Registration of Primary Nickel Brands
Guidance for Applicant Producers

1. Nickel producers wishing to apply for the listing of their brand by the LME will only be considered providing that:
   (i) The producer has been in business for at least 12 months.
   (ii) The production plant has been in production for a minimum of 12 months or, if in the opinion of the LME Nickel Committee adequate production capacity utilisation and satisfactory quality has been achieved at an earlier date.
   (iii) Has a capacity to produce a minimum of 5,000 metric tons per annum of Nickel.

   NB. A production plant is defined as an integrated nickel refinery with an associated production line producing a brand of nickel of consistent assay, quality and identity.

2. The producer is required to advise the LME in writing of the name of the Category 1-5 Member Company who will be processing the listing application (see Rule Book Part 7, Rule 1). Thereafter, all correspondence will be via the selected Member Company. A list of Members Categories 1-5 expressing a general willingness to assist producers list their brands can be found here:-


3. Production from more than one production plant must be separately listed. Each production plant must use a different brand name.

4. The application is in two stages and all documentation must be submitted in English.

Stage One
The producer is to supply information with an Application Letter on his headed notepaper addressed to the LME as follows:

1. The name of the LME Member processing the application.
2. The full name and address of the producer to be listed by the LME.
4. Details of the ownership of the producer
5. The address of the production plant.
6. The first date of production of the plant.
7. The name of the Brand the subject of the application.
8. The first date of production from which the producer guarantees the brand as meeting specification.
9. The design capacity.
10. The current annualised use of capacity.
11. The monthly production figures for the previous 12 months.
12. The names of two Testers from the List of Approved Testers of Nickel provided at the end of these Guidance Notes which the producer intends to use for testing (Stage Two). Evidence of the Testers willingness to test is to be submitted. Prior approval will be required from the LME

1 Note that the signatory and their position within the producer company must be shown on the dated Application Letter.
Nickel Committee to use the named Testers.

13. The names of two LME Listed Samplers and Assayers (LSAs) to carry out the assessment of the quality of the application brand (Stage Two).

The following information is to be provided by attachments to the covering Application Letter.

A. The last externally audited financial accounts of the producer.

B. A copy of the incorporation certificate of the producer.

C. Details of the product as follows;

For drummed/bagged shapes:
Photographs of the product and drums/bags as applicable showing clearly all markings and symbols, which must include the net and gross weights of the drums/bags, the brand name and production batch reference. Include a photograph of drums as packaged for transportation including any pallet. Submit a sample plasticized label if used and a sample of the tamper proof numbered seal.

For full plate cathodes:
Photographs of an individual cathode and a bundle (side and top profile) which must show all indelible markings of the net and gross weights, the brand name, production batch reference, labels, strapping, clips and steel/wooden skids. State all weights in kilos and dimensions in mm of bundles and an individual cathode. Submit a sample plasticized label if used.

The producer is also required to state;
(i) Each bundle is securely strapped with material protected against corrosion and of sufficient strength and fixing to permit safe handling by fork lift truck without bundle distortion and breakage.

(ii) The bundle size and shape is suitable for safe and secure stacking.

D. A Letter of Undertaking issued by the producer in accordance with the attached draft to these Guidance Notes dated and signed by the same person as the Application Letter.

E. An outline of the production process including a process flow diagram.

F. A production site plan/diagram.

G. A paper giving the sampling and analytical regime and advising if any aspect of this work is outsourced. Show the detection levels used for determining impurities.

H. A schedule of the production batch analysis data for the previous three months.

I. A copy of the normal dated Certificate Analysis which must include the English language, the name of the producer, the name of the brand and the production batch reference. Note that Certificates of Analysis provided by Listed Producers must at all times show compliance with LME listed specifications by showing actual analysed content of the metal.

J. A copy of the current ISO 9001 Certificate or, alternatively, that of ISO/TS 16949.

K. Also at Stage One it is required that:
The fee for applying for the listing of a nickel brand, currently US$65,000 plus ruling UK VAT at the time of application must be sent with the above information. The fee for applying is non-refundable.

NB. Value Added tax (VAT): Under current UK legislation, the LME understands that LME members established in the UK submitting applications for their own production operations or for third party producers must pay UK VAT to the LME at the ruling rate at time of application, regardless of domicile of producer. LME Members should only on-charge UK VAT to producers established in the UK. LME Members not established in the UK making applications do not have to pay UK VAT to the LME regardless of the location of the production operations.
The above is for guidance only and relevant parties should always seek their own advice in relation to tax matters. The LME will have no liability for reliance on the above.

