

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, June 19, 2007

### Order for SMS Meer

#### **CELSA modernizes medium section mill**

Compania Española de Laminacion S.L. (CELSA), Castellbisbal in Spain, has placed an order with SMS Meer, Germany, for the modernization of its medium section mill. The modernization incorporates new work roller tables with side-guard manipulators for the breakdown mill stand and a nine-roller CRS<sup>®</sup> Compact Roller Straightener. This investment in the medium section mill delivered and commissioned by SMS Meer in 2001 had become necessary in order to allow a wider product range to be rolled. Originally the mill was designed for parallel-flanged beams up to IPE 450 and wide-flanged beams up to HE 260. Following the modernization it will also be possible to produce parallel-flanged beams up to IPE 600 and wide-flanged beams up to HEB 400. The product mix also includes angles, flat products and channels.

The new equipment will be installed during the scheduled annual shutdown in November 2007. The mill components will be designed in such a way that they can be installed without extensive foundation work. The scope of supply includes not only the mechanical and electrical equipment and automation system, but also the erection and commissioning supervision and the commissioning of the electrical equipment and automation system.

The new side-guard manipulators for the reversing breakdown mill stand will be designed to handle the wider range of beam blank formats and lengths.

The new CRS<sup>®</sup> roller straightener has hydraulic adjustment systems for the upper straightening rollers, individually driven straightening rollers mounted in bearings on both sides and a simultaneous, fully automated changing of all nine straightening rollers.

CRS<sup>®</sup> roller straighteners (SMS Meer patent) are already successfully in operation with several leading long-product manufacturers and are characterized by improved straightness and residual stresses of the finished products. The mill availability will be further increased by the possibility of changing the straightening rollers in a maximum of 20 minutes. A process model will also be supplied for the setting of the straightener.

This investment will bring the CELSA medium section mill up to the latest state of the art and will enable Europe's widest range of products to be manufactured highly flexibly and efficiently on a single mill.

(40 lines with max. 55 letters)