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PRESS RELEASE

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Project implemented successfully and in record time

Continuous slab caster for Mittal Steel

For Mittal Steel Poland S.A., Poland, and after a project term of only 16.5 months, SMS Demag AG, Germany, has successfully taken into operation a two-strand continuous slab caster which was supplied on a turnkey basis for the Dąbrowa Górnicza works (formerly Huta Katowice).

The supply scope comprises the mechanical portion, including workshop equipment, utility systems, electrical and automation systems as well as the turnkey portion, which includes the extension of the casting bay and of the water supply and treatment system, setting-up of the slab yard and erection of the cranes, solid structures and structural steelwork. The complete erection and installation work, commissioning and training of the operating personnel were carried out by SMS Demag.

The planned annual production of the facility is 3 million t. It is designed for slabs with thicknesses of 220 and 250 mm (300 mm in the future) and widths ranging from 1,000 to 2,190 mm. The slab width can be adjusted during casting. The ladle turret has a maximum load-bearing capacity of 2 x 500 t and the maximum ladle content is 330 t.

The entire mechanical and process automation systems are designed for the flexible production of high-quality steel grades. The caster features mold level control and resonance oscillation to ensure that the slabs have a high surface quality. Enhanced internal quality of the slabs is achieved through dynamic segment adjustment with patented soft reduction technology.

A special feature of the plant is the breakout prediction system, developed by SMS Demag, operating in conjunction with the measurement system for temperature distribution in the mold. Known as the "transparent mold", these systems offer the customer a very clear overview in real time of the casting process.

Prior to commissioning, the entire automation system was erected in SMS Demag's testing center and then tested and optimized by using plant-specific simulation software under near-real conditions. This enabled "Plug & Work" to be implemented on the caster and the commissioning period to be reduced.

The Dąbrowa Górnicza works is moving into flat steel production as part of a comprehensive modernization concept and is therefore replacing the existing ingot casting facilities.

(40 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 on the one hand into the Business Areas SMS Demag and SMS Meer under SMS metallurgy and, on the other hand, into the Business Area SMS Plastics Technology. In the year 2005 some 9,250 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.33 bn.