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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**KURT STALBERG NAMED
VICE PRESIDENT OF HBI ASSOCIATION**

MATTHEWS, North Carolina (October 20, 2009) – The HBI Association (HBIA) Board of Directors approved the nomination of Kurt Stalberg to serve as vice president and a member of the Executive Committee at its recent meeting in Milan, Italy, prior to the HBIA Annual General Meeting.

During his two-year term as vice president, Stalberg will be authorized to act on behalf of HBIA president Alberto Hassan in all Association business. He will work closely with Hassan and executive director Frank Griscom to manage the Association's member support and market development programs.

Stalberg served as managing director and speaker of the management of Maschinenfabrik KÖPPER N GmbH & Co. KG from 1991 until earlier this year when he turned over management to the fifth generation of the company's family owners. He continues to work closely with Köppern as a consultant.

Prior to joining Köppern, Stalberg held executive and general manager positions with Klöckner-INA and later with the metals and minerals division of INA in the US, Middle East, and Asia.

HBI Association, Ltd. (HBIA) is a not-for-profit, international trade organization whose purpose is to promote hot briquetted iron (HBI) as steel's most versatile metallic and to provide information on the effective handling, shipping, storage, and use of HBI. HBIA members include the major producers and exporters of HBI; suppliers of process technology, equipment, materials, and services including transportation to the HBI Industry, and traders and brokers involved in buying and selling metallics worldwide.

For more information about HBI or HBIA, visit www.hbia.org or contact Frank Griscom, Executive Director at: phone: (704) 815-3285, fax: (704) 841-4251, or e-mail: director@hbia.org.