

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, January 13, 2011

### System supplier SMS Siemag

### **Official start of new works of ThyssenKrupp Steel in Alabama**

On December 10, 2010, the official opening of the new integrated works complex of ThyssenKrupp Steel USA and ThyssenKrupp Stainless USA took place in Calvert in the federal state of Alabama. The main supplier of the plants and equipment of ThyssenKrupp Steel USA was SMS Siemag, Germany.

The supply scope included a high-performance hot-strip rolling mill with an annual capacity of altogether 5.3 million t of steel strip, a combined pickling line and tandem cold rolling mill, a continuous pickling line, an innovatory acid regeneration plant, four hot-dip galvanizing lines with two furnaces and an offline skin-pass mill. In the stainless steel section, the SMS Siemag supply scope included a hot-strip pickling and annealing line.

The plants and facilities erected by SMS Siemag will enable ThyssenKrupp Steel USA to produce a very wide range of steel strip. The main customers are the domestic appliances, construction and tube-manufacturing industries as well as the automotive industry, in particular the large carmakers in close geographical proximity in the south of the USA.

The core component of the new plant complex is the high-performance hot-strip rolling mill with a capacity of altogether 5.3 million t of strip. The mill produces strip of high-quality steel grades, including multiphase steels and high-strength grades as well as around

1 million t of stainless steel strip each year. The complete electrical and automation system was tested and optimized under the Plug & Work scheme at SMS Siemag already during the construction phase of the works. The operator training sessions were likewise able to start well ahead of commissioning and thus also contributed to a rapid run-up phase.

The pickling line/tandem cold mill supplied by SMS Siemag is currently the most powerful of its kind, with an annual capacity of 2.5 million t. Furthermore, cold-rolled strips that are subject to particularly stringent surface-quality demands are able to run through the offline skin-pass mill.

In addition to the pickling line/tandem cold mill, 1.1 million t of hot strip can be treated in the continuous pickling line. The acid in both sections of the plant is conditioned by means of an innovatory acid regeneration plant. The hydrothermal conditioning technology developed by SMS Siemag is characterized by reduced emission values, high energy savings and low operating and maintenance costs.

For the further processing stages, SMS Siemag supplied four hot-dip galvanizing lines to ThyssenKrupp Steel USA. The lines are designed to be highly flexible, with their annealing furnaces, coating equipment and temper mills. A very wide range of corrosion-protected strip products with tailor-made properties are manufactured on the lines.

For the stainless steel complex, SMS Siemag supplied a high-output annealing and pickling line for the endless processing of hot-rolled stainless steel strips. On this line, comprising an annealing furnace, mechanical scale breaker and the pickling section, hot strips of stainless steel grades are pre-treated for further processing in the cold rolling mill.

(53 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS Siemag AG is a company of the SMS group, which is, under the roof of SMS Holding 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 2010, some 9,000 employees worldwide generated a turnover of EUR 3.1 bn.