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## **PRESS RELEASE**

December 16, 2005, Düsseldorf

### **Successful commissioning of the beam and section mill at Laiwu Steel**

Laiwu Steel International (LSI), China, has successfully commissioned the heavy beam and section mill supplied by SMS Meer after just two years.

On this mill that is designed for an annual capacity of one million tonnes, LSI will produce beams with a maximum web height of 900 mm (1,000 mm) and maximum flange width of 400 mm. Only three types of continuous cast beam blanks are required as starting material for the whole product size range.

Even during cold commissioning, fully automatic roll changing on the tandem stand group was demonstrated in less than 20 minutes. Just two weeks after the hot commissioning, LSI was achieving a daily production of 3,000 tonnes.

The SMS Meer scope of supply included a heavy two-high stand, a compact reversing stand group – each consisting of a universal roughing and finishing stand – and a shiftable horizontal edging stand of CCS<sup>®</sup> design (Compact Cartridge Stand). In addition, SMS Meer supplied a roller straightener, hot and cold saw installations and the engineering for finishing and loading facilities.

The roller straightener supplied by SMS Meer is the world's largest roller straightener of CRS<sup>®</sup> design (Compact Roller Straightener). It is characterized by straightener shafts mounted in bearings on both sides, hydraulic adjustment of the straightening rollers and fully automatic straightening roller changing using a manipulator crane.

SMS Meer GmbH forms part of the Tube, Long Product and Forging Technology Business Area of the SMS group.

(28 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS GmbH is the holding for a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering relating to the processing of steel, non-ferrous metals and plastics. The group is divided into the Business Areas of Metallurgical Plant and Rolling Mill Technology, Tube, Long Product and Forging Technology and Plastics Technology. In the year 2004 some 9,500 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.20 bn.