

Phone: +49 211 881-4449 Fax: +49 211 881-774449 Mobile: +49 151 40226502

E-Mail: thilo.sagermann@sms-group.com

Thilo Sagermann

PRESS RELEASE

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<u>Plants for production of aluminum sheet and strip</u> <u>from a single source</u>

AMAG orders cold rolling mill, heat treatment plant, high-bay warehouse and packaging line from SMS group

AMAG rolling GmbH, Austria, has placed an order with SMS group (www.sms-group.com) for the supply of a cold rolling mill, a heat treatment line with a connected passivation section, a high-bay warehouse and a packaging line. Thus, numerous key assets of the AMAG 2020 investment project, dedicated to the set-up of production facilities for cold rolled premium aluminum strips and sheets, will all be supplied by SMS group. Commissioning of the new facilities is scheduled for 2017.

The six-high cold rolling mill with CVC® plus technology (Continuously Variable Crown) supplied by SMS group will provide the high degree of flexibility required to handle the extensive range of products, including strip in widths of more than two meters. The rolling mill will come with actuators that ensure production to the required, extremely tight product tolerances, and it will be equipped with X-Pact® control systems. An Airwash™ system will provide most efficient purification of the exhaust air from the rolling process. In a highly eco-friendly process, the recovered rolling oil will be fed back to the process cycle.

The technological highlights of the heat treatment line and the connected passivation section are the water-cooled floater furnace, the resource-saving process technology and the compact layout. During the heat treatment in the puller furnace, the strip receives the mechanical properties specified by the customer. The final chemical coating process (passivation) gives the strip the perfect condition for the downstream processing steps. Passivated strips are requested primarily by customers from the automotive industry.

An integral element of the new rolling complex will be the central coil handling system which consists of a fully automatic high-bay warehouse with links to the rolling and processing lines. All material flows will be controlled by a warehouse management system which will be connected to the higher-level production control system. The warehouse technology will include an innovative cooling system which will be able to flexibly switch between air circulation and forced cooling in the various warehouse areas depending on the material grades of the coils and the type of downstream processing.

SMS group's scope of supply also includes a semi-automatic packaging line, which will weigh the finished coils and securely tie, pack and label them for their transport to customers all over the world. The warehouse and the packaging line will be provided by SMS Logistiksysteme.

With this investment project, AMAG will increase its production capacity as a supplier of special sheet for automotive body applications (exposed and structural parts) and for use in modern passenger aircrafts. The newly added production capacity will also be used to make the other strip products of AMAG's portfolio, e.g. packaging material. The new facilities will make the works in Ranshofen, Austria, a top location of the aluminum industry and one

of the most efficient and modern production plants for lightweight engineering sheets in the world.

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A coil of finish-rolled and heat-treated aluminum strip.

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The SMS group 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. Its 14,000 employees generate sales of over EUR 3,4 bn.