



Saarstahl AG rolls first bar on the single-strand wire rod mill supplied by SMS

Saarstahl AG, Germany, has successfully rolled the first bar on the single-strand wire rod mill supplied by SMS group at its Neunkirchen Works.

After the new loop cooling section had been commissioned on schedule at the beginning of 2016 as part of the first construction phase, the second phase of construction has now also been successfully completed so that dimensions from 14 to 27 millimeters in diameter can now be finish-rolled on a MEERdrive PLUS block.

On the second day, 16-millimeters-diameter wire rod was already being rolled with a tolerance of ± 0.05 millimeters. The first defined objective of the new wire rod outlet, namely closer tolerances for the wire rod dimensions, was thus achieved. This second construction phase represented



the most extensive modernization step.

The heart of the installation is a four-stand MEERdrive PLUS block with quick-change facility that rolls finished dimensions from 5.5 to 27 millimeters in diameter. Together with new movable cooling sections, a high-speed shear upline of the MEERdrive PLUS block and two

movable loop laying heads, Saarlstahl can now react faster and more flexibly to the demands of its customers.

The new loop cooling conveyor with 3-fan technology and the cooling and equalizing sections now allow the mechanical properties to be influenced online, with a resulting improvement in the quality of the finished material.

Revamping of the wire rod mill will be completed in the third construction phase with the repositioning of the existing ten-stand finishing block with upline shear during the course of 2017. All dimensions above 5.5 millimeters in diameter can then be finish-rolled on the MEERdrive PLUS block.

This section is a compilation from various company press releases, business dailies & trade publications.

Vietnam steel firms can achieve higher growth in 2017 : Report

Vietnam's listed steel companies can achieve higher growth in 2017 despite a volatile and unpredictable international market if they optimise operations and exploit missing links in the sector's supply chain, experts said.



Given recent international developments, global markets are likely to exhibit some signs of volatility and instability, Dang Tran Hai Dang, deputy head of market research at the Vietinbank Securities Company, said at a conference held in Ha Noi.

He said factors that investors and steel companies should pay attention to include uncertain US policies under the Trump administration, the slowdown of China's economy and the Britain's exit from the European Union. These factors indicate unclear prospects for the global economy this year, he said, citing a report of the International Monetary Fund that has forecast global economic growth this year at just 3.4 percent.

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