



PRESS RELEASE

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May 3rd, 2006

TECHINT SUCCESSFULLY COMMISSIONED THE NEW PUSH-PULL PICKLING LINE FOR TOP QUALITY MARKET, AT DUFERCO (BELGIUM)

Techint successfully started-up the new push-pull pickling line at Duferco La Louvière in Belgium and obtained the Certificate of finished commissioning from the Customer. The new combined line can work both in semi-continuous and push-pull mode and it is based on the most modern technology for pickling baths. The annual capacity is 650.000 ton, treating high and low Carbon steel coils with thickness 1,2-8,0 and width 600-1650 mm. The process speed is 140 mpm. Duferco la Louvière already operates an existing 850.000 t/y pickling plant in operation in the same building, that is now under revamping of the electrical and automation part by Techint/Presind (the electrical "arm" of Techint for the Processing Lines Business Unit).

The focus on improving quality is one of the reasons for installing a modern plant, with all the features for environment and workers protection, considering the presence of pickling acids. The line also utilizes an acid regeneration plant (ARP).

After this start-up, Duferco will be able to develop steels with characteristics that were not possible before, dedicating this new line more to high-C steels. The push-pull mode will be operated for high thickness (3 to 8 mm), while the semi continuous mode will be used for processing the steels for the low-thickness market (down to 1,2 mm). The maximum tension strength is 900 N/mm².



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The process area is composed by four pickling tanks, based on the new design for shallow and turbulent type. Other relevant technological equipment are: a turret-type side trimmer, a scrap chopper and an innovative electrical and automation system, developed by Techint/Presind. The line, extensively equipped with controls and instruments, will be, on the other hand, simple to operate thanks to diagnostic-means of the last generation.

The aim to install a modern and cost-effective push-pull pickling line in an existing building able to produce top quality steel, increasing the share of pickled coils for the external market, has been completely achieved by Techint Technologies.

Techint Technologies design and supply a wide range of equipment and services for the metals, glass and raw materials industries. For more information visit our website at www.techint-technologies.com.