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PRESS RELEASE

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Siderar starts production with the high-efficiency continuous slab caster supplied by SMS Siemag

Ternium Siderar, Argentina, and SMS Siemag (www.sms-siemag.com), Germany, have successfully commissioned the X-Cast[®] two-strand continuous slab caster, which was supplied by SMS Siemag, at the San Nicolás location.

Thanks to the high-efficiency continuous caster, Siderar is able to fully utilize the production capacity of the upstream meltshops and increase its production of low to medium-carbon steels and peritectic grades.

Sebastián Capote López, Head of the Continuous Casting and Secondary Metallurgy department at Ternium Siderar: “The continuous caster went into operation on schedule and trouble-free. We were immediately able to cast an entire ladle and are very satisfied.”

Designed for casting speeds of up to 2.15 meters per minute, the plant achieves a production capacity of 2.5 million tons of slab per year. The strand guide with twelve segments is prepared for the addition of two further segments. With this, the casting speed and, as a result, the plant's productivity can be further increased in the future.

The plant is designed for 200 and 250 millimeter thick slabs with widths between 750 and 1,900 millimeters.

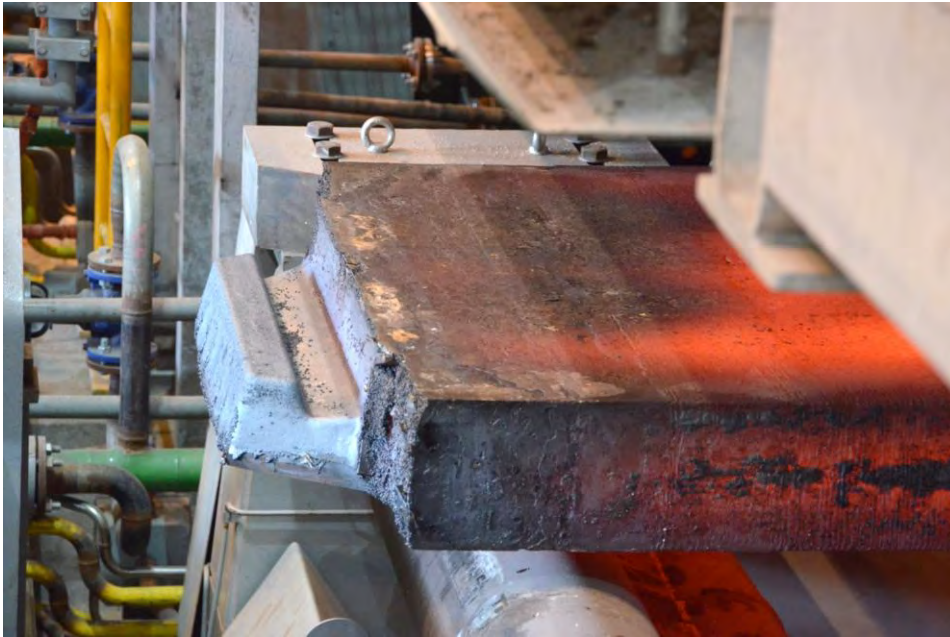
The technological equipment of the caster includes several Intelligent Slab Casting (ISC[®]) modules which determine quality and production. Among these are the hydraulically powered resonance oscillation system, remote-controlled mold narrow faces for width change during casting and the position-controlled CYBERLINK segments to perform Dynamic Soft Reduction[®].

The production of slabs of a high internal quality is thus guaranteed through the above in combination with the width-dependent air-mist secondary cooling and the technological Dynamic Solidification Control (DSC) process model.

The plant is fully equipped with the X-Pact[®] electrical and automation system from SMS Siemag. This comprises process automation (level 1) and technological process models (level 2) as well as commissioning. The customer personnel received intensive and true-to-life training.

At its San Nicolás location, Siderar operates three BOF steelworks and a two-strand continuous slab caster which was supplied by SMS Siemag 30 years ago and has since been revamped by the German company.

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The first slab.



Dr. Paolo Rocca, CEO of Ternium Siderar, during his address at the official commissioning.

SMS Siemag AG is a company of the SMS group which, under the roof of the SMS Holding GmbH, consists of a group of global players in machinery and plant construction in steel and nonferrous metals processing. Its workforce of more than 13,800 employees generates sales worldwide totaling EUR 3.5 billion.