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PRESS RELEASE

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Order for SMS Mevac GmbH

Handan Iron & Steel orders Duplex RH-TOP degassing plant

Handan Iron & Steel Group Co., Ltd. located in Handan, China, awarded SMS Mevac, Germany, a contract to supply a Duplex RH-TOP recirculation degassing plant.

The scope of supply of SMS Mevac comprises the complete basic engineering, the delivery of key components, the instrumentation and automation as well as supervision of erection and commissioning.

The new plant will be designed to treat heats with a nominal weight of 250 t. The Duplex plant which will be of fast-vessel-exchange type can be operated with two treatment positions. Each treatment position will be equipped with a hydraulic ladle lifting system, a multi-function TOP-lance, a quick-charge system for alloying material and a vacuum lock system.

The vacuum will be generated by means of a steam-ejector vacuum pump with adjustable pressure reduction for optimized process control, which also results in lower steam and condenser cooling water usage.

The new plant will be used mainly for the production of flat products. Commissioning is scheduled for 2007.

SMS Mevac GmbH forms part of the Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill Technology Business Area of the SMS group.

(22 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.