

FAITH IN STAINLESS STEEL



THAI STAINLESS STEEL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

In the forested mountains near the Myanmar-Thailand border sits a small but striking Buddhist temple.

According to Weerachai lamchareonchai, former general manager of the Thai Stainless Steel Development Association (TSSDA), it is the first of its kind to be built in the Southeast Asian country.

The builder was Uthai Siangjaem, who erected the temple in 1999 both as an act of faith and to mark the seventy-second birthday of the King of Thailand. "I thought a small temple would be an appropriate way to mark the auspicious event, and



stainless steel was an ideal construction material because it could last a thousand years," says Uthai, an industrialist in Thailand's Rajburi province, whose factory produces stainless steel accessories for off-highway vehicles.

Uthai donated seven tonnes of S30400 stainless steel himself, and the temple was completed in late 1999. An inauguration ceremony was performed shortly afterwards.

MORE INFORMATION:
www.nickelmagazine.org/temple