

PRESS RELEASE

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Order for SMS Demag AG

POSCO places order for world's first continuous tandem mill with 18-high stand technology

POSCO, Korea, has awarded a contract to SMS Demag, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the supply of the world's first continuous tandem mill with 18-high cold rolling stands for the economical production of high-quality special steel strip. With this high-performance plant, POSCO intends to expand its production capacity at the Pohang location in order to be able to meet the growing demand for stainless steel strip.

The plant is designed for an annual production of 500,000 t of stainless steel cold strip and processes both hot strip (annealed and pickled) as well as rolled cold strip of the AISI 300 and AISI 400 grades. Here, strips with widths of up to 1,350 mm and a maximum entry thickness of 5 mm can be rolled down to minimum final thicknesses of 0.4 mm.

The centerpiece of the tandem mill comprises four 18-high cold rolling stands which thanks to the slim work rolls and the correspondingly high forming capacity are ideally suited for the rolling of stainless steel strip.

All mill stands are fitted out with final control elements and measuring instruments in order to attain close strip thickness tolerances and optimum flatness with the aid of automated control systems.

Automatic coil feeding with a high-performance automated laser welding machine, a large entry accumulator as well as the exit section with the flying drum shear and double coiler group guarantee smooth and continuous rolling operation of the tandem mill as well as maximum productivity.

Another significant feature of the plant is the inline strip inspection, facilitating direct quality control of the finished product.

For the cooling and ultra-fine filtration of the rolling oil used, provision is made for a regenerative filter system so as to ensure careful handling of the resources used and of the environment.

Under the technical leadership of SMS Demag, a future-oriented plant concept is being developed for the economical production of high-quality stainless steel strip.

(36 lines with max. 55 letters)