

## EU wire rod group expands to continue fight against trade cases

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The European Non-Integrated Wire Rod Processors Assn, Eunirpa, has two new members, it said on Wednesday September 7.

Created in July this year, the group was set up to battle against the threat of anti-dumping actions against imports of wire rod from neighbouring countries to the EU.

The opposition movement was triggered by the alleged shortages of the product in the EU, partly a result of the closure of ArcelorMittal's Zumárraga mill in Spain.

“Several EU steel producers claim that there is an excess of wire rod on the market, but in each and every country that we visit, we hear the same complaint: we cannot find the tonnages that we need in Europe,” the group’s president and spokesman Kris Van Ginderdeuren said.

The new Eunirpa’s members are HUS in Bulgaria and Kamaridis Global Wire in Greece.

The founding member companies of Eunirpa are: Exelfil in Belgium; Exelfil in Spain; Fapricela in Portugal; Gallega de Mallas in Spain; Intersig in Belgium; Intersig in France; Sirme si Cabluri in Romania; and Van Merksteijn in Netherlands, of which Van Ginderdeuren is also a commercial director.

The group now represents eight countries and “all of these companies are concerned about the current situation and all of them feel that it is time to join forces and protect their downstream production,” Van Ginderdeuren added.