## Universal Stainless 2004 Third Quarter EPS Exceeds Forecast

## Backlog Reaches \$60 million

BRIDGEVILLE, Pa., Oct. 20, 2004 -- Universal Stainless \& Alloy Products, Inc. (Nasdaq:USAP) today reported third quarter 2004 sales of $\$ 33.3$ million and net income of $\$ 2.7$ million, or $\$ 0.43$ per diluted share. This includes other income of $\$ 565,000$, or $\$ 0.06$ per diluted share, related to the delayed receipt of the remaining 2003 import duties awarded the Company under the "Continued Dumping and Subsidy Act of 2000 " resulting from a favorable ruling on a lawsuit challenging the distribution method of the import duties. Sales for the 2004 third quarter were in line with the Company's forecast and EPS was ahead of the projected range of $\$ 0.30$ to $\$ 0.35$, before including the other income from import duties.

In the third quarter of 2003, sales were $\$ 18.6$ million and the Company incurred a net loss of $\$ 121,000$ or $\$ 0.02$ per diluted share.

Commenting on the results, President and CEO Mac McAninch stated: "I am pleased with our performance in all of our markets and by the confidence our customers have demonstrated in us. In a period of very high market demand, we have worked diligently to respond to our customers' needs by investing rapidly to increase throughput and by maintaining a fair and transparent pricing policy in the face of volatile, rising costs."

Mr. McAninch continued: "Our third quarter sales rose $79 \%$ from last year, which was a difficult period for the economy and our industry. More importantly, end market sales improved $15 \%$ over stronger 2004 second quarter levels, with sales of aerospace, power generation, petrochemical and tool steel products up $17 \%, 2 \%, 11 \%$ and $14 \%$, respectively."

Mr. McAninch added: "We continued to improve our profitability in the third quarter by focusing on higher value-added products and by taking necessary pricing action for cost recovery. I am especially pleased with the enthusiasm and dedication of our employees at Dunkirk Specialty Steel. They have done an excellent job of penetrating attractive niche markets and improving their product mix. Their improved operating results begin to show the facility's true potential to the Company. I also want to acknowledge the efforts of our employees at Bridgeville and Titusville, who increased shipments by $17 \%$ from the prior quarter. As our backlog continues to rise, we must continue to increase our productivity and remain focused on quality improvement and cost reduction initiatives."

## Segment Review

In the third quarter of 2004, the Universal Stainless \& Alloy Products segment had sales of $\$ 31.2$ million and operating income of $\$ 2.9$ million. This compares with sales of $\$ 16.2$ million and operating income of $\$ 554,000$ in the third quarter of 2003 and sales of $\$ 25.1$ million and operating income of $\$ 1.9$ million in the second quarter of 2004.

The strong growth reflected increased sales to all customer categories, including sales of reroll product to Dunkirk, in the year-over-year period and sequentially. Higher shipments, improved mix and price recovery initiatives led to greater profitability.

The Dunkirk Specialty Steel segment reported record sales of $\$ 9.5$ million and operating income of $\$ 1.2$ million. This compares with sales of $\$ 5.2$ million and an operating loss of $\$ 732,000$ in the third quarter of 2003 and sales of $\$ 8.0$ million and operating income of $\$ 651,000$ in the prior quarter.

Dunkirk's top line growth mainly reflected improved product mix and increased sales to service centers, while its total sales volume allowed further reductions in the manufacturing cost of products sold, leading to the continued improvement in its profitability.

## Business Outlook

The following statements are based on the Company's current expectations. These statements are forward-looking, and actual results may differ materially.

The Company estimates that fourth quarter 2004 sales will range from $\$ 32$ to $\$ 37$ million and that diluted EPS will range from $\$ 0.32$ to $\$ 0.37$. In the fourth quarter of 2003, sales were $\$ 18.8$ million and the Company incurred a net loss per diluted share of $\$ 0.04$. The 2004 fourth quarter EPS estimate does not include any monies that may be received by the Company related to the Continued Dumping and Subsidy Act of 2000 for the current year.

The following factors were considered in developing these estimates:

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-- The Company's total backlog at September 30, 2004 approximated $60
    million compared to $49 million at June 30, 2004, reflecting
    continued strength in all of the Company's markets.
-- Capital improvements implemented in the second and third quarters,
    including the addition of a reheat furnace to increase throughput
    at the Bridgeville blooming mill, should fully benefit the fourth
    quarter.
-- Sales from the Dunkirk Specialty Steel segment are expected to
    approximate the 2004 third quarter sales of $9.5 million.
    Additional sales are dependent upon the level of inventory
    management initiatives implemented by the service center industry
    near the end of the year.
-- The Company expects raw material costs to remain volatile for the
    balance of the year. Its electricity costs will increase by
    $200,000 per month in the fourth quarter due to a recent Public
    Utility Commission ruling that has reduced the number of off-peak
    power hours available to conduct its melting operations at the
    Bridgeville facility. The Company has retained a consultant to
    recommend energy-saving initiatives and is currently negotiating
    its 2005 energy contract.
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Mr. McAninch concluded: "Our Company and our industry have realized substantial improvement this year. Based on our own assessment of the marketplace and what we are currently hearing from our customers, we expect continued strength in our business at least through the first half of 2005."