At this stage, it is the Producer's responsibility to ensure that the information complies with the Special Contract Rules for Primary Nickel, LME Rules Part 6 and to ensure that no testing is to take place until approval to do so is given by the LME.

Stage Two

1. On receipt of all information the LME will respond to the application as follows:
   (i) Request such additional information as required.
   (ii) Approve or otherwise to proceed to testing with the Testers mutually agreed and any production plant auditing.
   (iii) Advise the tonnage for testing which will be a minimum of 6 tons.
   (iv) In lieu of testing the LME has the option to require not less than two letters of support for the brand from the producer’s existing industry supply contracts. In the event of this option being exercised please note that an LSA will attend the production plant to take samples from not less than two batches and follow the general procedures for test lots as outlined in 2 below.

2. Sampling of test lots shall be carried out by an LSA at the Testers’ works and/or if required, at the application producer’s production plant. Samples shall be taken, divided and distributed in accordance with LME procedures which include supplying samples to a second LSA for analytical purposes to augment the analysis of the sampling LSA. The sampling LSA shall provide a sampling report covering all aspects of the test lots in accordance with LME instructions. The two LSAs shall provide analysis reports of the metal tested in accordance with the LME requirements for Nickel.

3. The producer is required to provide the LME with their analysis certificates for the production batches that are sent to the two Testers for evaluation or as sampled by the LSAs and as described in 1 (iv) above.

4. The LME will receive all assay and sampling reports.

5. Production plant quality control auditing and the requirements for sampling and analysis of test lots will be at the cost of the producer. Selection of LSAs will be at the choice of the producer.

6. The Testers are required to supply a letter to support the application subject to their satisfaction with the brand under test.

7. The LME Nickel Committee reserve the right to require that nickel for testing is selected in a random manner by an LSA at the expense of the producer.

8. The LME reserves the right to audit any producer’s operations at any time prior to or post listing of a brand for verification of any aspect of the listing process.

On receipt of satisfactory reports from the Testers and LSAs, the LME Nickel Committee will make a recommendation to the LME Executive Committee that the brand should be listed as suitable for delivery against the contract.

From time to time, the LME will request every Producer having listed brand(s) of Nickel to re-affirm the undertakings originally given at the time of listing. Failure to comply with the undertakings or supply evidence of continuing compliance with the ruling specification and requirements may result in the delisting of the brand(s) concerned. If the producer fails to notify the LME promptly of any change in the information supplied with its original application, or if such changes are in the LME’s view material, then the LME’s Executive Committee may suspend the listing or delist the brand.

The listing of any brand is subject to the provisions of Rules 3 to 7 inclusive of Part 7 of the
Rules and Regulations of the LME which provide as follows:

3. Subsequent to listing any alteration or additions to the details given at the time of listing by the producer are to be notified to the Exchange. A brand may be suspended from listing or delisted at the discretion of the Directors if any such changes are not notified to the Exchange promptly or if there are changes in the information given at the time of listing which the Directors consider to be material or if the producer fails to comply with any undertaking given to the Exchange.

4. Brands may be listed, suspended or delisted at the discretion of the Directors, who are entitled to make such investigations into the producer as they may deem appropriate at any time before, during or after the application for listing. No listing shall become valid until particulars of the brand concerned have been posted on the Exchange for 28 days.

5. Should any complaint as to the quality of any listed brand be brought to the notice of the Directors, they shall have the right to investigate the brand in question and the right to suspend deliveries onto warrant until quality is proven to the satisfaction of the Directors. If after such investigation the Directors are not satisfied with the quality of the listed brand, then the brand may be delisted at the discretion of the Directors.

6. The Directors may, at their discretion, waive or amend any of the listing requirements. Producers must comply with this Part of the Rules and Regulations, the listing requirements, as well as with any variations to those and with any applicable Notices issued by the Exchange.

7. Neither The London Metal Exchange nor any of its Directors or other officers shall be under any liability whatsoever either in contract or in tort to any Member or other person in respect of any act or omission in relation to the listing of any brand of metal or the maintenance, suspension or termination of any such listing.
Draft of Producer’s Letter of Undertaking – Primary Nickel

This letter must be issued by the producer on headed paper, signed and dated and show the signatory’s position.

