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## **VSB: the first Consteel® in South America**

Milan, April 2008 - Tenova Melt Shops has been chosen by Vallourec & Sumitomo Tubos do Brasil Ltda, a joint venture formed in mid-2007 by France's Vallourec and Japan's Sumitomo, to supply a greenfield plant in Brazil comprising Consteel®, an EAF and a Dedusting System.

The facility will be installed at the new seamless steel tube production center to be built in Jeceaba, in the region of Minas Gerais, an area with some of the world's richest iron-ore reserves.

The 140 t electric arc furnace fitted with the Consteel® system will turn out more than 1 million tons of liquid steel a year. Production is expected to begin in 2010.

"This is the first Consteel® installation in South America," says proudly Raimondo di Carpegna Varini, Senior Vice President Tenova S.p.A. "Moreover the agreement was drawn up in just nine months, a record time for a project of this scale."

The plant will be the first in the world to use an innovative metal feed mix for an electric steel mill, explains Francesco Memoli, Area Manager North & South America at Tenova Metal Making. "The furnace can be charged with up to 80% of solid and liquid pig iron, including more than 50% of hot metal. This combination will guarantee high productivity and cut costs, while the Consteel® technology will reduce environmental impact".

The project confirms Consteel® as the preferred technology in the market for high-quality plants. It also provides Tenova with a major reference in an area offering some of the richest reserves of raw materials for steel production.

Tenova designs and supplies advanced technologies, products and services for the metal and mining industries. Tenova operates close to its customers through a network of 30 companies based in 16 different countries. For more information visit our website at [www.tenovagroup.com](http://www.tenovagroup.com).