

Rodacciai rolling mill has been successfully modernized by AIC in Sirone (LC, Italy)

Automazioni Industriali Capitanio (AIC) successfully completed the rolling mill modernization at Rodacciai in Sirone (LC), Italy. AIC has covered the modernization of the control system by replacing the obsolete PLC Siemens S5, the VME controller and installing the S7-1500 PLC with a state of art rolling mill automation control system and developed the Level 1, Level 2 tracking and recipe software development.

The scope of the project included:

- Integration of the AIC Level 2 system into the automation;
- Automation of the control system of the heat change;
- Elimination of obsolete electronic components for the control of rolling mill regulation, such as loop and minimum tension control;
- Simplification of the troubleshooting;
- Integration of the drives into the network.

AIC upgraded the rolling mill for special steel that included the following elements:

- 26 stands with DC motors & drives, speed reference and feedback managed by Drive Nidec SPDM in profibus network;
- Two passes Kocks block;
- Five passes Kocks block with AC drive;
- Wire rod line, Garret line and the cooling bed control.

Representing more than 40 years of AIC's experience in the world of rolling mills for long products, the RACS system based on PLC Siemens S7-1500 was implemented to improve efficiency of the plant. HMI system, tracking and recipes management systems are based on Ignition platform Ver 7.9 with 2 PC clients + 2 operator panels for fast operations from the main desk. The installation of virtual machines on the existing server and integration of Level 2 screens to HMI were also part of the commissioning. New operator interface with new generation SCADA screens designed to detect anomalies and/or warnings more efficiently while keeping system parameters in the background.

As a result, the rolling mill modernization has led to:

- Improvements during the change of the heat thanks to the new tracking system;
- Improvements for maintenance and troubleshooting. All remote I/Os installed into the stands control panels have been dismantled, as well as the old VME controller;
- Improvement in the mill settings for stands acceleration due to the implementation of new adjustment functions.

The production has started at full capacity since day one without any hot tests or delay.



AIC Automazioni Industriali Capitanio sites:

- Italy (Headquarters, Engineering & Workshops)
- United States of America (Sales & Service)
- India (Sales, Engineering & Service)
- Brazil (Sales, Engineering & Service)

Founded in 1956, Rodacciai S.p.A. is specialized in the production of steel for all industrial uses. It allows Rodacciai to appear on the market with all types of finished products in different compositions and sizes, from stainless steels to free-cutting steels and those for welding and fasteners, all made according to different compositions suitable for satisfying different working requirements. Developing customer relationships, Rodacciai can activate the production cycle of the rolling mill with regards to current needs, which provides unique flexibility and responsiveness, accompanied by a constant focus on quality and the certification of products and processes.

AIC is a global system integrator providing advanced and tailored automation and robotic solutions for the steel industry, with the aim to continuously improve both efficiency, competitiveness and safety of the production processes. With more than 1000 applications worldwide and more than 40 years of history, AIC can boost a unique experience in both greenfield and revamping projects in meltshops and long products rolling mills.

This press release is available at

- <http://www.aicnet.it/rassegna-stampa/>

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