



PRESS RELEASE

QuesTek Introduces New Stainless Blade Steel

Evanston, IL, February 24, 2004 –



QuesTek Innovations announced today the introduction of its newest

stainless steel, Ferrium® M60S. The steel was developed specifically for the sporting knife market and other blade applications.

Ferrium M60S is part of a family of patented nanocarbide strengthened monolithic stainless steels. This approach provides a number of advantages. Utilizing carbides that are only .003 um in size, Ferrium M60S has an exceptional combination of properties, with excellent corrosion resistance (average pitting potential of >400 mV), temperature resistance of >500 degrees C and toughness of >20 measured by Charpy C-Notch. Additionally, Ferrium M60S recorded one of the highest scores ever achieved for a stainless steel when tested for edge retention (TCC) by the Cutlery Allied Trade Research Association (CATRA) in Sheffield, England.

Charlie Kuehmann, President and CEO of QuesTek said, "Our proprietary nanometer carbide technology has allowed us to design a steel with a balance of qualities that knife makers have long desired. We are confident that Ferrium M60S will help improve the utility and desirability of the knives in which it is used." Commercial quantities of Ferrium M60S will be available on April 1st.

QuesTek Innovations is a leader in the emerging field of computational materials design. Using its proprietary *Materials by Design*® technology, QuesTek develops and licenses unique materials designed to enable new products, reduce or eliminate long-term environmental impact, enhance the performance of existing products or reduce the cost of materials processing. QuesTek's clients come from both the public and private sectors and include leading Fortune 50 companies. For more information, visit our website at www.questek.com.