

FOREWORD

possible, utilizing its plate mill capacity of 5.4 million tons/year.

This special issue of JFE Technical Report introduces areas of plate manufacturing/production where fusion and innovation have been achieved through the merger of JFE Steel's predecessor companies. The *Super-OLAC*[®] realizes a cooling rate equivalent to the theoretical limit, has now been installed in all three of JFE Steel's plate mills as the company's essential plate manufacturing process for product quality. Another epoch-making process is the world's first on-line heating equipment HOP[®]