survivability.

These alloys are expected to benefit product applications where weight savings, compactness, high surface fatigue resistance, durability and high temperature resistance are valued, such as helicopter transmissions, racing car differentials, power transmission couplings, and similar demanding applications in aerospace, energy, racing, off road vehicles, mission-critical systems, manufacturing equipment and other industries. Applications that combine structural loads with integral gearing, such as main power transmission shafts with integral gearing, can especially benefit.

Ferrium C64 was computationally designed and developed by QuesTek under an earlier Phase I and a current Phase II Small Business Technology Transfer project awarded by the US Navy Naval Air Systems Command. QuesTek designed, invented and achieved successful results from the first commercial production heat of Ferrium C64 in less than 24 months after the property design goals were established for the new alloy. Ferrium C61 has been previously available only directly through QuesTek, and is currently used in product applications such as off road racing vehicles and process machinery.

Mr Scott A Balliett director technology and quality at Latrobe Specialty Steel said that "We sell these premium quality, high hardness carburizing steels to customers worldwide to boost the performance and durability of their products. These alloys are produced in our state of the art vacuum melting and vacuum remelting facilities which include the recently completed VIM and VAR expansion to our Latrobe, PA facility. Working with QuesTek, we accelerate introducing premium alloys to customers for vital defense and commercial applications."

Mr Charlie Kuehmann president & CEO of QuesTek said that "We are pleased to award these licenses to Latrobe. These licenses build upon our earlier license to Latrobe of Ferrium S53®, our ultra high strength, corrosion resistant steel used for aircraft landing gear and other applications. We look forward to working further with Latrobe, their customers and design engineers worldwide to identify valuable product applications of Ferrium C61, C64 and S53."

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