

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, March 18, 2008

### Order for SMS Meer

### **SMS Meer delivers its eighth section mill to China**

Jiexiu Xintai Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., in the province of Shanxi, China, has placed an order with SMS Meer, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the supply of a section mill for the rolling of beams in the dimensional range of 200 to 1,000 mm. The mill is designed for 1.2 million t per year. It will further increase China's capacity for parallel-flanged beams and thus satisfy the high domestic demand for these. The supply scope includes the planning and engineering, the technological core equipment, the training of the customer's personnel and the supervision of erection and commissioning. Hot commissioning of the mill is scheduled for 2009.

The heavy beam mill is equipped with modern universal stands of the CCS<sup>®</sup> type. Thanks to the hydraulic adjustment control system and the highly rigid mill stand design, the final dimensions can be rolled within a narrow tolerance range. The 9-roller CRS<sup>®</sup> compact roller straightener with straightening rollers mounted in bearings on both sides, with hydraulic adjustment and automatic straightening roller changing allows high flexibility and straightening quality with minimal residual stresses. Program changing on the mill train takes no more than 20 minutes. The rolled stock is divided up into finished lengths by means of the proven SMS Meer cold saw technology, which is characterized by its low cutting costs.

This heavy beam mill also uses SMS Meer's patented XH<sup>®</sup> universal beam rolling principle. This economical rolling method has already been implemented by SMS Meer in 16 new mills since its introduction in the early 90s.

(27 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS group is, under the roof of the holding SMS GmbH, a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It consists of the two Business Areas SMS Demag and SMS Meer, which jointly form SMS metallurgy. In 2006, some 9,000 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.8 bn.