

PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, June 19, 2008

Modernization order for SMS Meer from the USA

Nucor Steel - Darlington orders new intermediate and finishing trains

Nucor Steel – Darlington, part of the Nucor Bar Mill Group and a producer of steel bars has placed an order with SMS Meer, a company of the SMS group, Germany, for the supply and commissioning of a new intermediate and new finishing train to be installed at Mill No. 1 in Darlington, South Carolina, USA.

The target of this upgrade is to increase the availability of the mill by reducing changing, set-up and tuning times and optimizing spare part stocking. All these operations will be simplified thanks to the introduction of uniform stands in one size in the intermediate and the finishing train.

The new continuous intermediate and finishing mill will comprise four horizontal, one vertical and three convertible housingless stands and will replace the existing rolling mill.

The order placed with SMS Meer also includes the supply of all the gearboxes, spindles, supports and protection facilities. The scope of supply is completed with a flying shear, inter-stand equipment, quick-change devices and tools, hydraulic and lubrication units as well as an additional 12 change cassettes. All equipment will be pretested in the workshop at SMS Meer before delivery.

The automation package includes a PLC (Control Logix / Flex Logix) and the corresponding software for the new stand controllers. The new system will be linked to the existing system via an interface. SMS Meer will also be responsible for the supervision of erection and commissioning.

This further investment forms part of an extensive programm undertaken by the Nucor Group to bring all its facilities up to the state of the art in order to safeguard its competitiveness.

Delivery is scheduled for the winter of 2009/2010.

(31 lines with max. 55 letters)