



## Novamerican Steel

### PRESS RELEASE

Attention Business/Financial Editors:

### NOVAMERICAN REPORTS 30<sup>TH</sup> CONSECUTIVE PROFITABLE QUARTER

MONTREAL, June 29, 2005 - Novamerican Steel Inc. (NASDAQ: TONS) announced today its financial results for the second quarter ended May 28, 2005. (All amounts are in U.S. dollars).

#### SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

*(in thousands of U.S. dollars, except per share and tons data)*

	QUARTER ENDED		
	May 28, 2005	May 28, 2004	Change
Net sales	\$217,962	\$204,286	\$13,676
Gross margin	19.7%	29.8%	-10.1%
Net income	\$8,676	\$20,553	(\$11,877)
Basic income per share	\$0.88	\$2.12	(\$1.24)
Diluted income per share	\$0.84	\$2.07	(\$1.23)
Tons sold	229,979	251,394	(21,415)
Tons processed	259,391	233,752	25,639
	489,370	485,146	4,224
	SIX MONTHS ENDED		
	May 28, 2005	May 28, 2004	Change
Net sales	\$424,319	\$351,715	\$72,604
Gross margin	20.3%	28.1%	-7.8%
Net income	\$18,775	\$27,589	(\$8,814)
Basic income per share	\$1.91	\$2.84	(\$0.93)
Diluted income per share	\$1.82	\$2.80	(\$0.98)
Tons sold	435,741	480,301	(44,560)
Tons processed	502,317	441,356	60,961
	938,058	921,657	16,401

## **SECOND QUARTER RESULTS**

Despite difficult market conditions, the Company achieved its 30<sup>th</sup> consecutive profitable quarter.

Sales for the second quarter increased by \$13.7 million, or 6.7%, to \$218.0 million from \$204.3 million for the same period in 2004.

Sales for the six months ended May 28, 2005 increased by \$72.6 million, or 20.6%, to \$424.3 million from \$351.7 million in 2004.

Tons sold and processed in the second quarter of 2005 increased by 4,224 tons, or 0.9%, to 489,370 tons from 485,146 in the second quarter of 2004. While tons sold in the second quarter of 2005 decreased by 21,415 tons or 8.5%, tons processed increased by 25,639 tons or 11.0% compared with the second quarter of 2004.

Tons sold and processed for the six months ended May 28, 2005 increased by 16,401 tons, or 1.8%, to 938,058 tons from 921,657 tons in 2004. While tons sold for the six months ended May 28, 2005 decreased by 44,560 tons or 9.3%, tons processed increased by 60,961 tons or 13.8% compared with the same period in 2004.

The gross margin for the second quarter 2005 decreased to 19.7% from 29.8% in 2004.

The gross margin for the six months ended May 28, 2005 decreased to 20.3% from 28.1% in 2004.

Net income for the second quarter decreased by \$11.9 million, or 57.8% to \$8.7 million, or \$0.88 per share (\$0.84 after dilution), versus \$20.6 million, or \$2.12 per share (\$2.07 after dilution), for the same period in 2004. It was adversely affected by non-recurring costs of the Company's secondary share issue in the amount of \$1.0 million.

Net income for the six months ended May 28, 2005 decreased by \$8.8 million, or 31.9%, to \$18.8 million, or \$1.91 (\$1.82 after dilution) per share, versus \$27.6 million, or \$2.84 per share (\$2.80 after dilution), for the first six months of 2004.

## **OPERATIONS**

The second quarter proved to be more difficult than anticipated due to continued downward price pressure which adversely affected margins. Tons sold were down from the same period last year due mostly to the absence of customer hedge buying which characterized the first six months of 2004. Lead times at North American steel mills remained short and many customers reduced inventories to minimum levels in an environment of declining prices.

## **OUTLOOK**

Flat rolled steel prices will likely remain under pressure throughout the summer months due to seasonally weak demand and ongoing reductions in inventories. Management believes the supply/demand balance is approaching equilibrium, which should lead to price stability sometime in August or September. There appears to be a softening in demand which may be explained by steel buyers delaying purchases in anticipation of lower pricing and/or extended summer shutdowns.

