



News Release

Corporate Communications Contact:

Heiki Miki, Overseas Business Division Director

+81-3-6265-1609 | [info@shinagawa-ref.jp](mailto:info@shinagawa-ref.jp)

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For Immediate Release

### **Further Business Expansion in China:**

#### **Shinagawa to Establish a New Manufacturing Plant for Continuous Casting Flow Control Refractories through Liaoning Shinagawa Hefeng Metallurgical Material**

Tokyo, Japan – Shinagawa Refractories (“Shinagawa”), the leading global supplier of high quality refractory solutions, announces that it will establish a new manufacturing plant of alumina graphite flow control refractories for continuous casting of steelmaking in Liaoning, China. This project represents another strategic milestone in Shinagawa’s focus on “PROXIMITY” to deliver customer-oriented refractory solutions and services to essential industries.

Shinagawa and Anshan Hefeng Refractory Material (“Hefeng”), one of the most prestigious and well-respected refractory producers in China, established Liaoning Shinagawa Hefeng Metallurgical Material (“Shinagawa Hefeng”) in 2008 as a joint venture to locally produce mold powder for continuous casting. Shinagawa Hefeng has expanded its business over the years and gained high recognition from major steel producers in China, South Korea and many other countries in Southeast Asia.

In 2024, the year that marks the 16th anniversary of this successful joint venture, Shinagawa and Hefeng decided to seek further growth through Shinagawa Hefeng and to build a new flow control refractory production facility within Shinagawa Hefeng’s premises.

Shinagawa and Hefeng had entered into, on July 1, 2022, a Know-how License Agreement for continuous casting refractory products and services, and this movement is to advance and accelerate further enhancement of Shinagawa’s proximity for customers in China, the world’s largest steel producing country.



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With a drastic shift from quantity-driven to quality-driven in the steel industry in China and other Asian markets, there are growing needs for high-quality refractory solutions such as continuous casting sub-merged entry nozzles. Both mold powders and flow control nozzles play critical roles in continuous casting process of steelmaking, and Shinagawa is committed to bringing about further technological synergy through Shinagawa Hefeng to serve such needs of refractory solution for high-quality steel.

Targeted project timeline includes gaining local authorities' permission towards the end of 2024, commencement of construction by 2025 spring and commissioning of commercial operation in 2026 spring.

For more information, please contact us at +81-3-6265-1602 or [info@shinagawa-ref.jp](mailto:info@shinagawa-ref.jp).