

**PRESS RELEASE**

Düsseldorf, December 21, 2011

The world's widest CSP<sup>®</sup> facility with second casting strand

**At Severstal, SMS Siemag successfully commissions a second production line comprising an electric steel plant, a second CSP<sup>®</sup>-casting strand and a push-pull pickling line**

For Severstal Columbus, U.S.A., SMS Siemag, Germany, supplied and successfully commissioned a second production line comprising an electric steel plant and a second CSP<sup>®</sup> caster. SMS Siemag also erected a new push-pull pickling line for downstream processing of the strips.

The commissioning of the second production line enables the company to supply the market with 2.7 million tpy of high-grade steel. The production embraces among others autobody sheet and high-strength steels for the automotive industry, API grades for the pipe and tube industry and deep-drawing steels for suitable areas of application.

On the CSP<sup>®</sup> plant, Severstal produces hot strip in widths from 900 to 1,880 mm and gages from 1.3 to 12.7 mm. Severstal thus operates the world's widest CSP<sup>®</sup> plant.

SMS Siemag supplied the complete X-Pact<sup>®</sup> electrical and automation package for the CSP<sup>®</sup> facility. The supply scope comprised the level-1 automation system including the technological control systems and level-2 automation with the process models and an HMI (Human Machine Interface) for operation of the plant.

For downstream processing of the strips, SMS Siemag built a new push-pull pickling line, which processed the first coil in mid-November 2011. The line is used for uncoiling, leveling, pickling, side trimming and recoiling the hot strip. A special feature of the 540,000-tpy line is that the turbulence pickling section is equipped with plastic tanks. Furthermore, SMS Siemag installed a hot-dip galvanizing line with a horizontal furnace at the same works. The annual capacity of the line is 544,000 t.

(31 lines with max. 65 letters)