

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, September 19, 2006

Order for SMS Demag AG

Aluminum-plate hot rolling mill for Northeast Light Alloy Co.

Mechanical, electrical and automation systems from a single source

Northeast Light Alloy Co. Ltd. (NELA), Harbin, China, has placed an order with SMS Demag, Germany, for the construction of a reversing hot mill for the rolling of aluminum plates in widths up to maximum 3,700 mm. Plates and sheets down to a minimum thickness of 8 mm are rolled from ingots of up to 600 mm thickness.

The complete order package for SMS Demag comprises the rolling mill, a separate edging stand, roller tables, a heavy shear and a light shear for cutting the various plate formats, and the pertaining plate stacker.

The entire utility systems and a plate-type emulsion cooler also belong to the supply scope. NELA considered the mechanical, electrical and automation systems from a single source to be an important aspect in the awarding of the order to SMS Demag.

The production capacity of the rolling mill is optimized by an un-interrupted material tracking system, extending from the furnace outlet to the plate stacker.

Special importance is placed on the temperature limitations which need to be observed for the model-based pass schedule calculation for a very wide range of aluminum alloys, some of which are highly demanding. Furthermore, the current mill stand status and the rolling conditions are depicted in the form of models and acted upon accordingly to achieve a constant profile. The pass schedule calculation and the plant set-up can be adapted dynamically on the basis of temperature, thickness and profile measurements. Technological control systems for thickness, profile and width ensure that the geometrical sizes are observed precisely and safeguard the high quality of the aluminum plates.

SMS Demag AG forms part of the Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill Technology Business Area of the SMS group.

(32 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.