

Phone: +49 211 881-4449  
Fax: +49 211 881-774449  
Mobile: +49 151 40226502  
E-Mail: [thilo.sagermann@sms-group.com](mailto:thilo.sagermann@sms-group.com)  
Thilo Sagermann

**PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, January 27, 2016

Continuous process chain provides value added

**Gazpromtrubinvest commissions 16" HF pipe welding line from SMS group**

At its pipe works in Volgorechensk in the Kostroma region, Gazpromtrubinvest has successfully commissioned a 16" high-frequency pipe welding line supplied by SMS group ([www.sms-group.com](http://www.sms-group.com)). The new line has been designed for an annual capacity of up to 300,000 tons.

It produces pipes within an outside diameter range from 127 to 426 millimeters. The maximum wall thickness is 15 millimeters. The pipes will be used as casing pipes in oil and gas exploration. The new line enables Gazpromtrubinvest to produce high-grade casing pipes to API 5CT up to N 80.

Highlights of the line include a cross welding table featuring the innovative PERFECT arc<sup>®</sup> welding technology, proven URD<sup>®</sup> (Uniform Rigidity Design) forming and sizing stands, a solid-state HF generator type Eloweld<sup>TM</sup> 1200 and a 2,800 kW EloSeam MF seam annealing unit.

The pipe welding line supplied by SMS group is extremely flexible and efficient thanks to the inline and offline quick change systems in combination with the horizontally replaceable URD<sup>®</sup> stands. The high rigidity of the URD<sup>®</sup> stands is a key requirement for reliably achieving the extremely exacting tolerances specified for those high-grade,

thick-walled casing products. The CSS Quicksetting® system, which supports the quick change system by operating with database supported settings, will lead to a constant improvement in product quality and speed up product changes as the rolls can be set automatically and with a high degree of reproducibility. Thus a size change - considering the time until the first good product has been rolled - can take place in less than two hours. Another special feature of the line is the use of individual roll drives, i.e. the top and bottom rolls of all main stands can be driven and controlled separately. This design has very positive effects on the quality and the line speed, and hence on the productivity of the entire plant.

(34 lines of max. 65 characters per line)



Gazpromtrubinvest produces successfully on 16" HF pipe welding line from SMS group.

New:

---

Don't miss out on the latest news, comprehensive background reports and key information about SMS group's activities. The Push message function of the SMS group App immediately informs you about any new SMS group information posted on the press portal – whether on smart phones or tablets (iOS or Android). Also readable via the App are our SMS group newsletters. Download the App on your mobile terminal device now:

[www.sms-group.com/app](http://www.sms-group.com/app).



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.