



PSImetals Newsletter



Production Management for Metals – 01/2008

Dear all,

Enjoy reading the latest news about *PSImetals* projects and orders.

PSImetals NEWS

BGH Edelstahl: 20% increase in performance of heat treatment operations

Tisco, China: New stainless-steel cold rolling mill successfully set into operation as the final stage

Peiner Träger: Integration of rolling pre-set functions in *PSImetals* successfully completed

Latest orders

ThyssenKrupp Steel: KPI Monitoring for realtime production

Salzgitter Flachstahl: Automation of continuous casting line 4

Benteler: Specification for new steel works control system in Lingen

Asia Aluminum: *PSImetals* for new aluminum rolling mill in China

Your feedback is welcome at all times. Please feel free to call me (+49 30 2801 1817) or send me an e-mail (a.poehl@psi-bt.de). Please have a look at our homepage www.PSImetals.com as well!

Yours sincerely

Annett Pöhl

Solution & Product Management

PSI Business Technology

for Industries GmbH



On top with PSImetals

BGH Edelstahl: 20% increase in performance of heat treatment operations

BGH Edelstahl in Siegen, Germany, produces a wide range of customized top-quality stainless-steel products and special alloys. Economically effective production of small lots and optimum use of the heat treatment operations as a process bottleneck with more than 30 furnaces is the key challenge facing production planning.

PSImetals APS/ALS is used for level-spanning material demand and time scheduling as well as detail planning of the equipment in the heat treatment, steelworks and forging operations. Based on furnace utilization optimization with a view to optimum space utilization and consideration of all restrictions of the heat treatment process as early as during the capacity and time scheduling phase using *PSImetals* APS, furnace utilization schedules are prepared which can be used as real production schedules to an extent of more than 90 percent. The schedules for feedstock material production in the steelworks and forging are derived from this and used on an operative level within the local planning decisions of *PSImetals* ALS.

Optimization of heat treatment operations as a bottleneck element enabled shorter cycle times and a 20-percent increase in performance. Timeliness was significantly improved, order processing was accelerated thanks to greater standardization on the finished-material and feedstock levels. Production planning based on contribution margins and the avoidance of non-economical production routes from the very beginning ensure production at optimum costs for each customer order.

Taiyuan Iron & Steel Co., China: New stainless-steel cold rolling mill successfully set into operation as the final stage

Following the successful introduction of *PSI metals* for the existing stainless-steel cold rolling mill and the new hot wide strip mill, the Chinese Taiyuan Iron and Steel Group (TISCO) now also launched *PSI metals* for the new stainless-steel cold rolling mill in January 2008. Whilst the capacity of the hot wide strip mill totals around 4 million tpy, the two cold rolling mills produce around 1.2 million tons of cold-rolled stainless-steel strip per year on 40 and 10 lines, respectively. *PSI metals* is the leading production management system and integrated via certified interfaces with SAP, plus a host of level-2 as well as lab information and weighing systems. *PSI metals* additionally comes with material inventory management and transport management functionalities for the slab and hot-strip yards. More than 300 users in the fields of production planning, production, quality assurance and material management are using *PSI metals*.

PSI metals was developed and introduced for the 3 plants in close co-operation with our PSI China subsidiary. PSI China will handle the future updating and service of the systems.

Peiner Träger: Integration of rolling pre-set functions in *PSI metals* successfully completed

Peiner Träger GmbH used rolling pre-set systems (WVS) for the company's two beam mills. The functions of these systems included rolling sequence scheduling, feedstock scheduling for the mills, as well as pallet and railway car loading scheduling for shipments to the customer. In order to enable consistent planning of the entire process from production right through to shipment, PSI BT was commissioned to integrate these functions into the *PSI metals* solution which existed at Peiner Träger GmbH.

By having *PSI metals* cover these functions, costs (handling, administration, updating) are to be cut and feedstock inventories for the two beam mills reduced on the one hand, whilst planning processes are automated and hence simplified and accelerated on the other. Uniform rolling sequence scheduling with *PSI metals* enables improved utilization of existing inventories (compilation of rolling lots from different raw-material lengths) and minimized offsize quantities.

The functions of *PSI metals* were extended whilst maintaining the existing interfaces with other systems, so that integration and maintenance costs are minimized. The solution went successfully in operation in 2008 and was accepted in March.

Latest orders

ThyssenKrupp Steel, Bochum: upgrading of the company reporting system in production by adding key performance indicator (KPI) monitoring. During ongoing production, *PSI metals* generates key performance indicators for all production-relevant data, such as production throughput or plant performance and utilization in realtime. The graphic presentation also shows trends and limit violations. Any detail information concerning plant times, shifts, material and stocks can be retrieved by drilldown. Proactive decisions based on the new realtime KPI monitoring functionality are to boost the efficiency of the Bochum-based works even further.

Benteler AG: Preparation of requirements specifications for a new steelworks management system at the Lingen location. The new system is to replace the existing level-2 process computer functions for the steelworks and finishing shop and integrate the heat and sequence scheduling, order management and feedback reporting systems into SAP. The requirements specifications identify potential for optimizing throughput and improving production processes from a quality assurance perspective, and additionally support the project budget establishment process.

Salzgitter Flachstahl GmbH: *PSI metals* as the automation system for the continuous casting line No. 4 to be built. The implementation is based on the *PSI metals* solutions already successfully in use for continuous casting lines Nos. 1, 2 and 3, plus upgrades which are necessary due to the given plant technology.

Asia Aluminum, China: Delivery of *PSI metals* APS/ALS for capacity and time scheduling as well as line sequencing and *PSI metals* PES for material tracking and order tracking as well as quality management for the casting house and the new rolling mill in the Asia Aluminum Industrial City in Zhaoqing, China. Asia Aluminum is Asia's largest aluminium processing company and will rank among the top three fabricators in the world.

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