

**For Immediate Release**

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## **Alton Steel Announces New CEO to Succeed Retiring CEO**

**Monday, February 5, 2024, Alton, Illinois** – Alton Steel Inc. (ASI), a leading manufacturer of high-quality steel products, announced the appointment of Alton native Chris Ervin as the new CEO effective today. Ervin will succeed Chief Executive Jim Hrusovsky who announced his retirement today after 10 years of distinguished leadership. The two leaders will work together closely during the transition until Hrusovsky’s retirement in September. After that, Hrusovsky will remain a part of the team as a consultant.

Ervin was chosen to lead ASI by the Board of Directors after an extensive national search for Hrusovsky’s replacement. He has over 25 years of experience in steel production and processing. While Ervin emerged quickly as the leading candidate based upon his leadership skills and industry experience, his Alton roots were an added factor to the selection.

“ASI has a strong track record of success, and together we can build on this legacy and create even more success in the years to come,” explains Ervin. He spent 19 years with Gerdau-Long Steel North America in progressively challenging roles, eventually becoming the VP of their West Coast Rebar Operations. More recently he worked as the General Manager for Dubose Steel in North Carolina and as the Regional General Manager for Canam Steel Corporation in Jacksonville, FL.

“Chris was the perfect choice as the new CEO to help transition ASI into the future, which is very bright,” said Hrusovsky. “We have several big projects underway right now, and we need someone with Chris’ background and leadership skills to help see them through successfully.” Ervin is particularly excited about driving technological advancements, expanding into new markets, and solidifying the company’s sustainability efforts in steel production.

“It has been the honor of a lifetime to serve as CEO for ASI,” said Hrusovsky. “This is a bittersweet decision for me. I’ve worked for many companies over the years, and ASI has been the most rewarding place I’ve ever worked.”

ASI has a rich history in Alton and has most recently established itself as a key player in the Special Bar Quality (SBQ) marketplace. The company has become a leader in producing sustainable steel products and is a vital part of the regional economy. The company currently has about 250 salaried and union employees. While other steel producers in the region are curtailing production, ASI is expanding its product offerings and actively hiring employees.

ASI has a strong and diverse customer base. Many of its over 100 customers are also privately-owned, so they appreciate working with a company like Alton Steel. ASI’s track-record for on-time and efficient deliveries has also been an important factor in the growth of the company. ASI has historically ranked highly for customer service and total value by the Jacobson & Associates Steel Customer Satisfaction Report.

*Alton Steel Inc. established in 2003, is a Special Bar Quality (SBQ) steel mill producing rounds, round-cornered squares, and bar-in-coil in the heartland of America. Through continued investment for a promising future, Alton Steel offers products at a competitive price with a dedicated focus on great customer service. ASI’s current production includes a full range of carbon and alloy grades. Flexible and frequent rolling offers quick response and better inventory control to our customers. [www.altonsteel.com](http://www.altonsteel.com) and on Facebook @AltonSteelInc.*

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