

A MINING AND METALLURGICAL GROUP WITH AN INTERNATIONAL FOOTPRINT, ERAMET IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S LEADING PRODUCERS OF **ALLOYING METALS**, PARTICULARLY MANGANESE AND NICKEL, WHICH ARE USED TO IMPROVE THE PROPERTIES OF STEEL, AND OF **HIGH-PERFORMANCE SPECIAL STEELS AND ALLOYS** USED BY INDUSTRIES LIKE AEROSPACE, POWER GENERATION AND TOOLING.

## "PRODUCTIVITY GAINS AND SUBSTANTIAL COST REDUCTIONS IN 2014."

Patrick BUFFET ERAMET Chairman & CEO

hat's your view of the ERAMET Group's current situation?
Patrick Buffet: With external conditions that were often difficult for our alloying metals and our upscale metallurgy, 2014 was marked by considerable management efforts, which led to productivity gains and substantial cost reductions (representing a total of over €100 million for the year), and by an overall improvement in results, particularly current operating income which grew sharply (from - €45 million in 2013 to + €75 million in 2014).

Net debt totalled €547 million at the end of 2014 with a debt-to-equity ratio of 20%. Capital expenditure was reduced by 41% to €346 million. Control of capital expenditure and the debt-to-equity ratio, which remains quite reasonable, gives the Group a sound financial situation. ERAMET also has high cash levels.

The productivity gains and cost reductions achieved by the whole Group will continue at a similar pace over the next three years (2015-2017)

#### What were the highlights of 2014?

- **P. B.:** Our extensive efforts to reduce costs and improve productivity in every segment of the Group came with the completion of a major capital expenditure programme that focuses on industrial development and structures the Group for the future:
- The start-up of Moanda Metallurgical Complex (C2M) in Gabon, comprised of a silicomanganese plant (65,000 tons/year) and a manganese metal plant (20,000 tons/year). The ERAMET Group's presence in Gabon is now even stronger thanks to this complex for processing the manganese ore we mine locally.
- Ramp-up began in 2014 on the new Grande Côte site in Senegal, where mineral sands are mined and zirconium separated from titanium ore by TiZir, a 50/50 joint venture with the Australian company Mineral Deposits Limited. The first ore shipments were made in the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of 2014.

#### How do you see 2015 and the following years?

**P. B.:** In 2015, if current economic trends continue (lower oil prices, currency fluctuations) and nickel prices improve as the sector's experts forecast, the Group's performances should improve.

An improvement in nickel prices is expected in 2015 because of the Indonesian ban\*, with most of the

€3,744 M TURNOVER €75 M CURRENT OPERATING INCOME BASES IN 20 COUNTRIES

WORLD PRODUCER OF FERRONICKEL

WORLD PRODUCER OF HIGH-POWER CLOSED-DIE **FORGED PARTS** 

WORLD PRODUCER OF HIGH-GRADE MANGANESE ORE

metal and ore inventory built up before 2014 likely to be gradually reabsorbed.

At the same time, ERAMET will keep up its performance improvement and capex control effort with maximum efficiency in all areas.

The Group is targeting around €90 million in cost reductions and product improvements in 2015. As I said before, ERAMET is aiming for €360 million in total impact on its current operating income for the period 2014-2017.

Capex will be kept under the €400 million threshold

in 2015, as it was in 2014. In all three Divisions, Production should benefit from the ramp-up of the heavy investments in capacity made in the period 2011-2013.

In conclusion, what is your key message for the next few years?

P. B.: Our priorities are very clear: implement our performance improvement plans so they reach or exceed the Group's targets.

By striving to be in the front rank on competitiveness at all times, we'll be able to protect our development from the uncertainties resulting result from the cyclical nature of a large share of our markets, and so achieve sustainable, profitable growth for the ERAMET group.

\* Ban on exporting nickel ore that is not processed in Indonesia, in place since January 2014.





A MINING AND METALLURGICAL GROUP WITH BASES IN 20 COUNTRIES ON 5 CONTINENTS, ERAMET HAS 14,000 EMPLOYEES. THE GROUP CARRIES OUT A STRATEGY OF DIVERSIFICATION INTO NEW GEOGRAPHIC ZONES AND NEW METALS. ITS DISTINCTIVE FEATURE IS ITS PRESENCE FROM END TO END OF THE METALS VALUE CHAIN.



€50 MILION

150 PATENTS IN THE PORTFOLIO

## INNOVATE AND **DEVELOP**

ERAMET's world-class R&D covers every stage in processing metals and alloys, from mine to product. Focusing on mining and beneficiating ores, it drives the development of the projects that will support the Group's growth.



## MINE AND BENEFICIATE

From nickel and manganese to ilmenite, ERAMET operates world-class ore deposits, paying special attention to its social and environmental responsibility. Worldwide, the Group meets technical, industrial, logistical and human challenges, as reflected in its mastery of pyrometallurgical and hydrometallurgical processes.

**55,000** т

3.481 MT MANGANESE ORE PRODUCED



## PRODUCE AND **PROCESS**

Aerospace, medicine, tooling and other advanced sectors use alloys and superalloys with unique properties that deliver lighter parts that resist corrosion, wear and high temperatures. ERAMET combines steel with alloying metals to meet these markets' demands.

42
PROCESSING AND



RECYCLED MATERIALS USED IN THE GROUP'S STEELWORKS

### RECYCLE And **Reuse**

ERAMET has developed expertise in the management and beneficiation of its secondary materials. The Group markets products resulting from their reprocessing or from waste recycling.



