



Primetals Technologies receives FAC for two continuous slab casters

In April, Primetals Technologies received the Final Acceptance Certificates (FAC) for two two-strand continuous slab casters from Chinese steel producer, Shandong Iron & Steel Group Rizhao Co. Ltd. The casters were hot commissioned within two days in December 2017. Installation of the equipment and technology packages was based on the Primetals Technologies "Connect&Cast" principle. This ensured that all functions and systems of the plant—including mold level control with automatic casting start and the level 2 systems - were ready from the very first charge of the fully automated operation, and even during the run-up phase in the first week of operation over 40,000 metric tons of slabs were produced for commercial use. The casting plants were installed in a new production plant for high-quality steel in the Rizhao coastal region of Shandong Province. They are designed to produce 4.6 million metric tons of slabs per annum. A number of technology packages ensure high surface and interior quality, even under fluctuating production conditions, and facilitate a flexible casting operation.



The steel for the two continuous casting plants is produced in basic oxygen steel converters with a total capacity of five million metric tons per annum. The casting plants are equipped with LevCon mold level control, straight, cassette-type Smart Molds, DynaWidth for automatically adjusting the width of the slabs, and hydraulic DynaFlex mold oscillators. Smart Segments, I-Star Rollers and DynaJet spray nozzles are installed in the strand-guide system. DynaGap Soft Reduction ensures that the slabs have a high interior quality. The secondary cooling system uses Dynacs 3D with eleven spray cooling zones. The CC Control package handles the basic automation, and CC Optimization the process automation.

The two continuous casting plants have a machine radius of 9.5 meters and metallurgical length of around 32 meters. They produce slabs with a thickness of 230 millimeters in widths ranging from 1,000 to 1,950 millimeters. The casting speed ranges up to 1.7 meters per minute. The plants process a wide range of carbon steels, peritectic grades, structural steel, HSLA (high strength low alloy) steels, deep-drawn grades, and various alloys for pipes.

Primetals Technologies was responsible for the detailed engineering of the casting platform and strand-guide system, the basic engineering of the caster runout and discharge and the basic and detailed engineering for the maintenance area as well as for configuring the automation and the associated software. Primetals Technologies also supplied core components, hydraulic cylinders, drives, spray nozzles, and electrical and automation equipment. The scope of services also included supervision of installation and commissioning work as well as customer training. Connect & Cast is a registered trademark of Primetals Technologies in some countries.

Siemens and Alibaba Cloud partner to power industrial Internet of Things in China



According to Joint Press Release by Siemens and Alibaba Cloud, Siemens and Alibaba Cloud, the cloud computing arm of Alibaba Group, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 9th July 2018 to partner to foster the industrial Internet of Things (IoT) in China. The two companies will leverage each other's technology and industry resources to build a unique IoT solution to support Industrie 4.0, China's manufacturing upgrade and transformation and other

industrial Internet initiatives. Joe Kaeser, President and CEO of Siemens AG and Simon Hu, Senior Vice President of Alibaba Group and President of Alibaba Cloud signed the MoU in Berlin under the witness of German Chancellor Angela Merkel and Chinese Premier Li Keqiang during his official visit to Germany.

"We continue to build our global industrial digital network by partnering with Alibaba Cloud. This cooperation is a landmark deal for bringing Industrie 4.0-solutions to China as the world's powerhouse of manufacturing. Our customers will be able to unlock the potential of the Industrial Internet of Things with MindSphere now also on the leading Chinese cloud platform," said Joe Kaeser. "Today, we further strengthen our global leadership in automating and digitalizing the Industrial world."

"Today's landmark partnership marks an exciting step towards Alibaba Cloud's goal to enable digital transformation across the globe. We are delighted to partner with Siemens and together we hope to accelerate the adoption of IoT products and services that will create industry-wide breakthroughs and progress," said Simon Hu.

As part of Siemens comprehensive digital offerings, MindSphere is Siemens' cloud-based, open IoT operating system that delivers a wide range of device and enterprise connectivity options, robust applications, advanced analytics, and closed-loop innovation with complete digital twin solutions.

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