Rheinmetall Automotive wins major orders from international automaker

An internationally operating automobile group has awarded Rheinmetall Automotive large-scale orders for its CWA 400 electrically powered pump. The orders, placed with Pierburg Pump Technology GmbH, a subsidiary of the Düsseldorf-based Rheinmetall Group, represent volume totalling €215 million.

Just booked, the transaction involves on the one hand the extension of an existing contract, and on the other the launch of a new engine project. Production of the electric coolant pumps will take place in Hartha in the German state of Saxony. They will be used for the main coolant circuit of four-cylinder engines with two-litre cubic capacity in European and Chinese vehicle models. The pumps will be shipped to one of the customer's plants in Europe as well as to several of its factories in China.

The variable-flow electric coolant pumps enable on-demand control of the coolant flow. Depending on ambient temperature and engine load, this can result in fuel savings of up to four percent. Moreover, since they do not depend on the engine's mechanical driveline, these pumps are also perfect for hybrid and electric vehicles. A version of the pump is also available for 48-volt electrical systems.

Rheinmetall Automotive numbers among the world's big auto parts suppliers. The core competencies of the Rheinmetall Group's Automotive arm include reduction of pollution and fuel consumption; downsizing and friction minimization; and thermo-management and electro-mobility. Its product range encompasses exhaust gas recycling and secondary air systems, actuators, magnetic valves and pumps, pistons, engine blocks, structural components made of aluminium, and plain bearings. Furthermore, the company supplies electric drives for vehicles, aluminium housings for batteries and electric motors as well as electrically powered pumps. Today Rheinmetall Automotive products can be found in passenger cars, light and heavy commercial vehicles, all-terrain vehicles and large engines, e.g. for maritime applications according to the press release.

Quick and successful turnaround for an effective rolling process

Following the successful commissioning of the upgraded bar mill at its Basauri location, Spanish company SIDENOR ACEROS ESPECIALES, S.L. has issued the final acceptance certificate (FAC) to SMS group.

The upgrade was aimed at ensuring more effective rolling operations, increasing the initial pass section, raising rolling speeds, and improving the material properties. SMS group's scope of supply included all process facilities, the automation system, and the entire erection and commissioning.

As part of the upgrade the existing three-high roughing stand was replaced with a six-stand continuous roughing mill with compact stands (CS) in V-H arrangement. What's more, a new flying crop shear and two additional compact stands in an H-V arrangement were installed upstream of the current eleven-stand continuous finishing mill. A further flying shear, which was installed in the exit section of the bar mill, enables SIDENOR to cut not only larger crosssections in future, but also smaller sections at speeds of up to ten meters per second. Static, multi-strand entry and exit guides, and in some cases roller entry guides, are used to guide the rolling stock.

The scope of the upgrade also included the installation of a completely new walking beam furnace and related entry and exit equipment, which will allow for higher capacity levels in future thanks to its modular design. The exit side of the furnace is equipped with a high-pressure water descaling unit. The furnace is also equipped with the advanced SMSPrometheus® level 2 automation system, which is ideal for setting the heating parameters according to the wide range of steel grades to be rolled. The use of SMS ZeroFlame burners will also minimize pollutant emissions into the atmosphere in future.

This latest reference further underlines SMS group's upgrade expertise and its position as a leading supplier of rolling mills for quality steels in all size ranges. The order was completed on time within a very short delivery period.

This section is a compilation from various company press releases, business dailies, trade publications and Industry Websites.