With a portfolio of 150 patents, more than 260 employees dedicated to Research & Development and a network of 30 benchmark partners, ERAMET is supported by world-renowned R&D. Serving the Group's three Divisions, R&D helps to develop and improve the performance of ERAMET's projects and provides research and engi-

ERAMET'S R&D CONTRIBUTES STATE-OF-THE-ART SKILLS

neering services for outside clients.

#### IN 5 MAIN AREAS:

- Mineralogy / Mineralurgy / Hydrometallurgy and Pyrometallurgy
- ► Powder Metallurgy
- Metallurgy / Alloy Grades / Innovation and Processes
- Manganese Chemistry, Recycling
- ► Closed-Die Forging



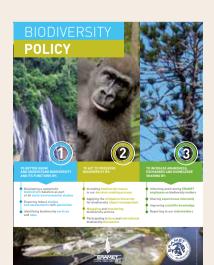
### TIZIR GRANDE CÔTE GETS UNDERWAY

In Senegal, the Grande Côte unit started production in spring 2014. In late December the first cargo – 27,000 tons of ilmenite – was delivered to the Tyssedal, Norway plant. With this development ERAMET is taking up a position on new markets in zirconium and titanium mining and processing.



on January 12", 2014, Indonesian authorities ban on nickel ore exports came into force. While the market remains in surplus because of Chinese nickel ore and metal inventories on the LME, nickel prices should continue to recover in 2015.

2014



## ROLLOUT OF BIODIVERSITY CAMPAIGN

The Group's Biodiversity policy was set down in 2013 and circulated internally in 2014. A poster campaign and postcards with the theme "What have you done for biodiversity today?" were distributed in all units.



## LITHIUM PROJECT IN ARGENTINA

As of April 2014, ERAMINE SUDAMERICA owns mining rights to Centenario and Ratones lakes in Salta province, Northern Argentina. The ERAMET subsidiary is exploring these lithium-rich salt lakes to confirm the deposits' economic potential.



#### SUCCESS OF KANAK ART EXHIBITION

In 2014, ERAMET and SLN were the main sponsors of a unique exhibition on Kanak culture. "Kanak, l'Art est une Parole" was housed in Tjibaou cultural centre in Nouméa, attracting a record 300,000 visitors. The exhibition brought together 160 exceptional works and documents for the first time.



## REVIEW OF THE YEAR'S SU





#### E-LEARNING ON THE RISE

2014 marked a turning point in training policy with the release of a number of online training and awareness-raising programs. These included modules on malaria prevention, chemical risks and buying techniques. With 14,000 employees in 20 countries, e-learning is a forward-looking solution that supports skill development for all.



## TOP PRIZE AT SAFRAN INNOVATIONS AWARDS

Aubert & Duval's teams were honoured at the awards. Together with their opposite numbers at Snecma, they received the Grand Prix for the development of ML340, a high-strength alloy. This new ultra high-performance steel will form the turbine shaft for the LEAP and Silvercrest aircraft engines.



#### TARGET ACHIEVED AT SANDOUVILLE

The unit's teams multiplied their efforts to restore the matte channel's profitability. They brought production down to 8,000 tons and refocused on high value-added products while decreasing operation costs and working capital.

## **CCESSES**



#### **MOULILI: EXEMPLARY CONSULTATION**

From June 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> 2014, COMILOG took the initiative of bringing all its stakeholders together at a seminar focusing on the restoration of the downstream section of the Moulili River, one of the Group's priorities. Six independent experts, including two NGOs, presented their reports at this fine example of local consultation.



## ERACHEM CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

ERACHEM COMILOG Tertre, a Belgian subsidiary specialising in manganese chemistry, celebrated its 50th anniversary in October. The milestone was marked by a number of events including a visit by the Belgian prime minister, manufacturers and local councillors, and an open day for employees' families...

#### **ERAMET Nickel** sites

- **ERAMET** Manganese sites
- **ERAMET Alloys** sites
- **ERAMET** International: Brazil, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, UK, USA,
- Group: headquarters in Paris / ERAMET Research and ERAMET Ingénierie in Trappes

#### **USA**

- Mn ERACHEM COMILOG Baltimore (manganese chemistry)
- Mn BMC Butler (ferromolybdenum and ferrovanadium)
- Mn GCMC Freeport (oil catalyst recycling)
- Mn ERAMET Marietta (manganese alloys)
- Mn ERACHEM COMILOG New Johnsonville (manganese chemistry)
- **Erasteel Boonton** (high speed steels)
- **Erasteel Romeoville** (service centre)

#### **MEXICO**

Mn ERACHEM Mexico chemistry)

#### **ARGENTINA**

ERAMINE SUDAMERICA (lithium deposit)

## PERFORMANCE **ITHOUT BORDERS**

#### **GERMANY**

Erasteel GmbH Germany (distribution centre)

#### **BELGIUM**

Mn ERACHEM COMILOG Tertre (manganese chemistry and copper solution recycling)

#### **SPAIN**

Metallied Irun plant (powder metallurgy)

#### **ITALY**

**Aubert & Duval ADES** (distribution centre)

#### **NORWAY**

Mn 3 ERAMET Norway plants (manganese alloys): Porsgrunn, Sauda, Kvinesdal

Mn TTI Tyssedal (titanium dioxide)

