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March 16, 2004.

The U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, N. W.
Room 3117
Office of International Corporate Finance
Mail Stop 3-9
Washington, D.C.20549
U. S. A.



SUPPL

Rule 12g3-2(b) Exemption
of Kobe Steel, Ltd.,
File number:82-3371

Dear Madam/Sir:

In connection with Kobe Steel Ltd.'s exemption pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) from the registration and reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and in compliance with its ongoing requirements under Rule 12g3-2(b)(iii), please find enclosed a copy of the Company's release today covering

"Kobe Steel announces new representative directors "

Thank you for your assistance in handling it as required.

MAR 25 2004

FINANCIAL

Sincerely yours,

Kanao Nakagawa
Finance Department
Kobe Steel, Ltd.

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NEWS RELEASE

06 MAR 23 PM 7:21

Kobe Steel announces new representative directors

TOKYO, March 16, 2004 – Kobe Steel, Ltd. announces changes in its representative directors. This decision was reached at the board of directors' meeting held today.

Kobe Steel intends to appoint new representative directors after resolution at the ordinary general shareholders' meeting to be held in late June and the board of directors' meeting that follows. The new representative directors and their titles will be:

Koshi Mizukoshi

New title: Chairman and Representative Director

Current title: President, Chief Executive Officer, and Representative Director

Yasuo Inubushi

New title: President, Chief Executive Officer, and Representative Director

Current title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Hiroshi Sato

New title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Current title: Senior Managing Director

Toshio Kimura

New title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Current title: Executive Officer

The following representative directors will retire in late June:

Tsuguto Moriwaki

New title: President and Director, Shinsho Corporation

Current title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Shinji Yano

New title: President and Director, Kobelco & Materials Copper Tube, Ltd.

Current title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Appointments of representative directors and top executives effective April 1 follow below. These interim appointments will continue until late June, at which time the general shareholders' meeting and board of directors' meeting will finalize the changes in representative directors.

Koshi Mizukoshi

New title: Chairman and Representative Director

Current title: President, Chief Executive Officer, and Representative Director

Yasuo Inubushi

New title: President, Chief Executive Officer, and Representative Director

Current title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Tsuguto Moriwaki

New title: Executive Vice President and Director

Current title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Shinji Yano

New title: Executive Vice President and Director, Kobe Steel

President and Director, Kobelco & Materials Copper Tube, Ltd.

Current title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Hiroshi Sato

New title: Executive Vice President and Representative Director

Current title: Senior Managing Director

Toshio Kimura

New title: Executive Vice President and Officer

Current title: Executive Officer

Media Contact:

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