RINL Continues on Growth Path


- A. P. Choudhary

RINL, the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, recorded a growth of 5% in liquid steel and a growth of 13% in bar products. The Company recorded a cumulative growth of 9% in saleable steel production during the last 4 months period April'13 – July'13. The Power generation also increased by 4% during the month and with that RINL has been able to meet over 90% of its monthly requirement of power from captive sources. Sinter production from New Sinter Plant also commenced and the unit is likely to be stabilized within a month.

Sri AP Choudhary, CMD, RINL said that the plant is fully geared up to supply additional volume of long products to meet the market demand. Sri Choudhary said that market is set to rebound particularly for long products with the recent Government announcement towards bringing newer infrastructure products.

MARKETING PERFORMANCE: RINL sold about 2 lakh tonnes of steel with a growth of 19% during July'13 and a cumulative growth of 4% during April – July'13. Value added steel recorded a growth of 21% in July'13 with a cumulative growth of 10% during April–July'13. The Sales turnover is also higher in July'13 by 7%, however, the cumulative turnover is lower by 10% due to sluggish market.

RINL has started 7 new Marketing Contact Offices (MCO) in the country at Trichy, Raipur, Ranchi, Allahabad, Siliguri, Jammu and Panaji. With this the total number of RINL's outlets across the country becomes 30. Thirty dealers have been added during the year.

Siemens Puts Twin Ladle Furnace into Operation for Arcelormittal Bremen

In April, Siemens Metals Technologies put a 300-ton twin ladle furnace into operation for ArcelorMittal Bremen GmbH in Bremen. The plant replaces the two previous conditioning stands used for liquid steel treatment and substantially cuts the cost of steel treatment. ArcelorMittal Bremen GmbH is a flat steel manufacturer and produces high-quality steel goods, mainly for the automotive and construction industries, via the integrated blast furnace-converter route. It also produces higher-alloyed steel grades, such as line-pipe steel grades.

The twin ladle furnace was installed directly downstream of the LD converter in the Bremen steel works, positioned so as to ensure optimum logistic links to other parts of the plant and reduce crane movements to a minimum. For example, the existing RH vacuum treatment unit was connected

by a cross transfer ladle car and, in addition, an ingot casting plant for producing special products can be served via a transverse track.

In future, the ladle furnace will be used to treat a large proportion of the melts – some 3.5 million metric tons of crude steel per year. Its main task is to heat the melt, and it achieves a heating rate of 4 °C per minute over a 30-minute period. A Simelt AC electrode control system ensures perfect control of the electrodes. The tapping temperature at the LD converter can be lowered by about 30 °C, which reduces the consumption of refractory material in the converter. In this way, the ladle furnace increases the efficiency of the ladle metallurgy and reduces operating costs. The ladle furnace can also handle fine alloying work and injection processes, which previously took place in the conditioning stands. The equipment supplied for this purpose included two six-track wire feeding machines.