## Webcast

A simultaneous Webcast of the Company's conference call discussing the 2004 third quarter and the fourth quarter 2004 outlook, scheduled at 10:30 a.m. (Eastern) today, will be available on the Company's website at www.univstainless.com, and thereafter archived on the website. A telephone replay of the conference call will be available beginning at 1:00 p.m. (Eastern) today and continuing through October 27th. It can be accessed by dialing 706-645-9291, passcode 1371941. This is a toll call.

About Universal Stainless \& Alloy Products, Inc.
Universal Stainless \& Alloy Products, Inc., headquartered in Bridgeville, Pa., manufactures and markets a broad line of semifinished and finished specialty steels, including stainless steel, tool steel and certain other alloyed steels. The Company's products are sold to original equipment manufacturers, service centers, forgers, rerollers and wire redrawers.

## Forward-Looking Information Safe Harbor

Except for historical information contained herein, the statements in this release are forward-looking statements that are made pursuant to the "safe harbor" provision of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties that may cause the Company's actual results in future periods to differ materially from forecasted results. Those risks include, among others, risks associated with the receipt, pricing and timing of future customer orders, risks associated with significant fluctuations that may occur in raw material and energy prices, risks associated with the manufacturing process and production yields, risks related to property, plant and equipment and risks related to the ultimate outcome of the Company's current and future litigation and regulatory matters. Certain of these risks and other risks are described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) over the last 12 months, copies of which are available from the SEC or may be obtained upon request from the Company.

UNIVERSAL STAINLESS \& ALLOY PRODUCTS, INC. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS
(Dollars in thousands, except per share information)
(Unaudited)

|  |  | the Qua Septemb 2004 | r | Ended <br> 03 |  | e NineSeptemb 004 |  | s Ended $003$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Net Sales |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Stainless steel | \$ | 26,529 | \$ | 14,215 | \$ | 65,586 | \$ | 38,064 |
| Tool steel |  | 4,277 |  | 2,828 |  | 11,185 |  | 7,328 |
| alloy steel |  | 1,160 |  | 619 |  | 3,085 |  | 1,958 |
| High-temperature alloy steel |  | 473 |  | 608 |  | 1,795 |  | 1,750 |
| Conversion services |  | 707 |  | 247 |  | 1,635 |  | 845 |
| Other |  | 151 |  | 108 |  | 344 |  | 217 |
| Total net sales <br> Cost of products sold <br> Selling and administrative expenses |  | 33,297 |  | 18,625 |  | 83,630 |  | 50,162 |
|  |  | 27,701 |  | 17,296 |  | 71,576 |  | 47,917 |
|  |  | 1,873 |  | 1,507 |  | 5,348 |  | 4,425 |
| Operating income (loss) |  | 3,723 |  | (178) |  | 6,706 |  | $(2,180)$ |
| Interest expense |  | (108) |  | (100) |  | (302) |  | (289) |
| Other income |  | 566 |  | 24 |  | 577 |  | 74 |
| ```Income (loss) before taxes``` |  | 4,181 |  | (254) |  | 6,981 |  | $(2,395)$ |
| Income tax provision (benefit) |  | 1,436 |  | (133) |  | 2,443 |  | $(1,251)$ |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | 2,745 | \$ | (121) | \$ | 4,538 | \$ | $(1,144)$ |
| ```Earnings (loss) per share - Basic``` | \$ | 0.44 | \$ | (0.02) | \$ | 0.72 | \$ | (0.18) |
| Earnings (loss) per share - Diluted | \$ | 0.43 | \$ | (0.02) | \$ | 0.71 | \$ | (0.18) |
| Weighted average shares of Common Stock outstanding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 6,305,456 |  | 6,289,485 |  | 6,300,229 |  | 6,286,271 |  |
| Diluted | 6,400,188 |  | 6,289,485 |  | 6,363,656 |  | 6,286,271 |  |
|  | MARKET SEGMENT INFORMATION |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  | the Qua Septemb 2004 | rte | Ended <br> , <br> 03 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { For the Nine-Months Endec } \\ & \text { September } 30, \\ & 2004 \quad 2003 \end{aligned}$ |  |  |  |
| Net Sales |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Service centers | \$ | 13,443 | \$ | 7,478 | \$ | 35,616 | \$ | 22,333 |
| Rerollers |  | 9,208 |  | 5,246 |  | 21,465 |  | 13,285 |
| Forgers |  | 6,232 |  | 3,052 |  | 15,181 |  | 7,054 |
| Original equipment |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |


| manufacturers |  | 2,263 |  | 1,423 |  | 6,101 |  | 3,844 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Wire redrawers |  | 1,307 |  | 1,095 |  | 3,346 |  | 2,615 |
| Conversion services |  | 707 |  | 246 |  | 1,635 |  | 844 |
| Other |  | 137 |  | 85 |  | 286 |  | 187 |
| Total net sales | \$ | 33,297 | \$ | 18,625 | \$ | 83,630 | \$ | 50,162 |
| Tons shipped |  | 13,470 |  | 9,600 |  | 34,667 |  | 25,658 |

