

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, October 6, 2006

### Order for SMS Meer S.p.A. from USA

#### **Steel Dynamics orders walking beam furnace**

Steel Dynamics Inc., a manufacturer of structural and rail, placed another order with SMS Meer, Italy, in September 2006, for the supply of equipment and services for setting up a 200-sht/h (short tons/hour) walking beam furnace for its works in Columbia City, Indiana, USA.

This reheating unit will supply hot beam blanks and blooms to a new medium section mill.

The SMS Meer scope of supply comprises a walking beam furnace with a capacity of 200 sht/h for beam blanks and blooms measuring 7" x 7" or 10" x 8" and 15 m length, with the possibility to also produce billets measuring 6" x 6" in the future. Likewise included are charging and discharging machines and all auxiliary facilities.

The furnace shall assure excellent temperature uniformity and higher output rates, in combination with a quite low specific energy consumption.

When designing this new reheating furnace, a particular care was given to environmental protection aspects.

The walking beam furnace is scheduled to go on stream at the end of 2007.

SMS Meer S.p.A. forms part of the Tube, Long Product and Forging Technology Business Area of the SMS group. (23 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS GmbH is the holding for a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering relating to the processing of steel, non-ferrous metals and plastics. The group is divided into the Business Areas of Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill Technology, Tube, Long Product and Forging Technology and Plastics Technology. In the year 2005 some 9,250 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.33 bn.