



Phone: +49 (0) 211 881-4449
Fax: +49 (0) 211 881-4386
E-mail: thilo.sagermann@sms-group.com
Thilo Sagermann

PRESS RELEASE

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New order for Concast AG

POSCO orders continuous caster for blooms

Pohang Iron & Steel Co., Ltd. (POSCO), Korea, has awarded Concast, Switzerland, a contract for the supply of a three-strand continuous bloom caster.

The annual capacity at the Pohang works will thus be increased to 1.1 million t. The section size of the blooms is 400 x 500 mm, and the special steel grades to be cast will include cold-heading steels, spring steel, bearing steel, tyre wires and welding wires.

The plant with a 16.5 m casting radius and multi-point straightening is equipped with Concast technology: plate-type molds with mold stirrer, strand stirrer (rotating), air-mist cooling system, mechanical soft reduction at the pinch roll unit (a total of eleven modules), torch cutter with deburrer as well as bloom marking.

Together with the consortium partners POSCO E&C and POSCON, two companies of the POSCO group, Concast bears the overall responsibility for the technological concept and will supply the core components.

The first cast is planned for December 31, 2007.

Concast AG forms part of the Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill

Technology Business Area of the SMS group.

(21 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.