8-15-1991

Latin American Nations Plan New Uses For Copper

Barbara Khol

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalrepository.unm.edu/notisur

Recommended Citation

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Latin America Digital Beat (LADB) at UNM Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in NotiSur by an authorized administrator of UNM Digital Repository. For more information, please contact amywinter@unm.edu.
Latin American Nations Plan New Uses For Copper

by Barbara Khol
Category/Department: General
Published: Thursday, August 15, 1991

On Aug. 9 in Santiago, Peter Lowick-Russel, of the Chilean state-run Copper Corporation (CODELCO), told reporters that copper producers in five Latin American nations have agreed to establish a network to promote new uses of the metal. Lowick-Russel spoke at the close of a meeting with copper company executives from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico and Peru. The meeting was sponsored by the International Copper Association (ICA), created in 1988 to carry out distribution transactions in the world market with funds donated by producer-nations. ICA established regional councils in the US and Europe. During the encounter in Santiago, a council for Latin America was approved. Lowick-Russel told the Inter Press Service that current copper consumption in Latin America totals about 500,000 metric tons per year, or about 1 kg. per inhabitant. The world average is 2.5 kg. Copper substitutes include optic fiber, plastics, ceramics, and certain organic compounds. Producers say about $100 million in investment is necessary for industry improvements. Market possibilities include nuclear waste containers, new electronic non-pollutant vehicle technologies, and heating systems based on stored energy. (Basic data from Inter Press Service, 08/09/91)

-- End --