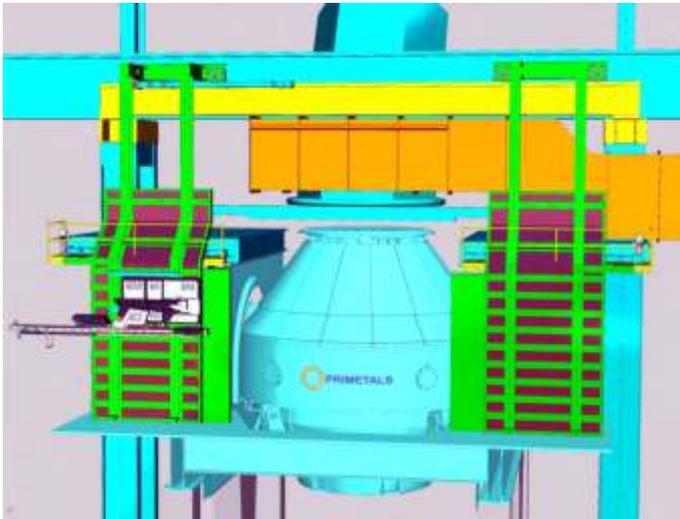




## Primetals Technologies replaces LD (BOF) Converter for ArcelorMittal Ruhrort in Germany



partnership with Buchinger Anlagen-Stahl-Rohrbau GmbH, a company based in Aurach am Hongar, Austria. Primetals Technologies will be responsible for engineering and supplying the new plant components, assembly engineering, supervision of the dismantling and assembly work and the cold test as well as commissioning and training of the

operating and maintenance personnel.

Buchinger will handle the disassembly of those old plant components for which there is no further use, and assembling the new plant components. ArcelorMittal Ruhrort GmbH is one of two sites operated by ArcelorMittal in Duisburg and produced around 1.2 million metric tons of crude steel in 2014.

In Ruhrort, the steel produced in the oxygen furnace plant is cast by two continuous casters. Some of the production output is shipped directly to ArcelorMittal's customers, but most of it is either processed in the billet mill or sent as input material to the wire mill at Hochfeld, the second Duisburg site. There the billets are processed to form high-quality wire rods with diameters ranging from 5.5 to 25 millimeters.

Primetals Technologies has won an order from ArcelorMittal Ruhrort GmbH to replace the LD (BOF) converter "K2". The new turnkey converter with a tapping weight of 150 metric tons will be suspended by a maintenance-free Vaicon Link 2.0. This flexible and rugged suspension system ensures smooth loadbearing and allows for heat-related deformations.

A newly developed device for horizontal measuring and sampling from the tilted converter will also be installed in Ruhrort. The new converter is scheduled to come into operation in October 2017.

Primetals Technologies will be supplying the converter vessel, trunnion ring, suspension, slag protection and dog house gates. The scope of supply also includes the measuring and sampling device, control desks and control stations, as well as technological control systems for a horizontal subblance.

The converter will be made of highly heat-resistant materials to limit heat-related deformation. The maintenance-free Vaicon Link 2.0 converter suspension is designed so that deformations do not impair the movement of the converter.

The automated probe manipulator for measuring temperature and CELOX as well as for taking samples from the tilted converter is a new development from Primetals Technologies and an attractive alternative to conventional technologies in terms of safety and measurement evaluation.

The project will be implemented by a consortium led by Primetals Technologies in

## Trade unions agree with amendment at US Steel Košice



Layoffs at US Steel Košice continues, but despite general discontent the company's trade unions organisation is satisfied with the fact that it has managed to agree on an amendment to the collective agreement with the management of the steel mill. Layoffs began in April and have led to US Steel cutting 28-29 jobs monthly.

The trade unions discussed at an extraordinary session on August 15, the dismissal of employees who due to changes in organisational structures in the post of vice-president for sales and marketing are to be made redundant as of September 1.

Redundancies are always difficult to deal with, and the union has adopted a critical

attitude towards them, said Košice trade unions head Mikuláš Hintoš. He said, "Therefore, we submitted certain proposals to the employer that would by means of an amendment to the collective agreement provide better financial conditions for employees whose contracts are terminated by agreement."

Moreover, he believes that the adopted amendment will also increase motivation among employees from the administration department and among technical and accounts staff to switch to manufacturing posts with higher salaries. All this should help to bring an end to the process of employment restructuring at the company, added Hintoš.