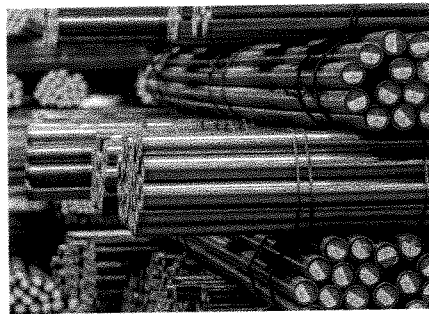


## Xingcheng modernizes its bar mill No. 1

The Chinese company Jiangyin Xingcheng Special Steel Works Co., Ltd. from Jiangyin, Jiangsu Province, China, has placed an order with the SMS group for the modernization of its SBQ mill bar mill No. 1. The bar mill that has an annual capacity of 1,000,000 t will thereby be expanded to include a 3-roll precision sizing mill (PSM) of type 450/4.

The high-performance bar mill with its capacity of more than 330 t/h will then be able to achieve closer rolling tolerances than is the case today. Thanks to the possibility of free-size rolling, all diameters in the range



from 40–130 mm can be very flexibly rolled from a small number of feed cross-sections. The hydraulic adjustment of the rolls that

permits roll gap control under load allows dimensional deviations due to temperature or material behaviour to be equalized. A complete workshop for roll changing and adjustment in the cassettes, including an optical setting gage, also forms part of the SMS group scope of supply.

Xingcheng Special Steel is considered one of the largest roller bearing steel producers in the world, but also produces a wide range of other quality steels. Around 6.9 million t of steel are produced at the sites in Jiangyin and Wuxi per year.

## Introducing **SecoVacuum Technologies** to North America

SecoWarwick announced the creation of SecoVacuum Technologies (SVT), a new company designed to provide standard and custom vacuum furnaces and related professional services to the North American market. With nearly 400 vacuum furnaces installed in North America alone, SecoWarwick is already a well-established vacuum furnace brand working tirelessly for commercial and captive heat treaters every day.

The new company will deliver the best quality, service and support to the American customers by:

- Expediting delivery of all components, controls, and support documentation
  - Providing U.S.-based local service teams, including installation and maintenance support
  - Including aggressive pricing and delivery programmes to meet project needs.
- Through the creation of a company dedicated to the unique requirements of North American customers, SecoVacuum Technologies (SVT) will improve delivery of the world's best technology and configure it for seamless compatibility to American standard components and controls.

SVT's Managing Director, Piotr Zawistowski, commented: "SecoVacuum

Technologies is positioned to deliver improved products and services to established customers and new companies as well, by adapting some of SecoWarwick's core products and capabilities for better compatibility with North American expectations. In addition to providing the world's best technology, our key to this strategy will be to compete aggressively on both price and delivery. For example, our Value Incentive Programme, or VIP for short, is a platform that offers several standard Vector furnace models configured for fast delivery to US customers."

Specific Vector models in the most popular sizes and quench pressures will be available through VIP programme.

## Tata Steel improves its carbon footprint

As part of its global footprint, Tata Steel operates various production facilities in IJmuiden, the Netherlands. During some production processes, intermittent high temperature exhausts are currently not utilized, but released to atmosphere. Tata Steel is constantly aiming to improve its carbon footprint within its focus on sustainability. In order to use its energy most environmentally friendly, one IJmuiden facility now intends to utilize its exhaust gas

energy from production to cover some of the own energy demand of the facility. This plan also includes the creation of an energy storage for internal batch production.

The EnergyNest technology can support Tata Steel achieving its carbon footprint reduction targets. Its novel Thermal Energy Storage (TES) allows to capture current waste heat and to make it accessible for later use, providing an economic benefit. This economic benefit relates mainly to

savings in natural gas consumption, and consequently to CO<sub>2</sub> emission reduction. The EnergyNest TES is easy to integrate and operate since it contains no moving parts – the complete solution for "energy-on-demand" will be developed together with Jord as plant engineering and EPC provider. Adopting this innovative technology, Tata Steel in IJmuiden will strengthen the facility's status as a technology frontrunner by increased utilization of resources.