The London Metal Exchange
10 Finsbury Square
London
EC2A 1AJ
United Kingdom

Attention: Mrs Liz Sullivan
Brands Listing Manager, Physical Operations Department

(INsert DATE)

In consideration of the LME maintaining our nickel brand (insert brand name) (briquettes/cut cathodes/pellets or full plate cathode)* in its list of brands deliverable in fulfilment of its nickel contract.

1. We (insert producer name) undertake that the quality of our primary nickel brand (insert brand name) produced at (insert name and address of production plant) will meet with the requirements of the LME contract for primary nickel conforming to the ASTM specification B39-79 (2013) – min 99.80% purity and/or the GB/T 6516/2010 – Ni9990 grade and its quality be maintained in accordance with the lots supplied for testing and analysis.

2. We also undertake that any complaints we may receive with regard to the quality will be investigated without any restriction on the period within which such a claim be made.

3. We undertake that we will not attempt to restrict (insert brand name) brand, from being delivered against the LME contract.

4. We further undertake that any change in ownership, financial status, production practice or any other material circumstance will be advised to the LME without delay and to comply with Rules 3 to 7 inclusive of Part 7, of the Rules and Regulations of the LME, any amendments thereto and any Notices issued by the LME.

5. This letter of undertaking shall be governed by English law. The courts of England shall have non-exclusive jurisdiction to settle any disputes in relation to this letter of undertaking.

Yours sincerely

Signature …………………………………………………

Name …………………………………………………..

Position in Company ………………………………….

* Delete as appropriate
Strapping Specifications for Metals Producers

1. Steel strapping for all metals, polyester strapping for primary aluminium, aluminium alloy, tin, lead and zinc ingots

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strap</th>
<th>Size (mm)</th>
<th>Average strength (Newtons)</th>
<th>Applied tension (Newtons)</th>
<th>Joint</th>
<th>Joint strength</th>
<th>Working range elongation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polyester</td>
<td>15.6 x 0.9</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>Metal Seal</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2 – 3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyester</td>
<td>15.6 x 0.9</td>
<td>6000</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>Friction</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>2 – 3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>19 x 0.63</td>
<td>12000</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>No Seal</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>0.1-0.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>19 x 0.63</td>
<td>12000</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>Metal Seal</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>0.1-0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. Polyester strapping upgrade for copper and nickel cathodes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strap</th>
<th>Size (mm)</th>
<th>Average strength (Newtons)</th>
<th>Applied tension (Newtons)</th>
<th>Joint</th>
<th>Joint strength</th>
<th>Working range elongation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polyester</td>
<td>19.0 x 1.0</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>Metal Seal</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>2 – 3.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyester</td>
<td>19.0 x 1.0</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>Friction</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>2 – 3.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. Securing of Straps

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>Strap material</th>
<th>Joint type</th>
<th>Maximum applied tension (Newtons)</th>
<th>Joint strength</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Manual</td>
<td>Polyester</td>
<td>Metal Seal</td>
<td>3500</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumatic</td>
<td>Polyester</td>
<td>Friction Weld</td>
<td>2500</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pneumatic</td>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>No Seal</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual</td>
<td>Steel</td>
<td>Metal Seal</td>
<td>5000</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
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</table>
# List of Approved Testers of Nickel

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Luxembourg    | Aperam Société Anonyme        | Mr Carl Landuydt  
Tel: +352 273627 100  
Direct: +352 27362 7110  
Mobile: +352 621 55 65 14  
Fax: +352 273627 200  
Email: carl.landuydt@aperam.com |
|               |                               | 12C, rue Guillaume Kroll  
L 1882 Luxembourg  
Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg |
| China         | Xinyu Iron & Steel Co., Ltd.  | Mr Zhang Wei  
Tel: +86 790 629 4371  
Fax: +86 790 629 4999  
Email: xg.yl.l@163.com |
|               |                               | Xinyu City  
Jiangxi Province  
338001  
China |
|               | Changde Lyrun New Material Co., Ltd.  | Mr Feng Jingqiao  
Tel: +86 736 258 8059  
Fax: +86 736 258 8051  
Email: fjg@corun.com |
|               |                               | Deshan Economic & Technological Development Zone  
Changde City  
Hunan Province  
China |