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## Continuous caster modified by Primetals Technologies starts up at Gerdau Cartersville in the USA

- **Conversion permits casting of an additional beam blank format**
- **Additional casting format increases the plant utilization and productivity**

In January, a continuous casting machine modified by Primetals Technologies was started up at the Gerdau steel making facility in Cartersville, Georgia, USA. The aim of the project was to have the capability to produce an additional beam blank format, BB4. This allows Gerdau to roll larger finished products for applications in the building and construction industries. Primetals Technologies had received the order in late 2016.

The four-strand continuous caster was installed by Primetals Technologies in 1998/99 and is designed for annual production of 692,000 metric tons. The plant features a curved mold, a machine radius of eight meters and a metallurgical length of 23 meters. Low and medium carbon steels are cast. Up to now it has been possible to produce two billet formats, two bloom formats and one beam blank format. The modification of the caster by Primetals Technologies enables casting of an additional beam blank format with larger dimensions. Primetals Technologies was responsible for the basic and detail engineering as well as the production and supply of new molds, segments, dummy bar systems and the withdrawal unit. Moreover, a new secondary cooling system was installed that is adapted to the requirements of the additional beam blank format.

Gerdau is the leading maker of long products in the Americas and possesses an installed capacity of 25 million tons of steel per year. Gerdau's plants in the U.S. and Canada possess annual capacity of around 12.4 million tons of finished products, including bars, SBQ (special bar quality) and reinforcing bars, structural steel, flat steels and wire rod. Gerdau Cartersville primarily manufactures sectional steel products such as brackets, channels or wide flange beams.



Primetals Technologies modified a continuous caster at Gerdau Cartersville, Georgia in the USA. The project gives the capability to produce an additional beam blank format.

This press release and a press photo are available at [www.primetals.com/press/](http://www.primetals.com/press/)

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**Primetals Technologies, Limited** headquartered in London, United Kingdom is a worldwide leading engineering, plant-building and lifecycle services partner for the metals industry. The company offers a complete technology, product and service portfolio that includes integrated electrics, automation and environmental solutions. This covers every step of the iron and steel production chain, extending from the raw materials to the finished product – in addition to the latest rolling solutions for the nonferrous metals sector. Primetals Technologies is a joint venture of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) and Siemens. Mitsubishi-Hitachi Metals Machinery (MHMM) - an MHI consolidated group company 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 7,000 employees worldwide. Further information is available on the Internet at [www.primetals.com](http://www.primetals.com).

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