

Central Steel & Wire Company

OFFICES & PLANTS

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FINANCIAL EDITOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CENTRAL STEEL & WIRE COMPANY (CSTW.PK), a Chicago-based steel service center, reports the following financial information for the three months ended March 31:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Net Earnings (Loss) Per Share	\$(8.70)	\$3.15
Net Sales	\$146,560,000	\$131,008,000
Net Earnings (Loss)	\$(2,179,000)	\$798,000
Average Number of Common Shares Outstanding	250,318	253,115

Net sales for the first quarter of 2017 were \$146.6 million, an increase of 11.9% from \$131.0 million in the first quarter of 2016 and up 20% from \$122.1 million in the fourth quarter of 2016. Tons shipped during the first quarter of 2017 were 1% above the same quarter last year and 13% above the fourth quarter of 2016. The average selling price per ton increased 10% compared to the first quarter of last year and 6% from the fourth quarter.

The rise in steel prices also increased cost of goods sold, which are valued using the LIFO method. Cost of goods sold includes a LIFO inventory valuation debit adjustment of \$4.8 million this quarter compared to a credit adjustment of \$5.9 million in the first quarter of 2016, a swing of \$10.7 million. The first quarter result was a net loss of \$2,179,000 compared to net earnings of \$798,000 in the first quarter of 2016.

Submitted by:

Stephen E. Fuhrman
Chairman of the Board

By:



Kevin Powers
Chief Financial Officer