## **COMPANY DESCRIPTION**

Novamerican Steel Inc., based in Montreal, Canada with twelve operating locations in Canada and eleven operating locations in the United States, processes and distributes carbon steel, stainless steel and aluminum products, including carbon steel tubing for structural and automotive markets.

## **FORWARD-LOOKING (SAFE HARBOUR) STATEMENTS**

Except for historical information contained herein, the matters set forth in this press release are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties including, but not limited to, product demand, competition, regulatory approvals, the effect of economic conditions and technological difficulties and other risks detailed in the Company's filings with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

## **CONTACTS**

For further information: Christopher H. Pickwood, CA, Chief Financial Officer, Novamerican Steel Inc. (514) 368-6455. Visit us at [www.novamerican.com](http://www.novamerican.com).

*Conference call: Wednesday June 29, 2005 at 5:00 pm. Please call 514-368-6455 for details.*

**Novamerican Steel Inc. and Subsidiaries - Consolidated Financial Statements**  
(unaudited)

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**

(in accordance with U.S. GAAP, in thousands of U.S. dollars, except per share and tons data)

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	May 28, 2005	May 29, 2004	May 28, 2005	May 29, 2004
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Net sales</b>	217,962	204,286	424,319	351,715
Cost of sales	175,013	143,328	338,124	253,027
<b>Gross margin</b>	42,949	60,958	86,195	98,688
<b>Operating expenses</b>				
Plant	10,793	10,197	21,558	20,570
Delivery	6,398	5,205	11,127	9,894
Selling	3,304	3,359	6,891	6,515
Administrative and general	7,804	8,337	15,213	16,026
	28,299	27,098	54,789	53,005
<b>Operating income</b>	14,650	33,860	31,406	45,683
Interest expense	1,368	1,219	2,518	2,530
Share in income of a joint venture	(143)	(111)	(260)	(196)
	1,225	1,108	2,258	2,334
Income before income taxes	13,425	32,752	29,148	43,349
Income taxes	4,749	12,199	10,373	15,760
<b>Net income</b>	8,676	20,553	18,775	27,589
<b>Net income per share</b>				
Basic	0.88	2.12	1.91	2.84
Diluted	0.84	2.07	1.82	2.80
Weighted average number of shares outstanding	9,877,084	9,700,000	9,831,587	9,700,000
<b>Comprehensive income</b>				
Net income	8,676	20,553	18,775	27,589
Change in cumulative translation adjustment	(1,978)	(1,679)	(6,388)	(4,045)
Change in fair value of interest rate swap, net of deferred income taxes	93	322	260	289
	6,791	19,196	12,647	23,833
Tons sold	229,979	251,394	435,741	480,301
Tons processed	259,391	233,752	502,317	441,356
	489,370	485,146	938,058	921,657

***Novamerican Steel Inc. and Subsidiaries - Consolidated Financial Statements***  
*(unaudited)*

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY**

(in accordance with U.S. GAAP, in thousands of U.S. dollars, except share data)

	Common Shares		Retained Earnings	Accumulated	Total Shareholders' Equity
	Number	Amount		Other Comprehensive Income	
		\$	\$	\$	\$
Balance at November 27, 2004	9,786,089	29,609	184,782	16,317	230,708
Options exercised	370,137	5,182			5,182
Net income			18,775		18,775
Changes in cumulative translation adjustment				(6,388)	(6,388)
Change in fair value of interest rate swap, net of deferred income taxes	-	-	-	260	260
Balance at May 28, 2005	<u>10,156,226</u>	<u>34,791</u>	<u>203,557</u>	<u>10,189</u>	<u>248,537</u>

## Novamerican Steel Inc. and Subsidiaries - Consolidated Financial Statements

(unaudited)

### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

(in accordance with U.S. GAAP, in thousands of U.S. dollars)

