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PRESS RELEASE

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WISCO coats three "first coils"

At the beginning of October, Wuhan Iron & Steel Group Company (WISCO), China, produced the first galvanized coil on the last of the three new continuous hot-dip galvanizing lines supplied by SMS Demag AG, Germany. After the CGL (Continuous Galvanizing Lines) 3 and 2 had already processed their first coils on August 20 and 25, the hot-dip galvanizing line No. 1 followed suit on October 1, 2006.

The coating processes utilized by line 1, involving GA (Galvannealed) und GI (Galvanized), and those used by CGL 2, with GI und GF (Galfan) and by CGL 3 with GI and AL/Zn enable WISCO to produce high-quality grades, such as CQ, DQ, DDQ, EDDQ, SEDDQ, CQ-HSS, DQ-HSS, DDQ-HSS, BH-HSS, TRIP and DP.

The supply scope also includes innovative coil transfer cars in the entry and exit areas, the change-pot system for various quality grades with an SMS Demag lifting device for the zinc pot, allowing quicker and more reliable product changing, and the flying shear in the exit area, for further production increases.

For CGL 1 the strip width is 1,000 to 2,080 mm and the strip gage is 0.4 to 2.5 mm. The annual capacity is around 475,000 t.

The strip widths for CGLs 2 and 3 are between 800 and 1,650 mm and the strip gages range from 0.2 to 1.6 mm. CGL 2 is designed for an annual production of 405,000 t, and CGL 3 is designed for 360,000 t.

The maximum process speed amounts to 200 m/min for all three facilities.

The grades produced on the CGLs find a wide variety of uses in the automotive industry and for the manufacture of household appliances.

With the commissioning of the hot-dip galvanizing lines, WISCO will be increasing its annual production capacity by 1,240,000 t.

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

(33 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.