



**NEWS RELEASE** – August 29, 2011. Mishawaka, IN.

Stripco Inc. announced an expansion project at its facility in Mishawaka, Indiana. The flat rolled steel processor and service center will install a pickling line that features EPS technology (Eco Pickled Surface) from The Material Works. EPS is an environmentally friendly pickling technology that uses slurry blasting as an alternative to traditional acid pickling. There are no toxic chemicals involved in the process. Rather a mixture of steel grit, water, and rust-inhibitor is used to remove scale from hot rolled black surfaces. The innovative approach to pickling also creates a more consistent surface, removes light hot mill defects, and is available dry but still corrosion-resistant.

The Material Works and EPS were named American Metal Market's 2011 Awards for Steel Excellence winner of the Environmental Responsibility / Stewardship category and finalist in the Best Innovation category.

Stripco's pickling line, the first EPS installation in North America outside of The Material Works, will run coils up to .375 inches thick, 72 inches wide, and 60,000 lbs. Annual capacity is 200,000 tons. The line is built by Red Bud Industries and will have a shape-correction leveler from Braner USA. Production is set to begin in December 2011.

"We are excited to work with EPS technology as it's introduced to the steel industry," said Eric Hiler, General Manager of Stripco. "The surface is fantastic; it almost looks like cold roll. Our customers certainly see value in the uniform surface, the fact that it's available dry (no oil), and the environmentally friendly process; all at a price comparable to traditional acid pickling."

You are invited to follow the construction and installation progress on Twitter @stripco and the company's website <http://stripco.com>.

**More Information on Stripco Inc:**

Established in 1984, Stripco processes flat rolled steel products at the nearly 250,000-square-foot facility in Mishawaka, IN. Stripco began with a focus on narrow (down to .300 wide) slitting and custom edge conditioning. The company added its precision cold rolled strip division in 1996. Today, Stripco does slitting, edging, cutting-to-length, oscillating, cold rolling, annealing, and tempering to make a wide variety of products and serve many industries. Learn more at [stripco.com](http://stripco.com).

**More Information on The Material Works:**

The Material Works, Ltd is a toll processor and technology company in Red Bud, IL that offers state-of-the-art slitting, blanking / CTL, stretcher leveling, and patented EPS (Eco Pickled Surface). EPS is a registered trademark of The Material Works, Ltd. Learn more at [thematwks.com](http://thematwks.com) or [epsprocess.com](http://epsprocess.com).

**More Information on Red Bud Industries:**

Red Bud Industries is a manufacturer of coil processing equipment with over 50 years of experience and more than 1,000 installations worldwide. Products include precision cut-to-length, blanking, multi-blanking, slitting, coil-to-coil leveling and in-line stretcher leveling. EPS lines are now available in both sheet and coil versions. Learn more at [redbudindustries.com](http://redbudindustries.com).

**More Information on Braner USA:**

Braner USA, Inc. is a leading builder of high-performance mill-duty coil slitting lines, automatic slit coil packaging lines, leveling / cut-to-length lines, multi-blanking lines, and specialty coil-processing systems. Learn more at [braner.com](http://braner.com).