

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, April 5, 2007

Order for SMS Meer GmbH from the USA

Timken orders three-roll Precision Sizing Mill and bar finishing end

The Timken Company, Canton, Ohio, USA, has placed an order with SMS Meer, Germany, for the expansion of its existing bar mill at the Harrison Steel Mill in Canton, Ohio. The objectives of this measure are to extend the product size range, increase mill capacity and improve the product quality. Following the expansion, production of SBQ bars from 25 to 170 mm round will be possible, with sizes up to 127 mm produced through the new equipment.

The expansion comprises a three-roll Precision Sizing Block (PSM[®] – Precision Sizing Mill) and a new bar finishing end with cooling bed, cutting units and loading facilities. The PSM[®] will be installed down-line of the existing rolling mill, allowing smaller sizes to be produced and close rolling tolerances to be achieved. In addition, the use of the PSM[®] will permit a standardized pass design to be employed in the roughing and intermediate mill (One-Family Rolling) and the infinitely variable production of finished sizes by means of roll adjustment (Free-Size-Rolling).

The PSM[®] consists of five rolling cassettes, each with three rolls. The rolls will be adjusted hydraulically and permit adjustment under load, including Automatic Gage Control (AGC) and monitor control using a laser measuring device installed behind the PSM[®] for product size measurement. A CARTA[®] process model is provided for setting the process parameters.

The scope of supply also includes a combined rotary/two-crank shear for cutting the bars to cooling bed lengths, a rake-type cooling bed with braking slide delivery system, as well as finishing and loading facilities. The bar layers are cut to length by two abrasive-disc cutting machines.

The complete electrical equipment and automation system, training and supervisory services also belong to the scope of supply. Commissioning is scheduled for mid-2008.

(33 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 on the one hand into the Business Areas SMS Demag and SMS Meer under SMS metallurgy and, on the other hand, into the Business Area SMS Plastics Technology. In the year 2005 some 9,250 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.33 bn.