

MEDIA RELEASE
13 AUGUST 2020

NEASA WITHDRAWS APPLICATION FOR URGENT COURT INTERDICT

Johannesburg, 13 August 2020: Neasa has withdrawn its application for an urgent interdict against the Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition and ITAC to prevent them making a decision relating to customs duties on certain coated and plated flat-rolled steel products, after ArcelorMittal South Africa and ITAC filed papers in response to the application. ArcelorMittal South Africa was cited as a respondent in the application.

ArcelorMittal South Africa believes that the urgent application filed by Neasa had no merit and was premature given the comprehensive and thorough due diligence process that still needs to be undertaken by ITAC before a final decision is made.

ArcelorMittal South Africa remains convinced that import duties and safeguards are a critical part of the suite of measures needed to ensure sustainability of not just one company, but the country's steel sector in its entirety (upstream and downstream). Many countries around the world have protected their steel production capacity through measures more stringent than those implemented by the South African government. The increase in the volume of imports has placed the South African steel industry in a desperate situation, where the industry is fighting for survival and trying to protect jobs. Should we fail to act as a country, there is a very real threat that the primary steel sector may not survive, with devastating consequences for the entire industry.

Contacts:

ArcelorMittal South Africa:
Tami Didiza, Group Manager: Stakeholder Management and Communication
083 298 1608
Tami.didiza@arcelormittal.com

Aprio Strategic Communications (on behalf of ArcelorMittal SA):
Tracey Peterson
083 408 7173
tracey@aprio.co.za