
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF
THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

DATE OF REPORT – October 5, 2004
(Date of Earliest Event Reported)

**AK STEEL HOLDING
CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Commission File No. 1-13696

Delaware
(State of Incorporation)

31-1401455
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

703 Curtis Street, Middletown, OH
(Address of principal
executive offices)

45043
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (513) 425-5000

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (*see* General Instruction A.2. below):

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- Solicitation material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On October 5, 2004, AK Steel Corporation issued a press release, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit No. 99.1 and incorporated by reference herein, announcing that it expects improved third quarter financial results.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibit:

99.1 Press Release issued on October 5, 2004

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AK STEEL HOLDING CORPORATION

By: /s/ David C. Horn
David C. Horn
Secretary

Dated: October 5, 2004

EXHIBIT INDEX

<u>Exhibit No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
99.1	Press Release issued on October 5, 2004



News Release

Media Contact: Alan H. McCoy, Vice President, Government and Public Relations (513) 425-2826
Investor Contact: Albert E. Ferrara, Jr., Vice President, Finance & CFO (513) 425-2888

AK Steel Expects Improved Third Quarter Financial Results

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio, October 5, 2004 – AK Steel (NYSE:AKS) today said that it anticipates reporting better-than-expected results for the third quarter of 2004. The company said that it expects shipments for the third quarter to be approximately 1,542,000 tons, and operating profit per ton to be approximately \$61, or about \$25 higher than the company reported in the second quarter. The company also noted that it expects to record a net non-cash tax credit for the third quarter of 2004.

The company said that the revised guidance reflects an increase of 17,000 tons over its previous shipping estimate of 1,525,000 tons, and an increase of approximately \$10 in operating profit per ton from the upper-end of its guidance provided following the release of its second quarter results. For the second quarter of 2004, AK Steel shipped 1,565,100 tons, and posted an operating profit of \$56.4 million, or \$36 per ton, and net income from continuing operations of \$20.2 million, enabling the company to end a string of eight quarterly losses.

“Thanks to our continuing focus on the business basics, as well as higher average selling prices, we are pleased that our recovery continues to build momentum, and we look forward to reporting another profitable quarter,” said James L. Wainscott, president and CEO.

Headquartered in Middletown, AK Steel produces flat-rolled carbon, stainless and electrical steel products, as well as tubular steel products, for automotive, appliance, construction and manufacturing markets.

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