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Wise Alloys' Alabama Facility Operational Following Hurricane Katrina

MUSCLE SHOALS, Ala. – An emergency response plan implemented at Wise Alloys Alabama facility helped ensure employee safety and safeguard the Muscle Shoals facility during Hurricane Katrina. While the plan remains in effect, the plant sustained no major damage and continues to operate, Wise Metals Group officials announced today.

The plan included measures such as on-site monitoring for flooding and establishing regular contact with state, county and local emergency management officials.

“The execution of our emergency response plan by our management group was exceptional,” said Wise Metals Group President and Chief Operating Officer Randall R. Powers. “At our Alabama plant, we prepared for the worst and had very little structural damage to the facility. In preparation, our employees did everything possible to protect our inventory and currently we have not identified any noticeable damage.

“The only curtailment in production was to our coating line, which was shut down for one shift Monday night to protect the quality of our product,” Powers continued. “We plan to be right on track by later this week and we will not miss any customer shipments.”

Powers said Wise Metals Group officials have been in contact with customers to inform them of the Henry Hub (the centralized point for natural gas futures trading in the U. S.) declaration of *force majeure*. Because of Hurricane Katrina, there have been curtailments in gas availability, but as of Wednesday, Wise Alloy's natural gas supplier indicated there should be no restrictions as of Thursday, Sept. 1. Company officials plan to closely monitor the situation.

About Wise Metals Group

Based in Baltimore, Md., Wise Metals Group LLC includes Wise Alloys, the world's third leading producer of aluminum can stock for the beverage and food industries and an environmentally friendly company using recycled aluminum in the production of its can stock; Wise Recycling, one of the largest, direct-from-the-public collectors of aluminum beverage containers in the United States, operating shipping and processing locations throughout the United States that support a network of neighborhood collection centers; and Listerhill Total Maintenance Center, specializing in providing maintenance, repairs and fabrication to manufacturing and industrial plants worldwide ranging from small on-site repairs to complete turn-key maintenance.

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