

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, September 18, 2007

### Order for SMS Meer

#### **Modernization of the stretch-reducing mill at Rohrwerk Maxhütte GmbH**

Rohrwerk Maxhütte GmbH, Sulzbach-Rosenberg, Germany, has placed an order with SMS Meer, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the repair and modernization of its existing stretch-reducing mill.

The existing stretch-reducing mill that forms part of a push-bench plant consists of 28 stand positions that are driven via a mechanical superimposition gearbox.

The drive system of the stretch-reducing mill and the CARTA<sup>®</sup> automation system installed on the stretch-reducing mill by SMS Meer in 1989 will be modernized to meet the latest demands on the stretch-reducing process.

The rotary saw installed downline of the stretch-reducing mill will be upgraded for a pipe pass speed of 8.5 m/s and equipped with an innovative pipe support system so that the thickened ends inherent in the stretch-reducing process can be discharged directly behind the rotary saw.

The stretch-reducing mill serves to produce pipes in the small diameter range from 21.3 mm up to 139.7 mm with wall thicknesses up to 13.0 mm. The drive system of the stretch-reducing mill is furthermore also designed for the production of square and rectangular hollow sections.

Within the framework of this modernization, SMS Meer is to supply i. a. additional roll stands for the stretch-reducing mill, the design data for the drive system, the new equipment necessary for modernization of the existing rotary saw and upgrading of the CARTA<sup>®</sup> system. SMS Meer's scope of supplies and services also includes the supervision of erection and commissioning.

The repair and modernization measures are scheduled for the beginning of 2008.

(32 lines with max. 55 letters)