

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, February 25, 2011

**PRO-TEC Coating Company orders packaging line for 40-t
steel coils from SMS Logistiksysteme**

PRO-TEC Coating Company, Inc. has placed an order with SMS Logistiksysteme, Germany, for the supply of a fully automated large-coil packaging system. The equipment is intended for a new continuous annealing line and a recoiling line. PRO-TEC is a joint venture between the U.S. Steel Corporation and the Japanese company Kobe Steel Limited near Leipsic in the U.S. Federal State of Ohio. Delivery of the component assemblies is planned for March 2012.

In the system, which is designed for a packaging capacity of ten coils per hour, coils of up to 40 t in weight will be packed fully automatically. The entire process will require the deployment of just one operator per shift. The packaging cycle will comprise the automatic takeover of the coils from the coil supports of the continuous annealing line, fitting of edge protectors, strapping through the coil eye, stretch-foil wrapping of the coils through the coil eye and the affixture of a label for coil identification. The coils will then be transported automatically by coil lifting car to the transfer point in the storage yard. There the coils will be removed from the packaging line by an automatic crane system.

(21 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS Logistiksysteme GmbH 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.