China Metal Casting Foundries, Current Situation, Production and Development

1.) In general terms, how would you describe the state of the metal casting / foundry (Robustness, growth, trends etc.)

Metal castings are the base of industry and residential, so still and will have good demand from the long term development of metal foundries, so currently, the development of metal foundries in China is good. The total amount of foundries will be reduced because of the government control for environment protection; Some foundries will become larger, and some small foundries will be vanished.

2.) If your company has any involvement in the Chinese foundry industry or market, please summarize it. What advantages does operating in China bring your company?

We are a metal foundry, so I can not answer this question; however, I believe that our clients reduced their production cost because they bought metal castings from us.

3.) Are there any particularly geographical areas of China where the foundry industry is particularly strongly? If so, why is this?

The main locations for metal foundries are Ningbo, Shandong, Liaoning, Hebei. These four places have many iron and steel foundries. I think it is because these locations can reach main raw materials (pig iron) easier, industrial manufacturing. Take Liaoning as example, it is the main industrial base when new China founded.

4.) In terms of production, is the Chinese foundry industry focusing on any particular types of metal castings etc.)

No, there is no distinct focus for types of metal castings in these areas. This is not good for development.

5.) What is the state of health and safety in Chinese foundries?

The protection to workers health and safety in China foundries is not good. The protection is very preliminary such as goggles, work clothes, face mask etc. The warning sign, safety operation guide and better and
6.) Efforts are being made to reduce the environmental impact of China's foundry industry. How successful have these been? Is low emissions / waste minimization technology being used?

Yes, our government is investing to control and improve the environmental impact, however, the improvement is slow because China is too big and too many metal foundries and other industrial factories, so the improvement will be slow compared to other countries.

7.) In very general terms, how does the technology employed by the Chinese foundry compare to that used in Europe or North America? Is China still playing catch-up or are there some very sophisticated technologies already?

Yes, there are some very large foundries, who are using very state of art technology and also most of middle and small foundries are still much slower than those in Europe and America for this aspect.

8.) How do you see the Chinese foundry industry developing over the next 5-10 years? What challenges does the Chinese foundry industry face going forwards? Will there be more partnerships with European and American foundries?

In the next years, some small and middle foundries will be vanished because of government control and bad economics. The buyers will choose the better foundries or choose the foundries in India for lower prices. However, because other countries are also controlling pollution for metal foundries, but the total demand volume will still keep their eyes on Chinese foundries. The survived metal foundries will have to improve their technology and control pollution better, so they could move their production orders to China.

Although partnership with European and American foundries are still very few now, this should be a direction where overseas investors will invest some to the China foundries, so they can get lower prices and stable supplies. The metal foundries overseas could move some foundries in China, so they could move their production orders to China.
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