

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, November 25, 2010

AG der Dillinger Hüttenwerke produces the world's thickest slab

**SMS Siemag performs successful modernization of
Continuous Caster No. 5**

The firm of "Aktien-Gesellschaft der Dillinger Hüttenwerke", Germany, has successfully recommissioned Continuous Caster No. 5 following a revamp and an enlargement of 450 mm in the thickness. SMS Siemag has provided a comprehensive engineering package for this, containing new components for the revamp.

The vertical-type continuous caster produces the world's thickest slabs, in the sizes 230 to 450 mm gage and 1,400 to 2,200 mm width. The caster, featuring thicknesses up to 400 mm, was supplied by SMS Siemag in 1998.

The SMS Siemag supply scope pertaining to the revamp comprised the expansion of the vertical-type continuous caster to thickness 450 mm, the reinforcement of the withdrawal and straightening units, and various spare parts.

The supply scope also included the X-Pact[®] electrical and automation package and, for this package, the planning, production, programming of the electrical equipment and its complete installation, commissioning, training and supervision of trial operation.

The following were renewed: The automatic control equipment for the hydraulic mold oscillator, the hydraulic segment adjustment, the hydraulic bending adjustment system, the hydraulic adjustment system for the withdrawal and straightening units, and the load compensation control for the strand drive group.

In the words of Dr. Norbert Bannenberg, Board Member Technical of AG der Dillinger Hüttenwerke: "After twelve years of trouble-free production of high-quality 400-mm slabs, we felt that we had arrived at a favorable starting point for this further development. Dillinger Hütte thereby emphasizes its leading position in the continuous casting of thick slabs as input material for the production of high-grade heavy plate."

Christian Geerkens, Executive Vice President of the Steelmaking and Continuous Casting Technology Division at SMS Siemag: "The casting of the 450-mm slab once again proves the efficiency of our continuous casting technology. This applies also to the vertical-type continuous caster supplied in 1998 and the expansion to the new thickness. The segment technology, newly implemented at that time and involving soft reduction, continues today to ensure uniform product quality. We are proud that together with Dillinger Hütte we have achieved a new dimension."

In China, in 2005, SMS Siemag put into operation a continuous caster for the world's widest slab and now, also on a caster from SMS Siemag, the world's thickest slab has been produced.

(44 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS Siemag AG is a company of the SMS group, which 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 Siemag and SMS Meer. In 2009, some 9,000 employees worldwide generated a turnover of EUR 3.9 bn.