

Rolling mill upgrade at Acciaierie di Sicilia in Catania, Italy

Following the successful installation of six new roughing stands and the renovation of the automation system in 2019, Acciaierie di Sicilia (Alfa Acciai Group) chose ATS Mechatronics to supply and integrate two tying machines (TMB 400) and AIC to upgrade electrical and automation (E&A) system of cooling bed exit and bundle forming areas of the rolling mill in Catania, Italy. The project aims to increase performance and improve troubleshooting by replacing obsolete equipment and upgrading the automation system. The scope of supply includes:

- Design, manufacturing and commissioning of two automatic Tying Machines TMB 400 for round bundles with auxiliary mechanical equipment, hydraulic circuit and electrical systems (Fig.1)
- New control panels (Fig.2)
- New Rockwell Rack PLC and the upgrade of the logic system
- New main and local desks
- New motors and motor protection panels
- Upgrade of HMI control system and new SCADA screen
- New cameras for the existing TVCC System
- Engineering & electrical drawings
- Software development
- Installations, start up support and remote assistance

All Tying Machines of ATS Mechatronics were tested in its workshop prior to shipment to the site, reducing start up time and costs. According to the project schedule, AIC was also involved in installation supervision and commissioning phases. The project was commissioned during the summer 2020 shutdown



Fig.1 – Tying Machines (TMB 400)

AIC Automazioni Industriali Capitanio sites:

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



Fig.2 - Control panels

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 boast a unique experience in both greenfield and revamping projects in meltshops and long products rolling mills.

ACCIAIERIE DI SICILIA has formed as part of ALFA ACCIAI Group since its foundation in 1998 and it is the only steel mill in operation in Sicily. Located in the industrial park in Catania, the mill produces reinforcing steel for concrete in bars and coils, using EAF technology and ferrous scrap collected from all over Sicily. High-production capacity, state-of-the-art technology, and a wide range of products allow the company to set up an efficient supply chain with customers and suppliers, by providing job to hundreds of people. Due to its geographical position, the company is Alfa Acciai Group's benchmark for the Southern Italy market and for export to other Mediterranean countries.

For more information:

- AIC Group: <http://www.aicnet.it/rassegna-stampa/>
- ATS Mechatronics: <https://www.ats.ud.it>
- Official LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/automazioni-industriali-capitanio>
- Official Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AICnet.it>

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