

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, April 27, 2006

SMS Demag AG receives a modernization order from Ruukki **Equipment for direct quenching of high-strength plates**

Rautaruukki Oyj, Finland, has placed the order for the modernization of its existing plate cooling system with SMS Demag, Germany. In addition, SMS Demag will supply a device consisting of a spray cooling system combined with a pre-leveler for direct quenching of plates from the rolling heat as well as a cooling and leveling model.

Modernization will be carried out in two steps. During the summer shutdown in 2006, the first eight meters of the existing plate cooling system which has a length of 32 meters will be dismantled and a provisional roller table bridge will be installed. The bottom cooling headers will be replaced by new, more efficient ones, thus enabling Ruukki to increase the cooling capacity of the existing plate cooling system.

The foundation work for the new nozzle cooling system and the pre-leveler will be performed during rolling operation below the roller table bridge.

During the shutdown in summer 2007, the new nozzle cooling system will be installed in combination with a pre-leveler. Ruukki will thus be able to produce high-strength plates directly from the rolling heat at low cost.

SMS Demag AG forms part of the Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill Technology Business Area of the SMS group. (23 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS GmbH is the holding for a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering relating to the processing of steel, non-ferrous metals and plastics. The group is divided into the Business Areas of Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill Technology, Tube, Long Product and Forging Technology and Plastics Technology. In the year 2005 some 9,250 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.33 bn.