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PRESS RELEASE

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Expanded portfolio of quality products and higher production capacity

Ningxia Iron & Steel orders high-speed equipment from SMS group for new wire rod mill

Ningxia Iron & Steel based in Zhongwei City, China, is expanding its product portfolio and increasing its capacity with new high-speed wire rod mill equipment from SMS group (www.sms-group.com).

The core equipment supplied by SMS group for the new one-strand mill will include a ten-stand wire rod block, a high-speed pinch roll unit and a loop laying head. The new mill will be designed to produce 600,000 tons of wire rod per year.

"With the new high-speed equipment from SMS group, we can be sure that all processes will run stably and reliably, achieving high availability and productivity," says Cao GuangJiang, Ningxia Iron & Steel Group.

Ningxia Iron & Steel will produce quality products, such as rebar in the size range from six millimeters to 20 millimeters diameter in carbon structural and low-alloy steels, for the Chinese market on the new wire rod mill. Starting material will be 150 millimeters square CC billets with a length of twelve meters, heated in a furnace with a throughput rate of 140 tons per hour.

Commissioning of the mill is scheduled for 2017.

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High-speed laying head and loop cooling conveyor (LCC®) of similar design from SMS group in operation in a different mill.