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ArcelorMittal

# news release

## The improvement ideas of ArcelorMittal Ostrava's employees have saved the company CZK 25 million

Ostrava, February 12, 2019 – Like the previous years, employees of the Ostrava steelworks came up with improvement ideas also last year. These improvements will e.g. save time, improve efficiency of production, or provide more safety at work. In total, they submitted 293 improvement proposals. 255 of these were approved for implementation and 174 have already been successfully implemented. The implemented improvement ideas have generated savings of over CZK 25 million. The authors of the improvement ideas have received remuneration of a total value of CZK 2 million.

"Last year, employees presented 293 ideas to improve the production process, reduce costs or environmental impact. Most of them have been accepted for implementation, which shows the good quality of these improvement ideas. We have been keeping a detailed track of improvement ideas for 16 years. Until now the employees have come up with more than 3000 improvement ideas," says Kateřina Roučková who is responsible for improvement ideas in ArcelorMittal Ostrava.

Last year's ideas for improvements that are already being used in practice include, for example, modifications of software and introduction of new technologies that shorten the time of changeovers or downtimes in the rolling mills, more efficient use of refractories during tandem furnaces repair at the steel shop, saving electricity by using ecological LED modules lighting instead of vacuum tubes at blast furnaces, or the modification of the tilting of the railway wagons by the transport plant.

Last year, employees were also successful with small improvements. The main objective of these small improvements is to reduce administrative burden, speed up the approval processes or simply lower the labour intensity of particular activities. They proposed 163 small improvements last year and were rewarded for each of the implementable ideas, too.

**ArcelorMittal Ostrava a.s.** is part of the world's largest steel and mining group ArcelorMittal. Annually it produces over 2 million tonnes of steel, which is mainly used in construction and machinery. It is the biggest manufacturer of road safety barriers and pipes in the Czech Republic. Besides the domestic market, the company delivers its products to more than 40 countries around the world. ArcelorMittal Ostrava and its subsidiaries employ 6 500 people. The 2018 average monthly income was CZK 39 180. As a result of the completion of a range of above-standard emission control technologies, the company produces its products with the minimum possible environmental footprint. The sole shareholder is ArcelorMittal S.A.