

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between
STEEL TECHNOLOGY CENTRE (STC)
INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KHARAGPUR (IIT-KGP),

INDIA

And

DEPARTMENT OF FERROUS METALLURGY (IEHK)
AT RWTH AACHEN UNIVERSITY

GERMANY

Preamble

STC, IIT-KGP and IEHK, RWTH have expressed interest to create a long-term institutional partnership in education and research. The primary objective is to promote contact and collaboration between faculty, staff and students, carry out joint research programmes and exchange experiences in education and research. The partnership also aims at enhancing the technological, social and cultural relations of both countries/states/regions. This document presents a general framework for such a partnership. It also includes some specifically identified areas of cooperation, which shall be updated from time to time.

Participation and Coordination

The partnership shall initially be between the following:

- For RWTH
 - Institut für Eisenhüttenkunde (IEHK).
- For IIT-KGP :
 - Steel Technology Centre, Department of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering.

Professor Dr Wolfgang Bleck shall be the Coordinator from IEHK, RWTH and Professor M. Chakraborti / Dr S. B. Singh shall be the Coordinator from STC, IIT-KGP. The participants and Coordinators may change from time to time as decided by competent authority of the respective institutions.

Areas of Cooperation

The following have been identified as possible starting points of the partnership. The areas of cooperation can be further increased by the mutual consent. In many cases specific programmes will require other agreements to be separately detailed out and documented.

- (i) Exchange of information and experience: Representatives of both partners should arrange joint meetings at least once per year to exchange experiences in education and research and to prepare joint projects. A joint Seminar/Workshop may be held once in two years to present the results of this partnership.
- (ii) Faculty and student exchange programmes: The partners will examine the possibility of creating one or two Visiting Faculty positions at respective institutions for faculty exchange. A Student Exchange Programme will be formulated both for short-term registration. A detailed document on this (including credit transfer issues) will be examined and prepared. This has to be ratified by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before this programme starts.
- (iii) Cooperative research projects: The two partners will define joint collaborative research projects between faculty and/or research groups. Collaborating faculty will approach various funding agencies to submit joint project proposals. Focus will be given to industry-funded projects and those funded by international agencies.
- (iv) Coordinated graduate degree programme: A joint integrated MS/PhD programme with stress on research in areas of mutual interest will be explored and formulated. A detailed document on this will be prepared and ratified by the highest academic bodies of the two institutions before this programme starts.
- (v) Continuing and distance education: STC, IIT-KGP and IEHK, RWTH, will formulate a joint distance education programme based on the expertise available in both institutions. They will also share and carry out joint research in technology for distance and computer-based learning. STC, IIT-KGP and IEHK, RWTH, will formulate and organize joint short-term program for industries.

Intellectual Property

Each institution will adhere to the intellectual laws of their respective nations. Intellectual property developed during the visit of an exchange student will be governed by the rules of the host institute unless otherwise specified by an alternate agreement. The two institutions shall jointly own results of clearly defined collaborative projects. Whenever one institution receives any information from the partner under a clearly defined non-disclosure agreement, necessary steps will be taken to protect the intellectual property received.

Financing


The two institutions will develop a funding pool from various sources to carry out this partnership. They will not only try to arrange some funding from their own resources, but also vigorously approach their own governments, international funding agencies and industries. Special attention will be given to obtain funded projects from industry to support this collaboration. Funding from alumni will also be solicited for some of the programmes.

Both institutes will provide tuition and service fee waivers to the exchange students (for courses held by participating departments and for visiting researchers). The host institute will arrange for free accommodation and food at reasonable cost to exchange students and faculty according to the available funding. Travel costs are the responsibility of the exchange student. However, various funding sources shall be approached to secure funding for this.

The institutions shall try to set up endowment funds for Visiting Faculty positions.

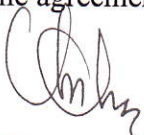
Validity

The agreement is valid for an initial period of five years and becomes effective from the date it is signed by the partners. The partnership period may be extended by mutual consent. In case one partner wishes to cancel the contract, intimation will have to be sent by the month of June of that year. In that case the agreement will terminate at the end of year i.e. 31 December.



Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. W. Bleck
Dept. of Ferrous Metallurgy
RWTH Aachen University, Germany

Date: 14.4.08



Prof. M. Chakraborty 14.04.08
Deputy Director,
Prof. of Metallurgical
& Materials Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology,
Kharagpur, India, Date: