



ArcelorMittal

History of Steel in Cleveland

Steelmaking in Cleveland has its roots in the first iron companies that began here in the 1830s. In the next few decades, the industry flourished as Cleveland's strategic location gave it an advantage for deliveries of iron ore by water and coal by rail. In the 1870s, **Otis Iron and Steel Co.**'s Lakeside Works in Cleveland became the first mill in America to produce commercial-grade steel with a new process, the basic open-hearth furnace. But it was during the 20th century that Cleveland's steel industry really took off.

In 1912, Otis Steel constructed its Riverside Works on the west side of the Cuyahoga River. From 1913 to 1916, the **Corrigan-McKinney Steel Co.** built two new blast furnaces on the west side of the river, adding to its two existing blast furnaces. In 1935, Corrigan-McKinney was acquired by **Republic Steel Corp.**, and, in 1942, **Jones & Laughlin Steel Corp.** (J&L) bought out Otis. The new owners invested heavily in expansion, and J&L added another blast furnace named "Susan." Today, Susan and the other west side furnaces are no longer standing. The two blast furnaces that remain in Cleveland, named C5 and C6, are on the east side of the river. The C5 furnace was built in 1942 by the **Defense Plant Corp.**, though it was primarily operated by Republic Steel. Republic eventually bought C5, and in 1952 the company also built the C6 furnace.

Employment in Cleveland's iron and steel industry went from 374 in 1860 to more than 30,000 in the prosperity after World War II. The Cleveland mills were able to weather the Great Depression, and innovation continued through the 1960s, when Republic Steel built two basic oxygen furnaces, the latest in steelmaking technology. In 1969, the finishing units were added and in 1971 the hot strip mill began operations. In 1983, Republic Steel commissioned a new continuous caster. The first slab cast remains on display outside of what is today known as #1 Steel Producing.

In the 1980s, a recession, high operating costs, low-cost steel imports and the decline of the U.S. auto industry put the steel industry into a steep decline. Republic and J&L merged in 1984 to form the **LTV Steel Corp.**, but in two years LTV filed for reorganization under Chapter 11 bankruptcy. LTV bounced back in the 1990s, and in that period it made \$1.1 billion in investments. Innovation once again played a role, including LTV's installation of a continuous process for converting molten steel into slabs that are then processed into hot-rolled steel, keeping Cleveland's mills modern and competitive. Unfortunately, a slowing U.S. economy, high costs and foreign competition again forced LTV into bankruptcy. This time, it was unable to recover. The entire facility was shut down in November 2001.

But **International Steel Group** (ISG) was determined to put Cleveland back in the steel business. It purchased the Cleveland facility, along with other locations, and fired up the furnaces once again, partnering with the United Steelworkers to create a different business model that included more streamlined operations and very lean staffing.

In April 2005, **Mittal Steel** saw the value of the Cleveland facility and merged with ISG. The Cleveland facility was a key element in the transaction. In the spring of 2006, Mittal Steel converted an existing facility in Cleveland into a hot dip galvanizing line which provides top-quality galvanized sheet steel to automakers and other customers. The new line was designed to produce in excess of 630,000 tons of corrosion-resistant sheet annually.

Later in 2006, Mittal Steel and the European company **Arcelor** reached an agreement to combine the two companies in a merger of equals. The combined group, headquartered in Luxembourg, was named **ArcelorMittal** and made the Cleveland plant a part of the world's largest steel company.

Today, **ArcelorMittal Cleveland** is one of the company's largest facilities, covering more than 950 acres of land with 7,000,000 square feet of buildings. It is a fully integrated steelmaking plant with two blast furnaces that feed two steelmaking facilities capable of producing 3.6 million tons of raw steel annually. ArcelorMittal Cleveland is also recognized as one of the most productive integrated steel mills in the world, based on tons of steel produced per worker hour.

ArcelorMittal is the world's number one steel company, with over 200,000 employees in more than 60 countries. It has led the consolidation of the world steel industry and today ranks as the only truly global steelmaker. ArcelorMittal is the leader in all major global markets, including automotive, construction, household appliances and packaging. The Group leads in research, development and technology, holds sizeable captive supplies of raw materials and operates extensive distribution networks. Its industrial presence in Europe, Asia, Africa and America gives ArcelorMittal exposure to all the key steel markets, from emerging to mature.