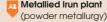
#### UK

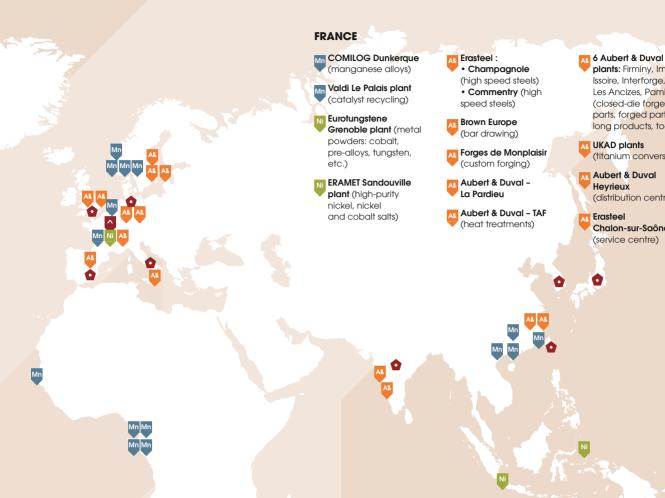
- **AL** Erasteel Stubs Warrington (high speed steels)
- AL ERAMET Alloys UK (sales office)

#### **SWEDEN**

3 Erasteel plants: Långshyttan, Söderfors, Vikmanshyttan (high speed steels)

## Tampico (manganese





#### **SENEGAL**

Mn TiZir Grande Côte **Opérations** (ilmenite and zirconium)

#### **GABON**

- Mn COMILOG:
  - Moanda mine and sintering plant
  - C2M: Moanda Metallurgical Plant
- Mn Owendo logistics site
- Mn SETRAG: Transgabonais railway concession operating company
- Mn Maboumine (polymetallic deposit)

#### CHINA

- Aubert & Duval Wuxi (distribution centre)
- AL Erasteel Tianjin (high speed steels)
- Mn COMILOG Guilin (manganese alloys)
- Mn GECC Chongzuo (manganese chemistry)
- Mn COMILOG Far East **Development Ltd** (Shanghai)
- Mn COMILOG Far East Development Ltd (Hong Kong)

#### **INDIA**

- Erasteel India Private Limited (distribution centre)
- SQUAD (closed-die forging)

#### **INDONESIA**

- PT Weda Bay Nickel Halmahera Island (nickel deposit)
- PT Weda Bay Nickel (Jakarta)

### **NEW CALEDONIA**

plants: Firminy, Imphy,

Les Ancizes, Pamiers

long products, tooling)

(titanium conversion)

(distribution centre)

Chalon-sur-Saône (service centre)

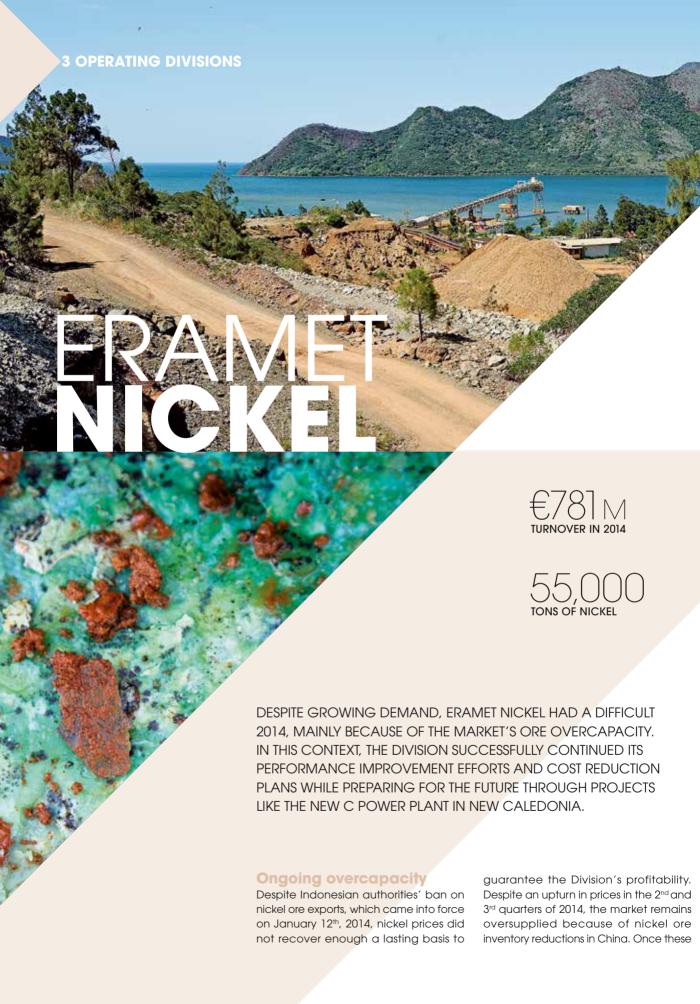
Hevrieux

(closed-die forged parts, forged parts,

Issoire, Interforge,

Société Le Nickel (SLN)

- Ni 5 mines: Kouaoua, Népoui, Poum, Thio, Tiébaghi
- Ni Doniambo metallurgical plant (ferronickel and nickel matte)





#### **NEW COAL WORKSHOP IN DONIAMBO**

Work began on a new pulverised coal workshop in 2014. Located in Doniambo, New Caledonia, the facility, designed and built by ERAMET Ingénierie teams and SLN, will increase the use of fuel oil instead of coal, particularly for pre-driers. The workshop will improve SLN's competitiveness when it goes go into operation in 2015.

