

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, July 5, 2012

Order for SMS Siemag from China

**TISCO orders record-capacity annealing and pickling line
for stainless-steel hot-strip**

Chinese stainless steel producer TISCO (Shanxi Taigang Stainless Steel Company) awarded SMS Siemag, Germany, the order to supply the world's highest-capacity annealing and pickling line for hot strip. The line will process 1 million t of austenitic and ferritic stainless steel strips per year. The order was placed with SMS Siemag in March 2012. The facility is scheduled to go on stream at the end of 2013 in TISCO's main plant in Taigang in the province of Shanxi.

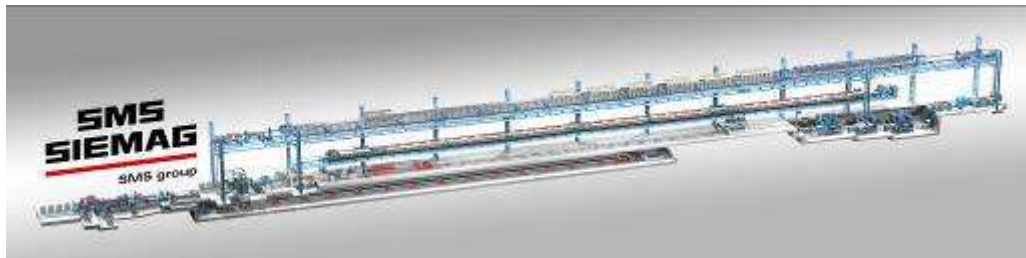
With this annealing and pickling line, TISCO intends to distinctly increase its capacities for high-grade stainless steel strips and at the same time to cut production costs at the same time. The line features of modern processing and environmental technology to meet all environmental standards in respect of exhaust air and waste water, while having a very efficient and flexible production process. The high degree of automation as well as low maintenance requirements will contribute to a reduction in operating costs.

Besides the advantages of the turbulence pickling method used by SMS Siemag, such as high pickling performance, minimized energy consumption and low operating costs, the pickling section stands out due to its extremely high flexibility and environmental friendliness. A pickling model continuously adapts the acid concentration in the

pickling tanks to the type of material handled. To prevent nitrogen oxide from escaping via the exhaust air system of the pickling facility, a DeNOx system with selective catalytic converters will be installed. Before and during pickling, the strip will be subjected to abrasive cleaning by means of oscillating brushes before and between pickling. These brushes are a new development and specifically tailored to this machine to ensure efficient cleaning and provide a longer brush service life.

The line will be designed for strips with gages from 2.0 to 6.0 mm and widths ranging from 1,040 to 1,650 mm. The process speed will be 100 m/min, while in the entry section speeds of up to 350 m/min and in the exit section of up to 300 m/min. can be attained.

Essential components of the line are the entry section, annealing furnace, tension leveler, shotblaster, pre-pickling section and pickling section as well as an exit section with an automatic surface inspection system.



One million t annual capacity and low production costs –
SMS Siemag's annealing and pickling line for TISCO.

(41 lines with max. 65 letters)

SMS Siemag AG is a company of the SMS group which, under the roof of the SMS Holding GmbH, consists of a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. With some 11,000 employees, the group generates sales of over EUR 3 billion.