

## Duferco, SMS technology for the new rolling mill

*Signed the supply contract for the new plant in Northern Italy for rolled products  
New natural gas and hydrogen walking beam furnace commissioned to Forni Industriali Bendotti*

S. Zeno Naviglio (Brescia, Italy), November 2020, 30 - SMS Group will realize the new beam rolling mill for Duferco steel division in San Zeno Naviglio (Brescia, Northern Italy). The supply contract for the new plant, which will crown a 25-year-old industrial dream, was signed today by Antonio Gozzi, president of Duferco Italia Holding and Franco Monteferrario; Thomas Massmann, executive vice president SMS GmbH and Marco Asquini, CEO of SMS Group.

The commitment is to realize it in less than two years and quickly ramp it up, taking advantage of the SMS team's deep technological know-how and the expertise in the production of steel rolled products of Duferco steel division's technical staff.

The new rolling beam, integrated with the steel plant, will endow Duferco, the sole national producer of steel beams, of a very efficient system at the heart of the European and Italian market. The mill will be realized with cutting edge technologies, focusing on digitization, artificial intelligence and automation both for production and logistics.

The total investment, facility and infrastructure included, will amount to 180 million Euro and, when fully operating, will create 150 job positions, not including those related to ancillary industries. The whole rolling mill capacity of the Group will reach 1.5 million tons of long products.

The goal is to maximize the customer service standard and the overall process efficiency and become the European best cost producer. The commitment is also to create a more sustainable factory, with the possible lowest environmental impact and the highest safety standard.

Indeed, the whole power supply of the new rolling mill will be covered by renewable energy thanks to the first green PPA signed by a steel company in Italy. This will allow to build the first steel plant fully powered by green energy.

The walking beam furnace will be supplied by the Italian company Forni Industriali Bendotti and will be equipped with innovative hydrogen fuel injected burners, further contributing to decarbonize the production process.

«The new beam rolling mill in San Zeno Naviglio will greatly increase our competitiveness. This will be the strong base for a long-term strategy that will combine environmental, social and economic sustainability through technological innovation, maximizing the market opportunities», said Augusto Gozzi, Duferco member of the board.

*In the photo attached the signing of the contract today in San Zeno Naviglio*

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### DUFERCO GROUP

Duferco Group is an international holding company historically operating mainly in the steel industry, that over the years developed highly differentiated activities in energy, industrial and shipping business. Headquartered in Luxembourg, the Group operates globally with more than 100 operative offices and industrial sites across the world.

# Duferco

## **DUFERDOFIN**

Duferdofin is an outstanding benchmark for production of beams and long products in Italy, Europe and North Africa. A smart combination of know-how, technologies and human resources has promoted a solid well-integrated system of companies, which are able to achieve the best synergies for rolled products, with competitive cost and low environmental impact. The Company, headquartered in San Zeno Naviglio, Brescia province, numbers 4 production sites in San Zeno Naviglio, Giammoro, Pallanzeno and San Giovanni Valdarno and checks over complete production chain: from liquid steel through finished products. The presence and relevant coverage of whole territory, together with direct access to sea and distribution network, can assure Duferdofin's customers a fast and valuable service on domestic and international market.

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