



SMS group

Phone: +49 (0) 211 881-4449  
Fax: +49 (0) 211 881-774449  
E-Mail: [thilo.sagermann@sms-group.com](mailto:thilo.sagermann@sms-group.com)  
Thilo Sagermann

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **SMS Meer and SMS Concast to supply steelworks complex for the production of steel beams and sections to the Kingdom of Bahrain**

At the end of March, United Steel Company ("SULB") placed an order with SMS Meer, Germany, and SMS Concast, Switzerland, for the design and supply of a turnkey minimill plant for beams and sections in the Kingdom of Bahrain. The integrated complex in Hidd comprises a 120-t electric arc furnace, a ladle furnace, a bloom and beam-blank casting plant and a heavy section mill. The project to be carried out in conjunction with Samsung Engineering will be completed by 2012.

SMS Concast is to supply a state-of-the-art melt shop with an annual capacity of 850,000 t. It comprises a 120-t high-performance electric arc furnace for the charging of direct-reduced iron, a ladle furnace and a three-strand caster for various near-net-size bloom and beam blanks. The scope of supply also includes the material transport system and a high-performance dedusting system.

SMS Concast is the pioneer in continuous casting and has introduced the beam-blank casting technology to the market that will also be applied in this project.

The civil works and erection as well as integration facilities will be provided and coordinated by Samsung Engineering.

SMS Meer is to supply the most up-to-date heavy section mill including mill stands with hydraulic roll adjustment and a roller straightener with double-supported rollers with hydraulic adjustment. The mill has an initial capacity of 600,000 t per year and is designed for high flexibility in terms of product mix and sizes. The whole line is suited for quick program changing within 20 minutes.

SMS Meer is the world market leader in the construction and development of industrial plants for the processing of steel and NF metals. It holds a 40 percent share of the world market.

Together with Foulath's existing pelletizing plant in Hidd, which will be further extended, and the DRI plant ordered from Kobe/Midrex, SULB will operate a fully integrated steel complex from pelletizing through to the finished rolled products. This configuration will permit highly efficient production at low operational cost.

This investment will create 1,000 new jobs in the Kingdom of Bahrain. In total the project has an order volume of 1.2 billion Euros. Through its own production on this plant, SULB plans to meet around 15 percent of the demand for steel beams and sections in the whole Middle Eastern region that are currently imported.

To quote Dr. Joachim Schönbeck, President & CEO of SMS Meer: "We feel honored to have been selected by SULB and its shareholders, Foulath and Yamato Kogyo, for this important project. Together with our sister company, SMS Concast, we shall be delivering a genuine benchmark project for our customer. Together with the existing pelletizing plants, this will be one of the most efficient production sites in the whole Gulf States region."

Jacques F. Zuber, President & CEO of SMS Concast, added: "As the pioneer and leading supplier of continuous casting technology, SMS Concast is pleased to have the opportunity to provide its latest melting and casting technology for this outstanding project. We regard the award of the contract as a significant recognition of our competence in one of the key markets in our sector".

(53 lines with max. 55 letters)

SMS Meer and SMS Concast are companies of the SMS group, which is, under the roof of the holding SMS GmbH, a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It consists of the two Business Areas SMS Siemag and SMS Meer. In 2009, some 9,000 employees worldwide generated a turnover of more than EUR 3.8 bn.