## BUSINESS SEGMENT RESULTS

Universal Stainless \& Alloy Products Segment
For the Quarter For the Nine-Months Ended Ended
September 30, September 30,
$2004 \quad 2003 \quad 2004 \quad 2003$

Net Sales

| Stainless steel | \$18,373 | \$ | 9,805 | \$45,469 | \$24,865 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tool steel | 4,155 |  | 2,744 | 10,902 | 6,924 |
| High-strength low alloy steel | 575 |  | 313 | 1,387 | 1,184 |
| High-temperature alloy steel | 451 |  | 438 | 1,526 | 1,463 |
| Conversion services | 632 |  | 208 | 1,356 | 716 |
| Other | 146 |  | 108 | 298 | 202 |
|  | 24,332 |  | 13,616 | 60,938 | 35,354 |
| Intersegment | 6,867 |  | 2,552 | 14,588 | 7,714 |
| Total net sales | 31,199 |  | 16,168 | 75,526 | 43,068 |
| Material cost of sales | 14,999 |  | 6,247 | 33,923 | 15,887 |
| Operation cost of sales | 11,990 |  | 8,362 | 32,733 | 24,733 |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 1,310 |  | 1,005 | 3,672 | 2,923 |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 2,900 | \$ | 554 | \$ 5,198 | \$ (475) |

Dunkirk Specialty Steel Segment

| For the Quarter | For the Nine-Months |
| :---: | :---: |
| Ended | Ended |
| September 30, | September 30, |
| 2004 | 2003 |$\quad 2004 \quad 2003$

Net Sales

| Stainless steel | $\$ 8,156$ | $\$ 4,410$ | $\$ 20,117$ | $\$ 13,199$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Tool steel | 122 | 84 | 283 | 404 |
| High-strength low alloy steel | 585 | 306 | 1,698 | 774 |
| High-temperature alloy steel | 22 | 170 | 269 | 287 |
| Conversion services | 75 | 39 | 279 | 129 |
| Other | 5 | -- | 46 | 15 |
|  | ------- | ------ | ------- | ------- |
|  | 8,965 | 5,009 | 22,692 | 14,808 |
| Intersegment | 519 | 216 | 1,572 | 596 |


| Total net sales | 9,484 | 5,225 | 24,264 | 15,404 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Material cost of sales | 4,716 | 3,170 | 12,095 | 8,723 |
| Operation cost of sales | 3,042 | 2,285 | 8,645 | 6,884 |
| Selling and administrative expenses | 563 | 502 | 1,676 | 1,502 |
| Operating income (loss) | \$ 1,163 | \$ (732) | \$ 1,848 | \$ (1,705) |

## CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

| September 30, December 31, |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2004 | 2003 |
| -------- | -------- |

Assets

Cash
Accounts receivable, net
Inventory
Other current assets

Total current assets
Property, plant \& equipment, net
Other assets

Total assets

Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity

| Accounts payable | \$ 11,787 | \$ 6,792 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Bank overdrafts | 939 | 813 |
| Accrued employment costs | 2,818 | 833 |
| Current portion of long-term debt | 1,931 | 1,944 |
| Other current liabilities | 1,030 | 195 |
| Total current liabilities | 18,505 | 10,577 |
| Bank revolver | 4,597 | -- |
| Long-term debt | 4,150 | 5,599 |
| Deferred taxes | 9,451 | 9,313 |
| Total liabilities | 36,703 | 25,489 |
| Stockholders' equity | 64,078 | 59,436 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$100,781 | \$ 84,925 |

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW DATA

For the Nine-Months Ended September 30,
2004 2003

Cash flows from operating activities:
Net income (loss)
$\$ 4,538$
$\$(1,144)$
Adjustments to reconcile to net cash
provided by operating activities:
Depreciation and amortization
2,336
2,319

| Deferred taxes | 480 | 670 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Tax benefit from exercise of stock options | 8 | -- |
| Changes in assets and liabilities: |  |  |
| Accounts receivable, net | $(9,939)$ | $(2,167)$ |
| Inventory | $(11,527)$ | (188) |
| Trade accounts payable | 4,995 | 2,559 |
| Accrued employment costs | 1,985 | 243 |
| Refundable taxes | 1,405 | (930) |
| Other, net | 553 | 227 |
| Cash flow from (due to) operating activities | $(5,166)$ | 1,589 |
| Cash flow from investing activities: |  |  |
| Capital expenditures | $(2,377)$ | (713) |
| Cash flow due to investing activities | $(2,377)$ | (713) |
| Cash flows from financing activities: |  |  |
| Net borrowings under revolving line of credit | 4,597 | -- |
| Proceeds from deferred loan agreement | -- | 200 |
| Repayments of long-term debt | $(1,462)$ | $(1,451)$ |
| Net change in bank overdrafts | 126 | 235 |
| Proceeds from issuance of common stock | 96 | 25 |
| Cash flow from (due to) financing activities | 3,357 | (991) |
| Net cash flow | \$ (4,186) | \$ (115) |
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