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PRESS RELEASE

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Production planning in line with Industry 4.0

**Nucor Steel Gallatin places supplementary order with
SMS group for X-Pact[®] MES 4.0 production planning system**

Nucor Steel Gallatin in Ghent, Kentucky, U.S.A., has commissioned SMS group (www.sms-group.com) to supply an X-Pact[®] MES 4.0 production planning system (www.sms-group.com/x-pact-mes-4-0) for the pickling and galvanizing line it ordered recently.

Nucor Steel Gallatin chose the MES (Manufacturing Execution System) from SMS group as this production planning system features a state-of-the-art software architecture and modular, extendable structures that offer economic benefits to a modern, highly productive company at a time of growing digitization.

Nucor also chose SMS group as its supplier because the X-Pact[®] MES 4.0 can be seamlessly integrated in the X-Pact[®] automation solution it has already ordered for its strip processing line. The scope of integration ranges from basic automation (level 1), through process automation (level 2), right up to the production planning system (level 3). At the same time, X-Pact[®] MES 4.0 is an extremely important component in the successful transformation to a learning factory along the lines of Industry 4.0.

In addition to the basic system for recording and storing the production data, the scope of supply includes the connection to the automation systems, such as level 2 for example, and to the customer's ERP system, as well as the following modules: Technical Order Generation, used to generate the relevant production orders from the customer orders; the Plant Sequencing System, used to determine the optimal sequence for the strips to be produced; and the Business Intelligence Reporting system, which offers interactive, web-based reporting for obtaining information from the production data.

The equipment will undergo an integration test and also be commissioned together with the previously ordered X-Pact[®] automation system from SMS group.

Commissioning of the new system with its unique "Heat-to-Coat" technology supplied by SMS group is scheduled for 2019. The "Heat-to-Coat" technology is characterized by its compact, user-friendly U-shape design, its turbulence tank pickling line, high-performance induction heating system, FOEN[®] galvanizing equipment, and the Drever cooling system. With a high production rate of 180 tons per hour and a large strip section (up to 6.35 millimeters thick and up to 1,854 millimeters wide), the line is setting a global standard in hot strip galvanizing lines. The pickling and galvanizing line has an annual capacity of 500,000 tons.

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X-Pact[®] MES 4.0 is an important component in the transformation to a learning factory.



Production planning for Industry 4.0 with the X-Pact[®] MES 4.0 system from SMS group.

SMS group is a group of companies internationally active in plant construction and mechanical engineering for the steel and nonferrous metals industry. It has some 13,500 employees who generate worldwide sales of more than EUR 3 billion. The sole owner of the holding company SMS GmbH is the Familie Weiss Foundation.