WORLD
PRODUCER OF
FERRONICKEL

WORLD PRODUCER
OF NICKEL
CHLORIDE

PRODUCERS OF HIGH-PURITY NICKEL WORLDWIDE

stocks and the nickel metal inventories on the LME have been used up, nickel prices should gradually start to recover. ERAMET Nickel expects this scenario to occur in 2015.

#### Steady, successful efforts

To restore its profitability, SLN stepped up the efforts begun in 2012 under its Competiveness Plan. While it partly depends on external factors such as the euro's strength against the dollar and nickel prices, competitiveness is primarily down to production costs. The Division's ambition is to reduce the cost price of the nickel it makes by \$1.5 per pound by 2018. Thanks to teams' commitment and the setup of more accurate management tools, this goal is being achieved. In 2014, SLN was ahead of its operating plan with a \$0.62 per pound gain achieved compared with a \$0.45 target. This movement should speed up in the medium term with the future C power plant scheduled to come on stream at Doniambo in New Caledonia in 2018 and 2019. A milestone was reached in 2014 when Eiffage was tasked with building the coal-fired plant. The final investment decision is scheduled by the end of 2015. With this power plant, SLN will significantly reduce its energy bill, improve its long-term competitiveness and raise its environmental performance. The nickel chemistry activity was healthy. Eurotungstene – cobalt and tungsten powder production – performed well thanks to its niche markets.



In 2014 Sandouville's teams achieved the technical and human feat of restoring the matte channel's profitability. In this plant that produces metal nickel and very high-purity salts, they succeeded in reducing output to 8,000 tons without penalising customers, diversifying matte supply upstream and reorienting production towards high value-added products. These efforts, which have enabled the unit to reduce operating costs and working capital requirements, are set to continue.



IN 2014, ERAMET MANGANESE'S MARKETS WERE IN THE MIDST OF TRANSFORMATION. WHILE THE DIVISION BROUGHT TWO MAJOR PROJECTS ON STREAM - C2M IN GABON AND GRANDE CÔTE IN SENEGAL - IT HAD TO ADDRESS A DIFFICULT ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT AND THE EMERGENCE OF NEW COMPETITION.

+7%
REFINED ALLOY
PRODUCTION

## The competitiveness challenge

In 2014, ERAMET Manganese was faced with lower manganese ore prices, partly resulting from the ramp-up of new South African competitors but also slower growth in Chinese demand.

 COMILOG, its Gabonese subsidiary, continued to roll out the Operating Performance Plan it began in 2013, without achieving its ambitious annual target for ore production because of mostly logistical difficulties. To increase its production and plan ahead, SETRAG launched a vast restoration plan on the Transgabonais railway and COMILOG opened a pilot quarry on the edges of the Moanda, Gabon mine.

- Manganese chemistry recorded weaker results because of market trends, primarily a shift in the centre of gravity towards Asia.
- In its manganese alloys activity, the Division continued to refocus on refined, higher value-added products.

#### The ramp-up challenge

ERAMET Manganese successfully started production on two major projects: Grande Côte in Senegal (see box) and C2M in Gabon. In Moanda, Gabon, the silicomanganese plant - the only manganese



WORLD PRODUCER
OF HIGH GRADE
MANGANESE ORE

WORLD PRODUCER
OF REFINED
MANGANESE ALLOYS

WORLD PRODUCER OF MANGANESE CHEMICAL DERIVATIVES

#2 WORLD PRODUCER OF MANGANESE ALLOYS

ore processing plant in sub-Saharan Africa - came on stream. The manganese metal unit is starting up in stages over 2015. Extensive recruitment and training work involved many contributors from the Division's different sites. More than 400 operators and supervisors were recruited locally and training in technologies and new processes in Gabon. More than 24,000 training hours were given out in total.

### The logistics challenge

In 2014, manganese ore production decreased slightly, totalling 3.4 million tons. This drop is largely due to a major derailing incident that occurred in spring 2014. A major track restoration project began on part of the line while discussions started with the Gabonese

Republic and the World Bank on upgrading the railway.





• the power generation sector, the

Division's second market, decreased

because of both the crisis in Europe

and the boom in American shale gas,

These results were however impacted by losses at Erasteel, which was hit by production costs, market overcapacity in China and the downturn on the automotive market. In 2015, the Division



ERAMET Alloys created EcoTitanium, a titanium recovery and beneficiation channel in partnership with ADEME. Under a circular economy framework, the channel will include the construction of Europe's first recycling plant for aeronautical-grade titanium in Saint-Georges-de-Mons, Auvergne (France). The aerospace industry values titanium, a strategic raw material, for its low density, mechanical strength, corrosion resistance and compatibility with composites.

## RECOGNITION FOR ERAMET ALLOYS' **R&D TEAMS**

Safran's Executive Committee gave the top prize in the 2014 Safran Innovations Awards to teams from Snecma (Safran) and Aubert & Duval (ERAMET) for the development of M1.340, a high-strength alloy. This new ultra high-performance steel will form the turbine shaft for Snecma's LEAP and Silvercrest aircraft engines. M1.340's lower bulk and greater strength improve the engines' performance and reduce their fuel consumption by 15%.

