



## **GERDAU AMERISTEEL – CARTERSVILLE WINS NATIONAL AWARD FOR WORK WITH ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN**

CARTERSVILLE, GA April 28, 2011 – The employees of the Gerda Ameristeel steel mill in Cartersville, Ga., are being recognized by a national organization for their volunteer work and donations to Advocates for Children, a non-profit organization that operates a children’s shelter and provides support for families in the Cartersville area. Mill representatives will receive a 2011 Recognition in Community Involvement Award from the Steel Manufacturing Association during their annual members’ conference in Washington, D.C. on May 10.

The relationship between Gerda Ameristeel and Advocates for Children began in 2002, when employees from the mill contacted the organization to see what they could do to help. The Flowery Branch Children’s Shelter needed pots and pans, which the employees quickly fulfilled. They then went a step further, hiring a caterer to prepare a Christmas dinner for the kids. That tradition of doing more has continued through the years, with employees making frequent visits to help provide maintenance on the property, which they are scheduled to do on Friday, April 29, and participating in different activities, such as raising \$5,000 to buy the children Christmas gifts last December.

“It is hard to describe how much Gerda has meant to us over the last 10 years,” said Patty Eagar, Executive Director of Advocates for Children. “They will do anything for us, from installing a swing set to fixing a leaking roof to installing an irrigation system. Between the company and personal contributions from employees that work there, I would guess they contribute more than \$25,000 a year. We call them our men and women of steel.”

Over the years, employees have organized several fundraisers benefiting Advocates for Children, including a skeet shooting tournament and the Allen Silkwood Memorial Golf Tournament, which raised \$14,000 last year. The event was named in honor of a former Gerda Ameristeel employee who was a member of the Board of Directors of Advocates for Children for 7 years. The company is also heavily involved in the Duck Derby, a fundraiser for the organization that is now in its tenth year. The event, scheduled to take place at the Riverside Day Use Area on Saturday, May 14, is a race between thousands of “adopted” ducks that are dumped into the Etowah River for a grand prize. In order to meet their goal of offering 2,500 ducks for adoption at the event, volunteers from the company are hosting adoption booths at different community events, including the Tom Clayton Memorial Car Cruize on May 7.

Matt Moore, environmental manager at Gerda Ameristeel – Cartersville, began working with the Advocates for Children when he moved to Georgia last year and currently serves on the Board of Directors. He regularly visits the organization’s campus to help with projects and will travel to Washington D.C. with Donley Burge, an improvement facilitator at Gerda Ameristeel, to accept the award.

“This organization served almost 2,000 kids last year,” said Moore. “We think we do this to change a kid’s life, but it ends up happening the other way around because these kids change us. When you go there, you meet kids that are so promising and full of energy and enthusiasm

for life despite the challenges they are facing. There are a lot of charities that are important, but to take care of these kids in our community, it doesn't get more powerful than that.”

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### **About Gerdau Ameristeel**

Gerdau Ameristeel is the second largest mini-mill steel producer in North America, with annual manufacturing capacity of approximately 10 million metric tons of mill finished steel products. Through its vertically integrated network of mini-mills, scrap recycling facilities and downstream operations, Gerdau Ameristeel serves customers throughout the United States and Canada. The Company's products are generally sold to steel service centers, steel fabricators, or directly to original equipment manufacturers for use in a variety of industries, including non-residential, infrastructure, commercial, industrial and residential construction, metal building, manufacturing, automotive, mining, cellular and electrical transmission and equipment manufacturing. Gerdau Ameristeel is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Gerdau S.A., the leading producer of long steel in the Americas and one of the world's largest suppliers of specialty long steel.

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