

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, July 25, 2007

### Modernization contract for SMS Demag AG

#### **Tata Steel to boost production of its hot strip mill**

Tata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., India, has awarded SMS Demag, a company of the SMS group, Germany, a contract for the modernization of its hot strip mill in Jamshedpur.

For the roughing mill the contract includes the replacement of the drive trains, the installation of new hydraulic adjusting systems, as well as a new Level 1 automation system with gage and width control. For the finishing mill SMS Demag will supply new drive trains for mill stands F1 to F5.

The SMS Demag designed and built compact hot strip mill went in operation in 1993, producing around 3.1 million t of hot strip per year. Production after the revamp can be raised to more than 3.5 million t/year.

This rise in production will be accomplished by increasing the drive power in the roughing stand and finishing mill. An important factor here is the 25-% rise of power level in the roughing stand, which allows the number of passes to be reduced and makes the design of pass schedules easier. To be able to transmit the higher torques, new drive spindles, larger work rolls and Morgoil<sup>®</sup> bearings with higher load-bearing capacity as well as modified roll chocks will be installed.

In the finishing mill the power of the motors will be increased by around 10 %. For this reason SMS Demag will replace the main gear units of F1 to F4 and the pinion gear units of F1 to F5 or their gear-wheel sets. On F1 and F2, new Sieflex<sup>®</sup> gear spindles will be installed whose optimized design makes maintenance easier.

A detailed concept was developed together with Tata Steel in order to minimize the times of production stoppages that are needed for the revamping job. The roughing-stand area will be modernized in the autumn of 2008 as part of an 18-day shutdown. Work in the area of the finishing mill has been scheduled such that it can be performed in the summer of 2009 during the regular short-time and continuous shutdown periods.

(34 lines with max. 55 letters)