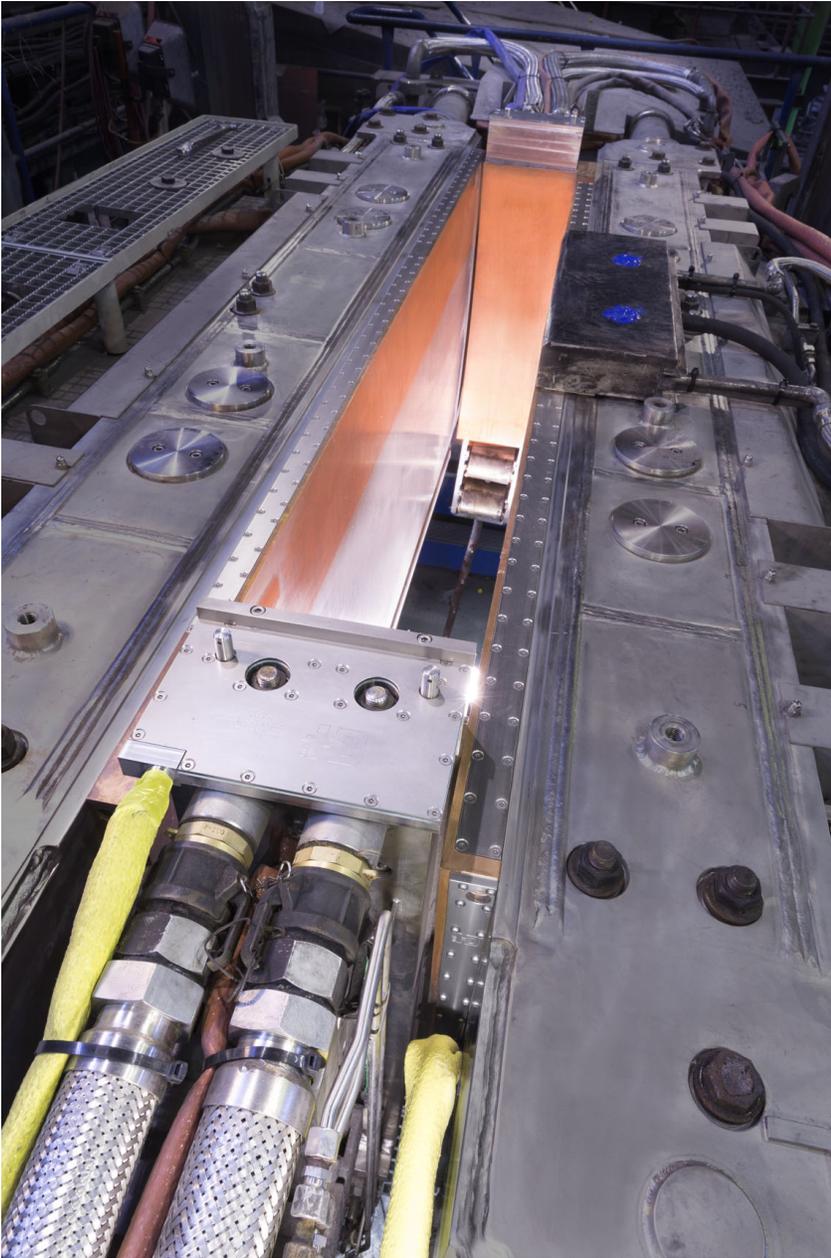


PRESS RELEASE

Düsseldorf, December 05, 2017

Cooperation between Japan Engineering Network, Co. (JEN) and SMS group K.K. bundles competences in repair service for continuous casting plants

SMS group strengthens its position as service provider
in Japan



HD mold^{FO} for thick-slab production.

Japan Engineering Network, Co.(JEN) and SMS group K.K., based in Tokyo, Japan, have signed a business partnership agreement on repair services for continuous casting molds.

This cooperation aims to strengthen SMS group's maintenance and repair service presence for continuous casting plants in Japan.

Having JEN, a highly customer-oriented specialist

company with high-grade workshop equipment and a strong local supply chain network, as a partner is a perfect complement to SMS group's competences in plant maintenance and repair services and in quality control.

JEN will perform after-sales activities in close cooperation with SMS group for the new condition monitoring system HD mold^{FO}. SMS group's service offer will also include mold coating with the UniGuardTM coating technology, which provides a mold lifetime almost twice as long as conventional coating.

Prof. Dr. Pino Tes?, Executive Vice President Technical Service & Member of the Executive Committee, SMS group, explains why SMS group has entered into this agreement: "The cooperation between JEN and SMS group is very important in order to be able to make SMS group's modern mold technologies available everywhere in the Japanese market. Our customers will benefit from our local presence and the fact that our services will be within very easy reach in the future."

HD mold^{FO} (FO: Fiber Optics): By using fiber optic technology, SMS group achieves a revolutionary improvement in signal acquisition. With more than 500 measuring points, the density is much higher than with a thermocouple system. The HD mold^{FO} features this extremely high measuring point density over the full height of the mold. The positions of the measurement points can be freely chosen so as to allow more precise monitoring of the processes in the mold.

<https://www.sms-group.com/press-media/video-gallery/video-detail/hd-mold-fibre-optics-technology-68/>

UniGuardTM coating: UniGuardTM coating has already been successfully in use in a various continuous casters around the world. As this coating provides much higher heat transfer efficiency and a lifetime almost twice as long as a conventional nickel/cobalt coating, these continuous casters benefit from this innovative coating in particular through improved product quality, higher productivity and a better cost

situation.

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.