

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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USMMA Lauds New Legislation to Address Critical Rare Earth Vulnerabilities

Congress Should Pass Legislation Quickly to Support Green Technologies and National Security

Washington, DC – The <u>United States Magnetic Materials Association</u> ("USMMA"), a trade association representing domestic high performance magnet producers and suppliers, today welcomes the introduction of S.4031, the "Rare Earths Supply-Chain Technology and Resources Transformation Act of 2010" or "RESTART Act" that would establish a viable domestic supply chain of those rare earth materials so essential to clean energy technologies and defense applications.

Emphasizing the importance of rare earths to national, economic, and energy security, Senators Evan Bayh (IN) and Kit Bond (MO) introduced key legislation intended to develop a comprehensive, whole-of-government approach that focuses on the key aspects of recent bills upon which Congress has not yet acted. This new RESTART Act emphasizes the need for a U.S. downstream manufacturing capability and reestablishes a competitive domestic industry that can produce, process, refine, purify, and manufacture rare earth minerals, metals, and magnets to support green energy technologies and defense applications. Keenly aware of their responsibilities to U.S. taxpayers, the sponsors were careful to limit government loan guarantees to only those entities that need it.

USMMA President Ed Richardson stated, "We heartily endorse the new RESTART Act, which represents the most cost effective and practical approach to address existing vulnerabilities in the rare earth supply chain. It forces the executive branch to develop a collaborative way forward, including an emphasis on a downstream manufacturing capability that will reduce U.S. dependency on Chinese supplies of rare earth products. I urge lawmakers to pass this legislation quickly in support of clean energy and national security."

More information can be found at http://www.usmagnetmaterials.com.

Thomas & Skinner, Inc. High Performance Magnetic Materials and sintered alnico magnets, magnetic assemblies, and transformer laminations. Through its wholly-owned subsidiary Ceramic Magnetics, Inc., Thomas & Skinner is also a leading manufacturer of soft ferrite magnets.

Hoosier Magnetics, Inc. specializes in the manufacturing of hard ferrite powders used in a wide variety of permanent magnet applications. Founded in 1975 in Washington, Indiana; Hoosier is a privately held company owned by Dr. B. Thomas Shirk.

Electron Energy Corporation is a worldwide leader in samarium cobalt magnet production and offers design services and rare earth magnet assemblies. Electron Energy is the only US operated rare earth magnet company that still melts its magnet alloys in-house.

U.S. Rare Earths, Inc.

U.S. Rare Earths, Inc., an American natural resources development company based in Salt Lake City and New York City, holds large resources and reserves of high-grade rare earth metals and the largest documented high-grade thorium properties in the world within its properties in Idaho, Montana, and Colorado, including a large portion of known and estimated U.S. reserves.

The <u>Arnold Magnetic Technologies Corporation</u>, a privately owned corporation comprised of five strategic businesses, manufactures a wide range of both permanent and soft magnetic products and assemblies at facilities in the United States, the United Kingdom, Switzerland and China.

Great Western Technologies Inc. is a leading production facility in North America for rare earth materials, powders, and custom vacuum-grade specialty alloys. GWTI provides research and development, process development, consulting, and innovative products and services to clients worldwide. GWTI., in partnership with its parent company, Great Western Minerals Group Ltd., is part of the first vertically integrated structure in North America to produce and process rare earth elements for advanced technology and alternative energy markets.

Lynas Corporation is creating a reliable, fully integrated source of supply from mine through to customers, and aims to become the benchmark for security of supply and environmental standards in the global Rare Earths industry. Lynas has developed a mine at its rich deposit of Rare Earths at Mt Weld in Western Australia, and will produce separated rare earth products from its Advanced Materials Plant which shall commence production in Q3 2011

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