

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**"STEEL IN AGRICULTURE" - THIRD ECSC STEEL CONGRESS OPENS**

WASHINGTON, D. C., October 25, 1966 -- Steel company executives, agronomists, engineers, and economists from all major steel producing countries met in Luxembourg today to find new uses for steel - in agriculture.

"Steel in Agriculture," is the third international Steel Congress sponsored by the High Authority of the European Coal and Steel Community to diversify and increase steel consumption and to promote technological and economic advances by encouraging exchanges of ideas and experience. Participants in the three-day meeting will address the role of steel in reorganizing farming to produce enough food to feed today's two thousand million hungry, six thousand million by the end of the century.

Working parties are examining uses for steel in:

- (1) Farm buildings and installations;
- (2) Agricultural machinery;
- (3) Storage and marketing of agricultural produce;
- (4) Raising agricultural output in the developing (especially tropical) countries.

American registrants include representatives from: the Department of Agriculture, Farm Economics Research Department, Washington, D.C., and the Agricultural Engineering Research Division, Beltsville, Md.; the agricultural engineering departments of many universities (including Rutgers and Cornell); the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, St. Joseph, Mich., and major steel manufacturers.

The 1964 ECSC Steel Congress, "Progress in Steel Construction," gave the steel industries a better idea of potential demand for steel in the building industries and of the physical and engineering characteristics builders wanted. Judges are now making a preliminary selection from the 5,000 designs for houses using prefabricated steel parts in a contest that grew out of this Congress.

How to preserve the functional aspects of steel while improving its looks and making it as light in weight as possible, how to select quick, easy and suitable assembling and welding methods in construction, and other questions raised at the first Congress led naturally to the second ECSC Steel Congress in 1965, devoted to steel processing.