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Primetals Technologies' modernization of automation systems at roughing mill boosts production

- **Upgrade of automation system increases reliability and productivity**
- **New software stabilizes the rolling process**
- **Upgraded shears allow for higher production capacity**

German steel producer BGH Edelstahlwerke has recently signed the preliminary acceptance certificate (PAC) with Primetals Technologies for the modernization of an automation system at roughing mill No. 2 in its long-rolling plant located in Freital, Germany.

In 2021, Primetals Technologies upgraded the automation system for roughing mill No. 1, with the result exceeding BGH Edelstahlwerke's expectations, mainly thanks to the tailor-made nature of the solution, additional consulting services, and effective and timely project execution. Therefore, in late 2022, Primetals Technologies was awarded the new project, which introduces a similar automation concept to roughing mill No. 2.

Increased reliability

The modernization project was executed within a limited time frame, and the new automation solution has been in operation since July 2023. Well-thought-out, standardized, and adaptable technology as well as an experienced project team made it possible to meet the tight deadline.

Thanks to the upgrade, BGH Edelstahlwerke benefits from an automation system that is easier to operate and, at the same time, is more reliable. Obsolete hardware was replaced with a modern automation platform, the Totally Integrated Automation Portal (TIA Portal), and an ET200SP process interface. In addition, the Minimum Tension Control software stabilizes the rolling process, which results in a higher level of productivity. Upgraded automation for the shears is also a part of the project. Shear 0 and 1 were modernized with the Long Rolling (LR) shear solution from Primetals Technologies that is part of the TIA Portal. The new software ensures higher yield and therefore increased production capacity, as the shears cut away less material.

550 years of experience

BGH has a rich history spanning more than 550 years of steelmaking in Germany. Today, high-alloy steels are produced in Freital, with thicknesses ranging from 5 to 160 millimeters. Two rolling mills

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equipped with state-of-the-art control systems are rolling high-speed steel (HSS) and nickel-based alloys. The steel produced is used for many different applications, in sectors such as the automotive, energy, and medical industries.

Primetals Technologies and BGH Edelstahlwerke have partnered in several projects over the last few years, among them the modernization of an electric arc furnace and the supply and implementation of a 50-ton AOD converter.



Representatives of BGH Edelstahl and Primetals Technologies at the roughing mill in Freital, Germany.



Primetals Technologies has modernized the automation system at BGH Edelstahlwerke's roughing mill.

This **press release** and a **royalty-free picture** are available at www.primetals.com/press/

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