

March 29, 2012

Press Release

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd.

**Investigation into Lead Frame Business Integration with Hitachi Cable, Ltd.**

Sumitomo Metal Mining Co., Ltd. (“SMM”, Headquarters: Minato-ku, Tokyo, President and Representative Director: Nobumasa Kemori) and Hitachi Cable, Ltd. (Headquarters: Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, President and Chief Executive Officer: Hideaki Takahashi, hereinafter Hitachi Cable) announce the start of a concrete investigation into a business integration of the lead frame business of both companies and Hitachi Cable’s copper products business (excluding its copper tube business).

1. Aim of Business Integration

SMM has always made efforts to streamline the management of and strengthen its lead frame business. Through integration with Hitachi Cable’s lead frame business and the copper products business (excluding its copper tube business) which manufactures the necessary materials, and consolidation of management resources, it has been determined that a synergistic effect can be expected and so the decision has been taken to commence an investigation into business integration.

2. Summary of Business Integration

SMM and Hitachi Cable shall proceed with the investigation with the aim of concluding a formal contract regarding the details, scope, method, and other information concerning this business integration in the first half of FY2012. Specific details will be disclosed as they are decided through consultations henceforth.

3. Future Review

Disclosures regarding specific details of the effect this business integration will have on SMM’s business results will be made as they are decided through consultations henceforth.

(Reference: overview of Hitachi Cable)

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| (1) Name           | Hitachi Cable, Ltd.                                      |
| (2) Location       | 4-14-1, Sotokanda, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo                     |
| (3) Representative | Hideaki Takahashi, President and Chief Executive Officer |

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| (4) Capital         | ¥25.9bn   |
| (5) Main businesses | Wires and cables, Information networks,<br>Copper products, Semiconductor materials,<br>Rubber products, other products and sales |

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