#2 WORLD PRODUCER OF HIGH POWER CLOSED-DIE FORGED PARTS

will benefit from the ramp-up of aircraft manufacturing programmes like the A350 and from its new press in Belgaum, India under Squad, its joint venture. This forge, dedicated to medium-size aircraft parts, will enhance its industrial resources and increase its competitiveness.

## Three projects to restore competitiveness

To reduce costs, restore competitiveness and improve customer satisfaction, ERAMET Alloys is taking action along three lines:

- The Division is redeploying its industrial assets. It remains a major player in France with €150 million invested in the country since 2010. It is reorganising some of its activities between the Commentry and Valdi-Le Palais-sur-Vienne sites.
- The continuous improvement programme began in 2013 and is being disseminated on every level by a team of more than 20 Change Leaders. The aim is to improve industrial performance on every workshop by carrying out minitransformations. In addition, a flow optimisation process focuses on improving

customer service. In 2014 the rate of on time, in full deliveries increased sharply while in-process inventory was reduced.

• The Division is successfully implementing its process and operating method improvement plans. The goal is to reduce general expenses by €23 million in 2016 compared with 2012.



A LEADING WORLD PRODUCER OF HIGH-PERFORMANCE SPECIAL STEELS



## AUBERT & DUVAL FOUNDATION SUPPORTS APPRENTICES

The Aubert & Duval Foundation is supporting two major projects in Auvergne (France) providing training and accommodation for student interns. With an annual intake capacity of 500 people per year, the Combrailles training centre opened its doors in April 2015. In parallel, work began on La Maison de l'Alternant, which will house 80 apprentices.





# UNFAILING ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIAL STANDARDS

DESPITE THE CRISIS AND THE GROUP'S DIFFICULTIES, ERAMET IS NOT LETTING ITS GUARD DOWN ON SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY. THE GROUP FAVOURS INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL NETWORKING TO POOL RESOURCES AND OPTIMISE ITS ACTIONS WITHOUT LETTING STANDARDS SLIP.

#### Firm local roots

ERAMET's "operating licence", reputation and image depend to some extent on acceptance of its activities. That's why the Group prefers to explain its actions through ongoing consultation. For example, COMILOG organised a multi-stakeholder seminar in June 2014 on the remediation of the Moulili River's downstream course in Gabon. Six independent experts and participants presented their report. In Nouméa, SLN

organised a number of public meetings to inform inhabitants about its electricity plant. These strong regional bonds are also reflected in a policy of local metallurgical beneficiation in facilities like Doniambo in New Caledonian or C2M in Moanda, Gabon, the first manganese ore processing plant in sub-Saharan Africa. This industrial policy, based on firm local roots, including in France with ERAMET Alloys in particular, is also embodied in a shareholding model that closely involves local authorities. This is the case for SLN in New Caledonia and COMILOG in Gabon.

# UNITS CERTIFIED ISO 14001



#### ISO 14001 CERTIFICATION

FOR DONIAMBO

With the Doniambo plant's certification in April 2014, ERAMET now has 35 ISO 14001 certified units. Doniambo's achievement rewards the commitment of local teams and its environmental drive. More than €1 million has been invested in environmental analyses and infrastructure improvements. The next objective is the certification of the New Caledonian mining centres.

## Finalising reference matrices

ERAMET is in the process of formalising its sustainable development policy. The goals are to increase professionalism and share know-how and best practices on a lasting basis. In 2014, policies on Energy and Biodiversity were rolled out, as well as an Industrial Risks procedure. This operating implementation has led, for example, to an awareness campaign





VISITORS IN PARIS AND MORE THAN 300,000 IN NOUMÉA FOR THE EXHIBITION "KANAK, L'ART EST UNE PAROLE"

ENVIRONMENTAL
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE
OVER 3 YEARS

INVESTED IN 2014
TO IMPROVE
ENVIRONMENTAL
KNOWLEDGE OF
ERAMET'S
OPERATING SITES

and a methodological manual for sharing the biodiversity policy, a subject in which the Group's expertise is widely acknowledged, especially for mining environment management. In 2014, two reference matrices - Environmental Risk Analysis and Mining Environment & Responsible Management - and several training programmes were defined with operating teams.

## Contributing to international standards

As an active member of several federations and trade associations, ERAMET works to spread knowledge of its products, contribute to the definition of regulations and protect its employees, neighbouring

populations and the environment more thoroughly. In 2014, the Group made a substantial contribution to dialogue between the non-ferrous metals industry and French and European bodies for the definition of Best Available Techniques Reference Documents (BREFs), In 2014, work continued to update product Safety Data Sheets (SDS) with REACH, the European regulatory framework for chemicals. These SDS are "passports" that convey information on products through to end consumers. ERAMET also took its work further on the classification of manganese and nickel ores. This entails many issues, from developing scientific knowledge and tightening risk control to securing classification.



## CONTRIBUTING TO LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

In the territories where it operates, ERAMET contributes to social and economic development with a rationale of shared value. Moanda Mining School, which is now under construction, is a fine example of this approach. In Argentina, where its subsidiary ERAMINE SUDAMERICA is studying the possibility of extracting lithium from Ratones and Centenario salt lakes, ERAMET has worked with local participants to launch the production of quinoa in order to improve food resources and provide additional income for the high plateaus' inhabitants.



