

Press release – July 13, 2022

Electric Steel Cold Rolling Mills with Automatic Roll Change

China's Baowu Group, the world's largest steel producer, entrusted Fives, a global industrial engineering group, with the design and supply of two reversible cold rolling mills with automatic roll change for production of electric steel at Baoshan and Wuhan production sites.

Baowu has a diversified product portfolio, dominating China's steel market, especially in auto sheet and electrical steel. The production of electrical steel is a top priority for the domestic market for hybrid electric vehicles and ultra-high voltage power transmission.

The cold rolling mill is key to achieve the demanded electric steel properties. Fives will supply two DMS 20Hi EcoMill - a split housing mill for the Baoshan site and a monobloc mill for the Wuhan site - for grain-oriented (GO) with high permeability (HiB) and non-grain oriented (NGO) electric steel.

Thanks to its portfolio of different technologies, Fives is able to offer tailored cold rolling mill solutions to both Baoshan and Wuhan production sites according to their specific operation and maintenance practices. The split housing mill allows for a larger gap between upper and lower work rolls during maintenance and changeover, while the monobloc mill provides better mechanical stability and dimensional properties.

Automatic roll change technology

The project also includes a proprietary breakthrough RollBot™ technology for both mills. RollBot™ is a fully automatic roll change system that performs fast, precise and safe roll change with no manual intervention, ensuring optimal safety and product quality.

"We are greatly honoured by Baowu's choice which opens another page in our long-standing partnership of more than 30 years. This is a key moment of our strategic collaboration with Baowu, who will continue to lead the steel industry in terms of quality, productivity and new product developments," says **Guillaume Mehlman, President of Steel & Glass Division at Fives**.

"This project is a significant step in our collaboration, with perfect combination of Baowu's manufacturing experience and Fives' know-how in cold rolling mill engineering," highlights **Gabriel Poulet, CEO of Fives DMS**, a subsidiary of Fives, specialised in cold rolling mill design and supply. "RollBot™ technology, recently designed by our engineers, is able to automatically replace any type of rolls and avoid any safety risk. We are confident that our technologies will bring a great success to this important project," he adds.

Baowu and Fives long-standing cooperation

- 16 furnaces in operation
- 16 cold rolling mills for stainless and silicon steel
- Strip processing lines: jumbo HAPL, DRAP, BAL for stainless steel; DCL & FCL for electric steel; CGL and CAL for carbon steel
- Breakthrough technologies: transverse flux induction heater and ultra-rapid cooling system

About Fives

As an industrial engineering Group with a heritage of over 200 years, Fives designs and supplies machines, process equipment and production lines for the world's largest industrial players in various sectors such as steel, aerospace and special machining, aluminium, automotive and manufacturing industries, cement, energy, logistics and glass. In 2021, Fives achieved €1.7 billion of sales and employed close to 8,000 people in 25 countries.

In the steel industry, Fives offers process expertise, ground-breaking technologies and digital tools, supporting steel and tube manufacturers' ability to achieve the ultimate in performance excellence, including:

- Customer strategic development support
- Ultra-low NOx reheating furnaces
- Advanced cold rolling mills
- Complete strip processing lines for carbon (including AHSS and UHSS), stainless and silicon steel
- Unique transverse flux and longitudinal induction heating technologies
- High-quality ERW tube mills and finishing equipment
- A full range of services: process optimization, upgrades, modernization, training and maintenance assistance

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