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Ovako Hofors Puts Safety at the Forefront with the First Commissioned Spray-Cooled™ EAF Roof in the Nordic Region

Fall 2018, El Dorado, Arkansas – Swedish steel producer Ovako has successfully commissioned their Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) with the first Spray-Cooled™ roof in the Nordic region, located at their bar, billet, tube, and rings facility in Hofors, Sweden. Systems Spray-Cooled received the contract to modernize and increase safety of their meltshop in June, 2017. Originally scheduled for Christmas 2017, the commissioning was postponed to summer due to a very successful winter season for the steel manufacturer.

The roof was successfully commissioned and is performing well, with the previously mentioned safety advantages having already been proven during operation. Having been installed with an AMI-GE electrode regulation system, the more durable Spray-Cooled™ roof will allow for more energy input to the furnace, increasing steel production with less maintenance disruptions.

After first being exposed to Spray-Cooled technology at the European Electric Steelmaking

Conference in Italy through a joint effort between Systems Spray-Cooled and our European partner TripleS Solutions, Ovako weighed the new technology against their current pressurized tubular roofs. The main concerns were implementing the technology with their environment (piping); otherwise, Ovako has been highly enthusiastic about the technology and saw clear advantages both for maintenance and for safety. Because Spray-Cooled™ equipment operates at atmospheric pressure, the cooling water is not pumped across the area to be cooled. Therefore, the potential for high pressure, high volume water leaks is eliminated.

Under the contract, the new roof was engineered to integrate into their current furnace setup, as well as ‘future-proofed’ to integrate with planned furnace upgrades. To alleviate concerns about potential piping issues, the new piping was engineered using state of the art 3D laser scans of the current furnace and surrounding mill to aid in design and overcome outdated drawings. This is an unconventional cantilever-lift roof that was fabricated in Germany.

Ovako’s steel mill in Hofors has its roots in the mid-16th century and is today the company’s hub, with production in steel and billet rolling mills and in tube and ring mills.

For product information, go to <https://spraycooled.tsg.bz/applications/eaf-roofs/>. For general information, contact Systems Spray-Cooled at +1 (615) 366-7772; email info@tsg.bz web spraycooled.tsg.bz.