# SUPPORTING THE GROUP'S REDEPLOYMENT

BECAUSE THE CRISIS IS FORCING ERAMET TO TRANSFORM, EMPLOYEES ARE AT THE CENTRE OF MAJOR CHANGES. IN THE GROUP'S HEAD OFFICE AND DIVISIONS, HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENTS ARE WORKING TO ADJUST ORGANISATIONS, ADAPT INDUSTRIAL ASSETS AND IMPROVE PERFORMANCE. THEY DO SO WITH A CONSTANT CONCERN FOR DIALOGUE AND RESPECT FOR EMPLOYEES.

OF EMPLOYEES
BENEFITED FROM
A TRAINING ACTION
IN 2014

## Contributing to the Group's performance

2014 was an intensive year in terms of optimising organisations and processes for greater efficiency. Human Resources departments have driven the setup of productivity improvement plans, ensuring actions are feasible and keeping impacts on people to a minimum. This work was done with a constant concern for industrial dialogue and strict compliance with procedures for informing and communicating with personnel representation

bodies. This was seen in the job-saving agreement that employee representative bodies signed unanimously at Aubert & Duval in July 2014.

#### Ruilding skills

In 2014, ERAMET continued to develop a cross-Group management training offering. This is a sizable challenge given the diversity of sites and markets. These training modules build managers' knowledge of financial management, continuous improvement and project



#### **ADAPTING** TO THE EVOLUTION OF PROJECTS

In Gabon, ERAMET successfully launched production at C2M. More than 400 operators and supervisors were recruited locally and trained in new processes and technologies in Gabon. 24,000 training hours were given out in Moanda, Dunkerque and Sauda in Norway while Norwegian operators and engineers lent a hand to the Gabonese teams in Moanda. At Weda Bay in Indonesia, where the nickel mine project was put on standby, ERAMET opted for internal mobility and reassigned the employees concerned.



leadership, etc. In a context of organisational change, managers benefited from purpose-designed training in 2014 and will continue to do so in 2015. They and were able to take part in workshops on managing these transitions with their teams. ERAMET also investigated new online training methods with modules including chemical risk prevention, buying techniques and executive liability. The Group also merged its two training institutes for the sake of efficiency and consistency.

#### **Protecting personnel**

Employees' health and safety remains the priority. Because the Group operates on 60 sites, some of which are in sensitive environments, ERAMET rolls out an arsenal of measures and tools with a large training component to prevent and reduce risks. Online training was provided, for example, to inform employees about malaria. Safety remains a dally concern as the employees are naturally exposed because of the Group's activities. Despite the efforts made, Safety results were contrasting in 2014. While 27 out of 60 units went 12 months without recording any lost-time accidents, with outstanding performances by some of SLN's New Caledonian mines, ERAMET did not succeed in reducing its total number of accidents. A new Group campaign - "We all want to protect our lives" - was launched in 2014 with an emphasis on road risks and confined spaces. Care for employees is also reflected in the listening and support solutions set up for the teams concerned by restructuring plans.

TRAINING HOURS
GIVEN OUT TO 916
PEOPLE BY IMage



#### ETHICS CHARTER 2015

A new version of the Ethics Charter was written to develop and illustrate in more depth the principles that guide the action of the Group and its employees. It came into force on January 1st, 2015, enabling ERAMET to address the social evolution of our world and the expectations of all our stakeholders, taking into account the major national and international legal changes that have occurred in recent years. This Charter lets every Group employee refer to a detailed, clear and explicit text.

### **SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

Subject	Definition	2014 results	Trend
Operating permits	Number of operating permits obtained at Group sites.	192	+11% (new sites went into operation)
Environmental reporting	Percentage of sites included in environmental reporting.	100%	+10 criteria added on energy management (ISO 50001)
Site certification	Number of industrial and mining sites that have obtained ISO 14001 certification.	35 sites i.e. 74% of sites	+35% in 3 years
Mining site remediation	Aggregate remediated hectares over all of our mining sites.	130 ha	More than 270 ha in 3 years
Air emissions	Number of channelled air emission treatment facilities.	382	+8.2%

## ENERGY

Subject	Definition	2014 results	Trend
Energy consumption	Energy consumption (electricity, gas, heavy fuel oil, coal, etc.).	<b>16.95</b> TWh	Slightly higher than in 2013 but comparable to 2012. Energy consumption is stable between 16 and 17 TW h/year.
Energy process	Number of sites that launched the energy-saving process, based on ISO 50001 standard principles, in 2014.	8 sites	ISO 50001 certified sites, 1 site in progress
Carbon footprint	Change in $C0_2$ volume in tons emitted by all of the Group's sites.	4,450 Mt	Slight increase compared with 2013 but stable overall since 2010.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES**

Registered employees by status and by region as of 12/31/2014

	France	Europe	Americas	Asia	Pacific	Africa	TOTAL
Workers	2,550	882	413	491	1,467	1,741	7, 544
Supervisors	1,770	289	115	250	598	1, 483	4, 505
Managers	851	174	137	113	145	523	1, 943
Total registered	5,171	1,345	665	854	2,210	3,747	13,992
% managers	16%	13%	21%	13%	7%	14%	14%

Registered employees by Division and by region as of 12/31/2014

	France	Europe	Americas	Asia	Pacific	Africa	TOTAL
Holding company	376	16	35	28	0	0	455
Nickel	358	0	0	241	2,219	0	2,809
Manganese	236	859	596	544	0	2,210	5,982
Alloys	4,201	470	34	41	0	0	4,746
Total	5,171	1,345	665	854	2,219	2,210	13,992

Training*	France	Europe	Americas	Asia	Pacific	Africa	TOTAL
Training hours	94,192	11,649	27,629	11,685	64,400	164,942	374,497
Hours by employee	18	9	42	14	29	44	27

<sup>\*</sup> Data from annual CSR HR reporting - Data declared by the Group's units.

