Russel Metals Comments on Strike at Boucherville Plant, Quebec

TORONTO, CANADA – September 11, 2012-- Russel Metals Inc. (RUS – TSX) today announced that it is in discussions with the Québec Ministry of Labour and the Confédération des Syndicats Nationaux (CSN) representatives to reach agreement on language and issues related to the Company’s Acier Leroux plant in Boucherville, Quebec. During this process the union has taken strike action.

Brian R. Hedges, President and CEO, stated "The decision by the union to strike before the Company had even tabled the offer on wages, reinforces the confrontational approach taken throughout our negotiations. Our employees and their families will unfortunately be impacted by this decision. We will take all avenues open to us to allow us to provide continued service to the customers of our Boucherville facility."

Marion E. Britton, Vice President and CFO, stated that "Boucherville is our main hub in Quebec, however, we will service most of our customers from our numerous locations in Quebec and elsewhere. Our Quebec team will take actions as needed to minimize the negative impact on our earnings."

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