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PRESS RELEASE

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Modernization order for SMS Demag AG

Revamping of the hot strip mill at Salzgitter Flachstahl

Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH, Germany, has placed an order with SMS Demag, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the modernization of its hot strip mill. The order comprises extensive revamping work on the roughing and finishing trains, the installation of new gears, the supply of a new coiler and of a coil conveyor system as well as the automation of the new mechanical equipment and of the complete coiler system.

For Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH these measures are important elements in the increasing of production capacity to 4.5 million t per year. In addition, the maximum finished strip width will be enlarged to 2,000 mm.

In the area of the roughing train, the opening dimensions of the side guards and of the edging stand will be increased. The stands of the finishing train are to be provided with new entry and exit guides and with differential-tension loopers. We shall be equipping stand F1 with the CVC plus[®] system, which means that all finishing stands will now have this technology. Furthermore, we shall be replacing the cooling systems in the interstand area and installing new fume suppression systems in the rearmost stands.

As part of the reinforcement of the main drives of the finishing train, we shall be installing new spur gear units for stands F1 to F4.

To extend the coiler system, Salzgitter Flachstahl has ordered from us a new coiler and the coil removal system, in each case with the pertaining automation. The UNI plus coiler is designed for the winding of high-strength tube steels up to a thickness of 25.4 mm. For the already existing coilers, we shall be renewing the complete automation.

The order also includes the renewal of the water treatment station of the cooling circuit in order to satisfy the stricter requirements relating to water volumes and quality.

SMS Demag has adapted the time schedule for the work to the revamping of the main drives. This revamping project will be commenced by Salzgitter Flachstahl in the spring of 2009. This will enable us to perform the modernization without need for additional production stoppages. The revamping will be completed by the end of 2010.

(37 lines with max. 55 letters)