

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, July 30, 2008

Successful commissioning

Billet saw plant successfully commissioned at Noranda Aluminum

Noranda Aluminum Inc., New Madrid, USA, together with Hertwich Engineering, Austria, a company of the SMS group, Germany, successfully commissioned the supplied billet saw plant in April 2008. The billet saw plant comprises two entry magazines, the billet saw line, stacking equipment for short and long billets, marking equipment, PET strapping and weighing stations. Operation is fully automated. Billets up to 406 mm (16") in diameter can be processed. For maximum flexibility, short and long billets can be cut out of the same log and then stacked simultaneously by two dedicated stackers. At an integrated log rotation station upstream of the saw, surface faults can be identified for the saw to automatically remove faulty log sections into scrap containers or onto a dedicated exit table (logs cut in half). Peak short-billet production is 300 billets per hour.

Order for Hertwich Engineering

Aluar orders ultrasonic inspection station

Aluar Aluminio Argentino, Argentina, has placed an order with Hertwich Engineering, Austria, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the supply and commissioning of an ultrasonic inspection station (UT). The new linear UT equipment is to be integrated into the roller table line of an existing HE continuous homogenizing plant. The ultrasonic inspection station is designed to automatically inspect cast logs for center cracks and inclusions over the log length. Log diameters range from 144 to 400 mm. Delivery is scheduled for the end of July 2008. Aluar already successfully operates the following equipment from HE: Two continuous homogenizing and sawing plants, one ultrasonic inspection system, a universal rotary tilting furnace and two horizontal casting machines.

Successful commissioning

Continuous homogenizing plant goes into operation at apt Hiller

Apt Hiller GmbH, Monheim, Germany, together with Hertwich Engineering, Austria, a company of the SMS group, Germany, successfully commissioned the supplied continuous homogenizing plant in May 2008. The new continuous homogenizing plant replaces a homogenizer supplied by HE in 1985 in order to meet the meanwhile increased production of 18,000 tpy. Log diameters are from 140 to 203 mm. The plant includes the continuous homogenizing furnace, a log cooling station, the complete log handling facilities and the automation. The existing melting furnace and horizontal billet caster also supplied by HE in 1985 have been integrated into the new production line. The installation and commissioning times were planned such that production only had to be interrupted for three weeks.

Order for Hertwich Engineering

Tomago orders billet saw plant

Tomago Aluminium Company Pty Ltd. (TAC), Australia, has placed an order with Hertwich Engineering, Austria, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the supply and commissioning of a billet saw plant at their Tomago works, NSW. In addition to the actual billet saw, the order comprises a log entry and accumulation conveyor and an inspection roller table line with linear-type ultrasonic inspection station for detecting center cracks. The scope of supply includes a multi-layer billet stacker for short or long billets, steel-band strapping machine, weighing station and label applicator and an overhead crane for the handling of completed billet bundles. The fully automated plant is designed for a production of 140,000 tpy with billet diameters ranging from 152 to 350 mm. Commissioning is scheduled for June 2009.

(60 lines with max. 55 letters)