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Primetals Technologies to supply more Eco Slide Disc side guides for voestalpine coilers

- **Eco Slide Discs have a service life of four weeks instead of two or three days**
- **Self-cleaning effect reduces the risk of deposits falling on the strip and damaging its surface**
- **Maintenance activities and time-consuming welding and grinding repair work eliminated**
- **Up to 75 percent cost saving on wearing parts**
- **Very short pay-back time**

voestalpine Stahl GmbH has awarded Primetals Technologies the order to supply further side guiding beams with wear discs for its hot strip mill in Linz. The Eco Slide Disc systems will be installed at the entry side guides of coilers 3 and 4. Eco Slide Discs have already been in continuous, successful operation at one guiding side of coiler 3 since August 2014. The order was placed in response to the positive operating results and cost savings potentials. Eco Slide Discs can be used continuously for four weeks, whereas conventional wear strips last only two or three days. The new side guides have an inherent self-cleaning effect. This reduces the risk of material deposits falling on the strip and damaging its surface.

The key components of the new strip guide system are the rotatable Eco Slide Discs mounted on a maintenance-free, rugged geared beam. These wear discs are installed vertically between the table rollers, and are automatically and synchronously rotated through a selectable angle after a variable number of strips have passed. The strip always cuts into conventional wear plates at the same point, whereas with Eco Slide Discs, the wear is distributed evenly around the entire surface of the circular ring. This does not only extend the service life of the wearing parts, but also the period of continuous operation of the entry side guides from the previous two or three days to four weeks. The periodic and gradual rotation of the discs means that only small amounts of rubbed off material from the guided strip edges adhere to the discs. Such deposits are rubbed off by the following strips. This self-cleaning effect of the Eco Slide Discs eliminates the manual cleaning of the wear strips required for certain strip qualities to prevent deposits from the strip edges falling off and damaging the surface of the strip.

Primetals Technologies, Limited
A joint venture of Siemens, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries and Partners
Communications and Marketing
Head: Heiko Huensch

Chiswick Park, Building 11, 566 Chiswick High Road
W4 5YS London
United Kingdom

As has been proved by the bar used since August 2014, it is sufficient to rotate the Eco Slide Discs or replace them by new wear discs after four weeks maintenance-free operation during a planned downtime for repairs. The welding and grinding repair work to be done on the expensive wear plates by nearly all mill operators is eliminated.



Side guides with Eco Slide Discs from Primetals Technologies at the entry side of the down coiler in the hot strip mill of voestalpine Stahl in Linz, Austria.

This press release and a press photo are available at

www.primetals.com/press/

Contact for journalists:

Dr. Rainer Schulze: rainer.schulze@primetals.com

Tel: +49 9131 7-44544

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with equity participation by Hitachi, Ltd. and the IHI Corporation - holds a 51% stake and Siemens a 49% stake in the joint venture. The company employs around 9,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at www.primetals.com.