

January 29, 2007

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**Ormet Announces Several Recent Developments**

Hannibal, Ohio – Ormet Corporation, a top U.S. producer of aluminum, today announced several items of interest

Ormet's sixth and final potline was energized as planned on November 28, 2007. "The restart was successful with no injuries and only two failures of restarted pots," said Ormet's CEO Mike Tanchuk. "The restart had no negative effect on the other operating lines and in fact, process stability, production and metal purity all improved plant-wide during the restart."

The sixth potline is now fully operational with steadily improving metal grades while the plant is operating at 90 percent of capacity with metal purity significantly above historical performance. "Plant efficiency is at its historical best levels," added Tanchuk.

Ormet officials also announced that they have finalized a Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation waiver for the 2006 contribution, which was to be funded in 2007, on January 23, 2008 and completed related documents that resulted in a reduction of reserves required by the banks giving Ormet an additional net \$15 million of availability under its bank lines. Concurrently, Ormet also contributed an additional \$3 million to the pension funds.

Ormet also announced relevant developments in its business:

- The company has secured sales contracts for 98 percent and approximately 50 percent of metal units at market prices for 2008 and 2009, respectively.

- Holding operations at Ormet's Burnside Terminal were recently downsized resulting in a further reduction of holding costs by \$3 million after severance costs in 2008.
- Ormet has placed a hedge for 12,500 metric tonnes of aluminum per month for February through December 2008, and 5,000 metric tonnes per month for 2009. Additionally, alumina contracts tied to the London Metals Exchange are now in place for 2008 that equates to an additional 28 percent of a natural hedge.
- The United States Bankruptcy Court Southern District of Ohio Eastern Division approved the 9019 motion on January 23, 2008. 690,000 Shares will be issued after 11 days with a reservation of shares for a group of 11 asbestos and hearing loss cases that did not enter into releases. The company is awaiting approvals before releasing the shares that will be reserved.
- Ormet has accepted the resignation of Peter Cecchini from his position on the board of directors. He is leaving for personal reasons.
- As of January 28, the company's liquidity was \$20 million.
- The USWA and the company have agreed to defer up to \$7.1 million in VEBA trust contributions during 2008 until 2010 and 2011.

Various statements contained in this press release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the federal securities laws. Such statements are based on current expectations, and the actual results and the timing of certain events could differ materially from those projected in or contemplated by these forward-looking statements due to a number of factors, including but not limited to the liquidity and capital needs of Ormet. Readers are cautioned that Ormet's business is subject to numerous significant risks and uncertainties

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Headquartered in Hannibal, Ohio, Ormet Corporation is a major U.S. producer of aluminum. Ormet employs approximately 1,000 people. For more information, visit the website at [www.ormet.com](http://www.ormet.com).