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EANS-Adhoc: ANDRITZ receives major orders from Usiminas in Brazil

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Graz, September 1, 2009. International technology Group ANDRITZ received orders from the Brazilian steel group Usinas Siderurgicas de Minas Gerais SA (Usiminas), one of the largest steel producers in South America based in Belo Horizonte, for the supply of a continuous pickling line with acid regeneration for hot rolled carbon steel for its plant in Cubatão as well as for a recoiling and inspection line for hot-dip galvanized steel strip for Unigal, a joint venture company between Usiminas (70%) and Nippon Steel (30%). The total order value is nearly 60 MEUR.

The continuous pickling line will have a capacity of 1.7 million tons per year and will process coils with strip thicknesses from 1.2 to 6.5 mm, at a maximum strip width of 1,800 mm. The acid regeneration plant, which will reprocess the hydrochloric acid used in the pickling process, is based on fluidized-bed-technology and designed to treat 12,000 liter per hour of waste acid. The state-of-the-art technologies supplied by ANDRITZ comply with the high-quality demands of Usiminas and fulfill national and international environmental standards. Start of production is scheduled after 24 months.

The recoiling and inspection line for Unigal's Ipatinga mill is designed for an annual capacity of 240,000 tons and will process coils with strip thicknesses from 0.39 to 3.2 mm, at a maximum strip width of 1,860 mm. At this plant, high-quality material for the automotive industry will be edge-trimmed, inspected and configured to the corresponding coil weight. Start of production is scheduled after 19 months.

- End -

The ANDRITZ GROUP The ANDRITZ GROUP is a global market leader for customized plants, process technologies, and services for the hydropower, pulp and paper, metals, and other industries (solid/liquid separation, feed and biofuel). The Group is headquartered in Graz, Austria and has a staff of approximately 13,400 employees worldwide. ANDRITZ operates over 150 production sites, service, and sales companies all around the world.

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