

Molten steel kills 32 in China plant

by UPI

BEIJING - At least 32 workers died Wednesday at a steel plant in China when tons of molten steel fell on them from a ladle that snapped off from the blast furnace.

Chinese media reports said the incident occurred in a workshop of the Qinghe Special Steel Corp. in Tieling City in Liaoning province in northeast China.

The China Daily, quoting the State Administration of Work Safety, said the steel ladle, used for pouring the metal, suddenly dropped and spilled about 30 tons of molten steel.

The statement said those responsible for the incident were "under control" but did not elaborate.

The newspaper said industrial accidents killed more than 127,000 people in China in 2005, and that the government plans to spend about \$60 billion in the next five years to improve safety at coal mines and other dangerous workplaces.

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