

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, September 18, 2007

Order for SMS Meer

Three-roll piercer for Mannesmannrohr Sachsen in Zeithain

V&M Deutschland GmbH, Zeithain Works, Germany, has placed an order with SMS Meer, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the conversion of its push-bench plant into a CPE (Cross-roll Piercing and Elongating) plant with the installation of a three-roll piercer.

The Zeithain Works became part of the Salzgitter Group on July 2, 2007, as an independent company under the new name of Mannesmannrohr Sachsen GmbH.

The plant will be used to produce seamless tubes in the diameter range from 17.2 mm up to 114.3 mm with a planned capacity of 170,000 t per year. Steel grades such as ball bearing steels, free-cutting steels and high-alloy steels will be rolled on the plant.

This will be the first example of a three-roll cross-rolling mill being used as a piercer in conjunction with a push-bench. The conversion of the push-bench plant into a CPE plant will significantly reduce the production costs and the process-related material losses.

SMS Meer is to supply the necessary new mill equipment, including the electrical and media systems and the technology for the conversion of the plant. The SMS Meer scope of supplies and services also includes the performance of the erection and commissioning, including the training of the operating personnel.

Commissioning is scheduled for January 2008.

(23 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS group is, under the roof of the holding SMS GmbH, a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It essentially consists of the two Business Areas SMS Demag and SMS Meer, which jointly form SMS metallurgy. In 2006, some 9,000 employees worldwide generated a turnover of about EUR 2.8 bn.