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## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, July 24, 2009

**Magnitogorsk Iron & Steel Works (MMK), Russia, commissions extensive equipment made by SMS. Order value EUR 400 million.**

In the presence of Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin a heavy-plate mill made by SMS Siemag was put into operation.

Within 32 months after contract signing, over 100 SMS Siemag staff, headed by Wolfram Schael, set up the most advanced mill of this type in the Urals. The core elements are the mill housings which weigh over 500 t and make the roll stand with a rolling force of 120 MN one of the world's most powerful heavy-plate mills.

Heinrich Weiss, Chairman & CEO of SMS group, who also is the Chairman of the Board of the Russian-German Chamber of Commerce, was pleased that this project, one of the largest of recent years, could be successfully completed. When Magnitogorsk Iron & Steel Works was founded in 1932, Siemag already supplied several rolling mills.

Designed for an annual capacity of some 1.5 million t, the new heavy-plate mill will produce plates up to 4,800 mm wide. Production will focus on pipe grades (up to X120) as starting material for large-diameter pipes for use in the gas and oil sector. Other areas of application are, for example, bridge construction and ship-building as well as heavy mechanical engineering.

The order covered the complete process line for plate production with two walking beam furnaces, the mill stand, plate cooling system, hot leveler, cooling and inspection bed, shear line, finishing area with cold leveler and heat treatment facilities. Our package also included the complete electrical equipment, drive systems and all automation systems.

(28 lines with max. 55 letters)