### **SAFETY**

Subject	Definition	2014 Result	Trend over 1 year
Frequency rate	Number of lost-time accidents per million hours worked.	5.1	+ 4%
Severity rate	Number of lost days (in addition to the day of the accident) resulting from lost-time accidents per thousand hours worked.	0.35	- 20%
Frequency rate 2	Number of declared accidents with or without lost time, per million hours worked.	15.8	- 2%

#### **MOBILISATION FOR MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS**

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

#### Patrick BUFFET

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

#### **2 Georges DUVAL**

Delegate CEO ERAMET Alloys

#### 3 Bertrand MADELIN

Delegate CEO ERAMET Nickel

#### 4 Philippe VECTEN

Delegate CEO ERAMET Manganese

#### 5 Jean-Didier DUJARDIN

Chief Executive Officer

#### 6 Michel CARNEC

Executive Vice-President, Human Resources, Health & Safety

#### 7 Catherine TISSOT-COLLE

Executive Vice-President Communications & Sustainable Development

## COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

as of December 31st, 2014

#### **Patrick BUFFET**

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, ERAMET

#### **DIRECTORS**

#### **Michel ANTSELEVE**

Special Advisor to the President of the Gabonese Republic, Head of Mining, Hydrocarbons, Energies and Hydraulic Resources

### CEIR, represented by Patrick Duval.

Chairman, CEIR

#### **Édouard DUVAL**

Chairman of the management board, Sorame - Chairman, ERAMET International

#### **Georges DUVAL**

Manager, Sorame – Delegate CEO, ERAMET

### Sorame, represented by Cyrille Duyal.

Secretary General, ERAMET Alloys

### FSI-Equation\*, represented by Jean-Yves GILET,

Executive Vice-President ETI/GE, Bpifrance

#### **Marie-Axelle GAUTIER**

Public law cluster manager mining law - Employee representative director

#### **Philippe GOMES**

Member of Parliament for New Caledonia, constituency 2

#### Caroline GRÉGOIRE SAINTE MARIE

Company Director
(independent director)

#### **Thierry LE HENAFF**

Chairman & CEO, ARKEMA (independent director)

#### **Manoelle LEPOUTRE**

Senior Vice President Top Executive Careers and Management, TOTAL (independent director)

#### **Pia OLDERS**

Insurance manager - Employee representative director

#### **Michel SOMNOLET**

Former Director, Deputy Chairman and Chief Financial Officer, L'Oréal (independent director)

#### **Claude TENDIL**

Chairman & CEO, Generali Group France (independent director)

#### Frédéric TONA

Independent Mining Consultant (independent director)

#### **Antoine TREUILLE**

Chairman, Charter Pacific Corporation (independent director)

#### **Alexis ZAJDENWEBER**

Energy investment manager, Agence des Participations de l'État - Director representing the State

#### **CENSORS**

Jean-François REBATEL Daniel SIGNORET

#### GROUP WORKS COUNCIL DELEGATE

Philippe LAIGNEL

#### HONORARY CHAIRMAN

**Yves RAMBAUD** 

\* FSI-Equation is a subsidiary of Bpifrance Participations (formerly FSI).



# 2014: IMPROVED GROUP RESULTS

ERAMET substantially increased its productivity gains with a sharp improvement in results in 2014 compared with 2013, despite the difficult context for the Group's markets.

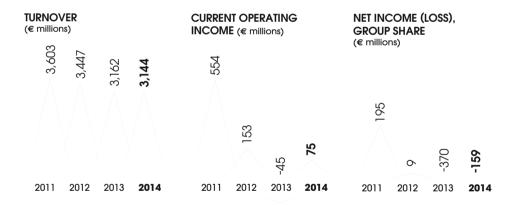
The Group's results benefited from favourable trends in LME nickel prices which, despite a 12% increase, remained relatively low. Sales to the aerospace sector grew in 2014.

However, a train accident in Gabon and the drop in manganese ore prices penalised the Group's operating performance. Cost reduction and productivity improvement plans for all of the Group's entities led to a total gain of more than €100 million in 2014. Current operating income therefore increased significantly from €45 million in 2013 to €75 million in 2014.

Capital expenditure decreased 41%, totalling €346 million, significantly below the €400 million maximum threshold set by the Group for 2014.

The Group's financial situation remains sound with high cash levels despite an increase in net debt.

In 2015, favourable trends in economic conditions (exchange rates, fuel oil) and the expected improvement in nickel prices should enable the Group to record a significant improvement in results.



Turnover was stable compared with 2013, totalling €3,144.

2014 current operating income was positive in a sharp improvement from the previous year.

The Group's share of net income improved significantly in 2014 compared with 2013.

<sup>\*</sup> The consolidated data presented here is adjusted data from the Group's reporting, which consolidates joint ventures proportionally. See consolidated financial statements as at December 31st, 2014, available on the Group's website (www.eramet.com).

