



HMT Hofer Metall Technik signs service agreement for extrusion presses with SMS group

HMT Höfer Metall Technik, based in Hettstedt, Germany, has signed a service contract with the Technical Service of SMS group for its 25-MN-HybrEx® and its 18-MN-GIA extrusion press. With this contract, HMT aims to increase productivity, assure quality and enhance production security and reliability. The concept for the comprehensive service package has been developed in close cooperation with HMT. The package specifically includes equipment checks, alignment checks, inspections for cracks as well as optimizations of the hydraulic and control systems.

During equipment checks, SMS group service specialists will examine the condition of the plants and discuss the results directly on site with HMT. The customer will be provided a detailed report laying out maintenance and repair recommendations and – should the examination reveal the need – a quote for spare parts or consultation about modernization measures.



The alignment checks will involve measurements of the geometric alignment of the extrusion presses. The correct alignment is the basis for a consistently high-quality extruded product.

By having crack inspections performed, HMT prevents unforeseen line stops and achieves higher security of production. The Technical Service specialists of SMS group know the most critical and most severely stressed areas of the plant components. This knowledge allows them to take a pinpoint approach to maintenance and service. In case of a

failure, recommendations for action can be immediately derived.

Optimizations of the hydraulic and control systems ensure that HMT will operate the presses at a consistently high level of productivity. Optimization measures will be aimed at reducing non-productive times and eliminating pressure shocks.

Christian Schwarz, Managing Director of HMT: “Our maintenance processes have a

strong focus on product quality, productivity and reliability of production. We constantly strive to sophisticate this approach. This is why we have devised a service concept together with SMS group that perfectly meets our individual needs. SMS group is the perfect partner for us as it has the necessary technological expertise to support us in planning and implementing our maintenance activities. We look forward to working with SMS group as a team in mastering this challenging task.

Guido Kerkhoff appointed as CEO of thyssenkrupp AG



The Supervisory Board of thyssenkrupp AG today unanimously appointed Guido Kerkhoff (50) as Chairman of the Executive Board of thyssenkrupp AG. Guido Kerkhoff will run the company until the Supervisory Board has completed the structured process of finding a successor for Dr. Heinrich Hiesinger.

Prof. Dr. Ulrich Lehner, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of thyssenkrupp AG:

“The members of the Supervisory Board agree that thyssenkrupp needs stability and continuity above all in order to successfully continue on the path of transformation it has embarked on. Guido Kerkhoff has the full confidence of the Supervisory Board for this.”

POSCO & TSE Technologies Spearhead New Steel Demands

POSCO's new engagement with Tata Steel Europe (TSE) paves the way in shaping a new global automotive steel market and beyond. On June 13, in IJmuiden, the Netherlands, POSCO signed a cross-licensing agreement to trade its PVD with Tata Steel Europe (TSE)'s MagiZinc® technology. **PVD (Physical Vapor Deposition):** Eco-friendly high-speed dry coating technology developed by POSCO that plates metal vapor on steel sheets in vacuum at high speed. It significantly reduces the output of carbon dioxide (CO₂), nitrogen oxides (Nox), and other chemical pollutants. **MagiZinc®:** TSE's high corrosion-resistant products produced by mixing iron and magnesium as coating material. It is widely used as automotive steel and building materials.