

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, December 15, 2008

Order for SMS Demag Process Technologies GmbH

ThyssenKrupp Steel USA orders the world's largest hydrochloric acid regeneration plant

SMS Demag Process Technologies in Vienna, Austria, a company of the SMS group, Germany, has been awarded an order to supply the world's largest hydrochloric acid regeneration plant for the new integrated rolling mill of ThyssenKrupp Steel USA in Calvert, Alabama, USA. Commissioning of the regeneration plant will take place in April 2010.

This plant will recondition 150,000 m³ of contaminated hydrochloric acid, produced during the chemical descaling of 4 million t of hot-rolled plates each year, in a closed circuit operating continuously with the future-oriented hydrothermal reactor technology.

Besides having low emission values, this plant is distinguished by considerable savings in energy consumption and by low operating and maintenance costs. The plant is setting new standards regarding both Return on Investment and environmental compatibility.

The iron oxide obtained as a by-product during the acid recovery can be isolated in many different forms by the SMS Demag-developed process. Thus, for example, in the form of micro-particles with a particularly high specific surface area or as dust-free, smeltable granulate.

ThyssenKrupp and SMS Demag have agreed to cooperate closely on the further development and marketing of the new process. The customers will thus have reliable access to the plant engineering of SMS Demag in combination with the operational know-how of ThyssenKrupp Steel USA.

“We have been able to obtain ThyssenKrupp Steel USA as a partner for the large-scale industrial introduction of this pioneering technology and we are convinced that with our new product we have found an excellent answer to many burning questions posed by customers in our niche market“, is the satisfied conclusion of both Managing Directors Horst Krenn and Herbert Weissenbaeck.

(33 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS group is, under the roof of the holding SMS GmbH, a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It consists of the two Business Areas SMS Demag and SMS Meer, which jointly form SMS metallurgy. In 2007, some 8,000 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 3.0 bn.