#### **INCOME STATEMENT**

(€ millions)	31/12/2014	31/12/2013
Turnover	3,144	3,162
EBITDA	363	231
Current operating income (expense)	75	(45)
Operating income (expense) before depreciation	(27)	(125)
Operating income (expense)	(54)	(548)
Net cost of debt	(40)	(7)
Other financial income and expense	(28)	(25)
Share in earnings of affiliates		1
Income tax	(49)	72
Net income (loss) for the period	(171)	(507)
Share of non-controlling interests	(12)	(137)
Share of parent company owners	(159)	(370)
Basic earnings per share (EUR)	(6.06)	(14.11)
Diluted earnings per share (EUR)	(6.06)	(14.11

The rise in turnover by, on one hand, ERAMET Nickel's activities because of higher average nickel prices and, on the other hand, ERAMET Alloys' activities offset lower turnover by ERAMET Manganese's activities (production penalised by a train accident in Gabon and lower manganese ore prices).

The growth in current operating income is mainly due to the rise in nickel prices, improved productivity and cost reductions, partly offset by lower production volumes and manganese ore prices.

Operating income (expense) includes research costs on major projects, restructuring costs and asset depreciations.

The net loss for the period includes the net cost of debt, which evolved in line with the rise in gross financial debt, other financial income and expense and income tax.

The Group's share of net loss totalled -€159 million, compared with - €370 million in 2013.





#### **CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

(€ millions)	31/12/2014	31/12/2013
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
EBITDA	363	407
Elimination of non-cash or non-business items	(238)	(149)
Cash flow	125	74
Net change in operating assets and liabilities	(82)	87
Net cash flow from operating activities	43	161
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Capital expenditure	(346)	(587)
Net financial investments (divestments)	26	(7)
Net cash flow used in investing activities	(320)	(594)
Net change in working capital with respect to financing activities	(25)	(252)
Currency translation adjustments	(27)	19
Increase (decrease) in net cash position	(329)	(666)
Opening cash (debt) balance	(218)	448
Closing cash (debt) balance	(547)	(218)

The Group's net financial debt totalled €547 million as of December 31st, 2014 compared with €218 million as of December 31st, 2013. This change results from the following movements:

- €43 million in net cash flow from operating activities (€161 million in 2013);
- €25 million in net change in working capital with respect to financing activities, corresponding to the dividends paid to COMILOG's minority shareholders;
- €320 million in net cash flow used in investing activities, mainly comprised of €346 million in capital expenditure;
- €27 million increase in financial debt due to exchange rate fluctuations.

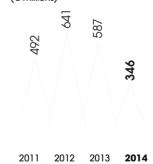
#### **BALANCE SHEET**

(€ millions)	31/12/2014	31/12/2013
Fixed assets	3,407	3,305
Inventories	1,058	989
Trade receivables	387	379
Trade payables	435	421
Simplified working capital requirement	1,010	947
Other operating working capital requirement items	(162)	(173)
Operating working capital requirement	848	774
Financial derivatives	-	5
TOTAL	4,255	4,084
(€ millions)	31/12/2014	31/12/2013
Share of parent company owners	2,322	2,532
Share of non-controlling interests	432	478
Cash, cash equivalents and current financial assets	938	911
Borrowings	1,485	1,129
Net debt	547	218
Provisions and personnel commitments	732	654
Net deferred tax	130	202
Financial derivatives	92	-
TOTAL	4,255	4,084

The Group's total assets amounted to €4,255 million as of December 31st, 2014, compared with €4,084 million as of December 31st, 2013. This €171 million increase mainly resulted from:

- on one hand, a €102 million increase in total fixed assets with capital expenditure higher than depreciation for the period, a €63 million rise in simplified working capital requirement due to activity, with inventories up €69 million in particular;
- on the other hand, a €329 increase in net debt, a €92 million rise in financial derivative liabilities, and provisions for €78 million, partly offset by the decrease in the Group and minority shareholders' equity for €256 million.

### CAPITAL EXPENDITURE (€ millions)



Capital expenditure limited to €346 million, down 41% from 2013.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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#### **ERAMET**

Tour Maine-Montparnasse 33, avenue du Maine F-75755 Paris Cedex 15 Tel: +33 (0)1 45 38 42 42

**ANNUAL REPORT** 2014 THE FACES
OF OUR
PERFORMANC ERAMET ALLOYS, ORES AND PEOPLE.









**ERAMET SA, PARIS, FRANCE** 

MANAGER

ecause energy is a major cost factor, Julien works on optimising purchases to improve the Group's competitiveness. His job calls for a firm grasp of raw material markets, local and international regulations and, above all, the needs of each industrial site.























































MASTER CHANGE LEADER

**AUBERT & DUVAL LA PARDIEU, FRANCE** 

ominique joined the Alloys division in 2001. Starting as a Statistical Process Control facilitator at Issoire, he then worked as Product Quality Manager then Flow End Production Manager. In 2009 he took over the Lean Leaders project in Issoire, Pamiers and Ancizes then, in 2012, the Change Leaders programme. In 2014 he became Master Change Leader for Mini-Transformations in the Division. The many projects he supports include the Mini-Transformation of the Pamiers DEMAG press in 2014, which led to outstanding productivity gains.

## Valérie SCHOTT

CHANGE LEADER

**ERASTEEL COMMENTRY, FRANCE** 

alérie started as a Quality Technician at the Commentry Plate Shop in 2012. Now she's a Change Leader. In this role she supports Mini-Transformation and cost optimisation projects on several Alloys division sites in France for Erasteel and Aubert & Duval. Her mission is to improve productivity and maintain profitability.

