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**PRESS RELEASE**

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SMS group to supply high-speed wire rod lines to China

**Xinji Aosen orders high-speed equipment for two wire rod mills from SMS group**

Xinji Aosen Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., based in Shijiazhuang City in the Chinese province of Hebei, has placed an order with SMS group ([www.sms-group.com](http://www.sms-group.com)) for the supply of high-speed equipment for its wire rod mills Nos. 8 and 9.

Each of the mills will be designed for an annual capacity of 700,000 tons. They will roll wire rod in sizes from 5.5 to 16 millimeters and rebar in diameters from 6 to 16 millimeters at rolling speeds as high as 105 meters per second.

The wire rod outlet of mill No. 9 will be equipped with one six-stand and one four-stand wire rod block. Installing two separate blocks will allow Xinji Aosen to cool the rolling stock before and behind the blocks in such a manner that all sizes can be finish rolled at low temperatures (thermomechanical rolling) and to very close tolerances. Xinji Aosen considers this an outstanding feature of the mill. Already ten wire rod mills in China use this mill concept developed by SMS group.

Both mills will be equipped with loop layers and pinch roll units of the latest design. The thus equipped mills will be able to produce wire rod of premium quality and at high productivity.

Commissioning will take place in the summer of 2018.

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SMS group is going to equip the wire rod mills of Xinji Aosen with loop layers and pinch roll units of the latest design.

SMS group is a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It has some 13,500 employees who generate worldwide sales of more than EUR 3 billion. The sole owner of the holding company SMS GmbH is the Familie Weiss Foundation.