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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009, Dusseldorf

### Order for SMS Meer

#### **Stahlwerk Thüringen orders new roughing stand**

Stahlwerk Thüringen GmbH, a company of the Spanish Grupo Alfonso Gallardo, has placed an order with SMS Meer, Mönchengladbach, a company of the SMS group, for a new roughing stand for its long product mill in Unterwellenborn.

The existing Break Down stand has been in operation since 1985 and is to be replaced with a more flexible stand due to the constantly growing demands on the breadth of the product range. It will enable in particular heavier and larger sections to be produced efficiently and with high profitability.

The new stand is designed for a rolling force of 10,000 kN and has a drive power of 4400 kW. Further technical features include the automatic roll gap opening in the event of an overload, the semi-automatic axial shifting of the top roll for pass adjustment and the significantly simplified roll changing.

The modernisation measure includes not only the new Break Down stand, but also the replacement of the whole drive train, work roller tables and side guard manipulators as well as the complete electrical and automation equipment. The plant is now in a position to meet the growing demands on productivity, flexibility and profitability of long product rolling mills.

Commissioning of the new plant is scheduled for December 2010.

(19 lines á max. 64 characters)

The SMS group is a group of companies under the SMS GmbH Holding that is internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering relating to the steel and nonferrous metals industry. The group is divided into the Business Areas SMS Demag and SMS Meer under the joint name of SMS metallurgy. In 2007, around 8,000 employees all over the world generated sales of approx. EUR 3 billion.