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PRESS RELEASE

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New order for SMS Demag AG

Baosteel orders a roughing stand for heavy-plate mill

Baoshan Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. (Baosteel), China, has placed an order with SMS Demag, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the supply of a new roughing stand for its 5-m heavy-plate mill in Shanghai.

Baosteel's heavy-plate mill, which was built by SMS Demag, has been in operation since March 2005 and will raise its annual production from 1.4 to 1.8 million t as a result of the expansion. The new roughing stand will also make it possible to produce plates in thicknesses of up to 400 mm, which are playing an increasingly important part above all in ship-building. The feedstock for plates in these gages are blooms of up to 1,000 mm thickness.

The roughing stand, with a work-roll barrel length of 5,100 mm, will have a rolling force of 108 MN, like the finishing stand. It will have hydraulic adjustment systems and rapid mechanical roll presetting so as to enable short reversing times.

A special revamping concept will allow the expansion to take place without non-scheduled stoppages. Already at the end of 2007, the roller tables upstream and downstream of the roughing stand area are to be revamped to enable special-purpose vehicles to remove the hot slabs downstream of the descaler and to re-introduce them upstream of the finishing stand. We will thus be able to erect the roughing stand completely and put it into operation without needing to interrupt the production. The first plate is to be rolled on the new roughing stand in December 2008.

(26 lines with max. 55 letters)