

Ukrainian iron ore mines boosted output in 2006

Iron ore concentrate production grew 7% to 56.68 million tonnes.

Pellet production rose 20% to 20.87 million tonnes.

Crude ore rose 6% to 73 million tonnes. **Sinter** was a flat 47.4 million tonnes.

Poltavsky GOK boosted pellet production in 2006

Poltavsky GOK (PGOK), Ukraine's biggest producer of iron ore pellets, raised commercial pellet production tentatively 10.2% to 8.55 million tonnes of pellets. Iron ore concentrate production grew 15.7% to 9.621 million tonnes.

PGOK exports around 90% of its pellets. PGOK's main customers are located in Austria, Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic, the former Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Italy. The company expected to increase shipments to China in 2006.

Switzerland's Ferrexpo AG owned 85.8491% of PGOK as of mid-September 2006.

Pivdenny Ore Mill ups sinter output 13.4% in 2006

Pivdenny (Southern) ore mill from Kryvy Rih in Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region raised sinter production 13.4% in 2006 to 4.652 million tonnes. Iron ore concentrate production rose 7% to 8.71 million tonnes, the company told Interfax. It supplied 4.655 million tonnes of sinter and 3.703 million tonnes of concentrate to Ukrainian steel mills in 2006.

Pivnichny GOK ups pellet production 33.9% in 2006

Pivnichny GOK raised commercial pellet production 33.9% in 2006 to 10.1 million tonnes. Iron ore concentrate output jumped 12% to 11.963 million tonnes.

SCM controls 99% of the Northern mine too.

Inhulets Mine reduces iron ore concentrate output 3.6% in 2006

Inhulets Mining and Beneficiation Plant reduced iron ore concentrate production tentatively 3.6% in 2006 to 13.013 million tonnes. It sold 12.59 million tonnes to Ukrainian steel mills in 2006.

Inhulets has a 77%-share of the Ukrainian iron ore concentrate market.

The Zaporizhia-based Smart Group controls the plant.

Tsentralny GOK raised iron ore pellet output 3.1% in 2006

Tsentralny GOK or Central Mining and Beneficiation Plant from Kryvy Rih raised iron ore pellet output 3.1% in 2006 to 2.217 million tonnes. Concentrate production rose 4.6% to 5.572 million tonnes.

The mine sells most of its pellets to Ukrainian steel mills. It sold 2.209 million tonnes to the Azovstal mill last year. The company is one of Ukraine's five biggest iron ore producers. The Donetsk-based System Capital Management (SCM) controls 99% of its shares.

Kryvy Rih Ore Mill ups iron ore output 10% in 2006

Ukraine's Kryvy Rih iron ore mill raised production of iron ore commodities by the deep mining method 9.9% in 2006 to 7.1 million tonnes. The mine is owned by Solaim, a member of the Privat Group.

Zaporizhia Iron Ore Mill ups iron ore output 2.7% in 2006

Zaporizhia iron ore mill, a Ukrainian-Slovak joint venture in Zaporizhia region, raised production of market iron ore 2.7% in 2006 to 4.32 million tonnes.

The company's main shareholders are Minerfin of Slovakia and Zaporizhstal, one of Ukraine's largest steel companies. It exports 60% of its ore to the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Austria, and sells 40% to Zaporizhstal.