

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, November 2, 2006

### **New order for SMS Meer GmbH** **PQF<sup>®</sup> mill for Anshan**

Anshan New Steel Corporation Ltd., Anshan, China, has placed an order with SMS Meer, Germany, for the supply of a new seamless tube mill employing the PQF<sup>®</sup> process (Premium Quality Finishing). The new order will be carried out in close cooperation with SMS Demag Innse S.p.A., Milan, Italy.

The mill will be used to produce seamless tubes in the diameter range from 73.0 mm up to 177.8 mm with a planned capacity of 250,000 t per year. The mill is scheduled to go into full production at the beginning of 2008.

SMS Meer is to supply all the key components of the mill equipment, including the media systems and technological automation. The scope of supplies and services also comprises the project management and supervision of erection and commissioning, including training of the operating personnel.

After the same customer had already successfully commissioned a conventional MPM plant (Multistand Pipe Mill) at the beginning of 2003, Anshan has now decided in favor of the latest technology for the production of seamless tubes, the PQF<sup>®</sup> technology. This plant represents the sixth of its kind worldwide and the third in China to employ this technology that was introduced three years ago.

SMS Meer GmbH forms part of the Tube, Long Product and Forging Technology Business Area of the SMS group. (24 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.