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## **Update on the Tinplate Manufacturing Project in Jiangsu**

(Hong Kong, 20 May, 2013), Novo Group Ltd. ("Novo", together with its subsidiaries, collectively known as the "Group"; stock code: SEHK:1048, SGX:MR8) is pleased to report the fourth quarter of FY2013 (from 1 February to 30 April 2013) operational update on the tinplate manufacturing project.

Since the tinplate manufacturing plant in Jiangsu has started operation in December 2012, all of the main manufacturing units are performing smoothly and the ramp-up of production is progressing with consistent quality. As at 30<sup>th</sup> of April, 2013, the plant reportedly has achieved total production of more than 15,000 tonnes of tinplate, in which approximately 12,000 tonnes was sold in FY2013.

With the dedicated effort of expanding geographical sales, we have received trial orders from local and major overseas markets including food and beverage can-makers in Asia, Europe and Central America. Through the trial orders, we seized the opportunities to demonstrate our abilities and understanding of the customer's expectations for the products. The trial orders are well received and can-making corporations in the food and beverage metal packaging sector have responded positively. The outlook for long-term co-operation with end-users is expected to be prosperous.

In addition, the Group has recently signed a Joint Venture agreement with Laminate Industry Co., Ltd., a leading laminating corporation, to establish a new plant in Jiangsu. The new plant will be situated next to the tinplate manufacturing plant and will manufacture, sell and distribute of laminated tinplate and aluminum sheets for food and beverage metal packaging in China. With the initial focus on the Northern and Eastern part of China, the plant's production capacity is currently estimated at more than 60,000 tonnes annually. The plant is expected to commence production in Q32014 which will become one of the pioneering laminated metal sheet manufacturing plants in China.

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## About Novo Group Ltd. (http://www.novogroupltd.com)

Novo Group Ltd. is one of the leading integrated steel trading, tinplate manufacturing, processing company and endeavors to be a leading corporation in metal packaging industry in China. The Group is focusing on bulk commodities trading (iron ore, coal and steel products), tinplate manufacturing and downstream operations of metal packaging industry. Novo has been listed on the Main Board of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited since 2008 and dual-listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited since 2010. Headquartered in Hong Kong, Novo currently has approximately 400 employees in Hong Kong and China. Our subsidiaries and branch offices locate at over 9 different locations and with global presence in over 30 countries and across 4 continents.

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