	Three months ended		Six months ended	
	May 28, 2005	May 29, 2004	May 28, 2005	May 29, 2004
	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Net income	8,676	20,553	18,775	27,589
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash from operating activities				
Depreciation and amortization	2,508	2,307	4,843	4,289
Share in income of a joint venture	(143)	(111)	(260)	(196)
Deferred income taxes	63	804	(178)	750
Loss (gain) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	104	(16)	104	451
Changes in working capital items				
Accounts receivable	864	(20,538)	(1,874)	(34,778)
Income taxes receivable	(2,814)	-	(2,814)	595
Inventories	27,236	(3,740)	2,954	(21,800)
Prepaid expenses and other	(2,197)	337	(2,077)	(674)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(13,548)	5,201	(21,097)	10,108
Income taxes payable	(5,655)	7,580	(19,402)	8,389
<b>Net cash from (used for) operating activities</b>	<b>15,094</b>	<b>12,377</b>	<b>(21,026)</b>	<b>(5,277)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Issue of common shares	5,182	-	5,182	-
Acquisition of minority interest	-	-	(204)	(161)
Distribution from a joint venture	-	-	-	255
Additions to property, plant and equipment	(1,012)	(2,626)	(2,645)	(4,692)
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	114	29	119	2,421
Other assets	-	(75)	-	(124)
<b>Net cash from (used for) investing activities</b>	<b>4,284</b>	<b>(2,672)</b>	<b>2,452</b>	<b>(2,301)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>				
Net increase (decrease) in bank indebtedness	(4,868)	(1,240)	20,514	(2,557)
Advance due to an employee	75	-	495	-
Proceeds from long-term debt	(3,937)	2,679	2,345	15,746
Repayment of long-term debt	(1,706)	(9,522)	(3,032)	(12,225)
<b>Net cash from (used for) financing activities</b>	<b>(10,436)</b>	<b>(8,083)</b>	<b>20,322</b>	<b>964</b>
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(201)	(165)	(461)	(297)
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>8,741</b>	<b>1,457</b>	<b>1,287</b>	<b>(6,911)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	4,008	2,897	11,462	11,265
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>12,749</u>	<u>4,354</u>	<u>12,749</u>	<u>4,354</u>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL DISCLOSURE OF CASH FLOW INFORMATION</b>				
Interest paid	1,686	1,488	2,340	2,316
Income taxes paid	13,772	3,988	30,723	6,140

## *Novamerican Steel Inc. and Subsidiaries - Consolidated Financial Statements*

### CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in accordance with U.S. GAAP, in thousands of U.S. dollars)

	May 28, 2005	May 29, 2004	November 27, 2004
	<i>unaudited</i>	<i>unaudited</i>	<i>audited</i>
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	12,749	4,354	11,462
Accounts receivable	123,511	113,718	125,718
Income taxes receivable	2,866	-	-
Inventories	165,156	111,926	172,850
Prepaid expenses and other	2,841	1,974	799
Deferred income taxes	1,115	1,505	1,651
	308,238	233,477	312,480
Investment in a joint venture	2,523	3,298	2,263
Property, plant and equipment	101,830	101,183	106,308
Goodwill	12,992	12,791	12,789
Other assets	745	1,258	1,040
	426,328	352,007	434,880
 <b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Current portion of long-term debt	53,120	4,936	4,855
Fair value of interest rate swap	300	-	-
Bank indebtedness	23,478	15,454	3,442
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	79,707	83,183	103,964
Income taxes payable	-	8,239	19,988
	156,605	111,812	132,249
Long-term debt	7,429	55,714	56,766
Fair value of interest rate swap	-	1,271	741
Deferred income taxes	13,757	13,662	14,416
	177,791	182,459	204,172
 <b>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>			
Share capital	34,791	28,404	29,609
Retained earnings	203,557	139,460	184,782
Accumulated other comprehensive income	10,189	1,684	16,317
	248,537	169,548	230,708
	426,328	352,007	434,880