**Claims**

1. A method of producing steel, comprising:

providing a ~~A~~ cold-formed pellet, the pellet comprising a particulate iron ore, between 0.05 and 1.0 % by weight, typically less than 0.3% by weight of an organic binder comprising polyvinyl alcohol, the pellet additionally comprising up to 20 wt% of carbonaceous material~~.~~;

optionally producing the pellet by mixing a particulate iron ore with up to 0.3% by weight of the binder;

transporting the pellet to an electric arc furnace; and

producing steel by heating the pellet in an electric arc furnace.

2. A ~~pellet~~ method according to claim 1, wherein the organic binder additionally comprises a polymeric binder selected from polyacrylamide resin, resole resin, Novolac resin, ~~polyvinyl alcohol~~ and a polysaccharide.

3. A ~~pellet~~ method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the particulate iron ore is magnetic.

4. A ~~pellet~~ method according to claims 1 to 3, comprising a waterproofing agent.

5. A ~~pellet~~ method according to claims 1 to 4, wherein the particulate iron ore is capable of passing through a 100μm mesh prior to pelleting.

~~6. A method of producing steel comprising heating a pellet according to claims 1 to 5 in an electric arc furnace.~~

~~7.~~ 6. A method according to claim~~s~~ ~~6~~ 1 to 5, wherein the pellet is heated under a reducing atmosphere.

~~8.~~ 7. A method according to claim ~~7~~ 6, comprising heating under a reducing atmosphere comprising hydrogen, shale gas or natural gas.

~~9.~~ 8. A method according to claims ~~7~~ 1 to ~~9~~ 7, comprising mixing the pellet with scrap metal.

~~10.~~ 9. A method according to claim ~~9~~ 8, wherein up to 50% by weight of the pellet plus scrap metal is formed of the iron ore pellets.

~~11. A method of producing a pellet according to claims 1 to 5, comprising mixing a particulate iron ore with up to 0.3% by weight of the binder.~~

~~12. A method of producing steel, comprising providing a pellet according to claims 1 to 5, optionally produced by a method according to claim 11, transporting the pellet to an electric arc furnace and producing steel by a method according to claims 6 to 11.~~