

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### Improved product quality by modernization

#### **New heavy plate stand for ThyssenKrupp VDM**

ThyssenKrupp VDM GmbH has placed an order with SMS Siemag for the supply of a new 2.7 m heavy plate stand for their Siegen, Germany, location. With this new millstand, ThyssenKrupp VDM will be able to offer plates with narrower product tolerances and higher plate weights.

The scope of supply of SMS Siemag includes the millstand with X-Pact<sup>®</sup> electrical equipment and automation system, a new hydraulic descaler as well as the complete erection of the new equipment and modification of the foundations. Commissioning is scheduled for the summer of 2013.

The new 2.7 m millstand will replace the current stand from 1954.

The new unit will have a rolling force of 60 MN and be equipped with a hydraulic adjustment system and work roll bending. The millstand will be pre-assembled and tested in the workshop of SMS Siemag in Hilchenbach.

Within the area of automation systems, SMS Siemag will deliver the level-1 systems and level-2 process models with pass schedule calculation system. The automation equipment is set up beforehand in the SMS Siemag test fields, and tested and pre-optimized in accordance with the proven Plug & Work concept.

As part of the modernization, ThyssenKrupp VDM invests a total of about 30 million euros in its plant in Siegen. With the new millstand, ThyssenKrupp VDM will be able to supply its customers with narrower geometrical tolerances and will expand its product range by higher plate weights. "This will open up new opportunities that will open up new opportunities that will give us an additional competitive edge," explains Hanno Gerich, plant manager for the Siegen and Altena locations of ThyssenKrupp VDM. At the Siegen site, the company, which is part of the Inoxum group, mainly produces plates from nickel and titanium alloys that are used among others for pipeline and apparatus construction.

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