

Press Release Doc #2022008-PR-EN Date 21/04/2022 Page 1/2

AIC engaged for stainless-steel bar mill revamping at Cogne Acciai Speciali – Phase I

Italian steelmaker Cogne Acciai Speciali has engaged Automazioni Industriali Capitanio (AIC) to revamp its bar rolling mill #TB in Aosta, Italy.

Pointing to the most technologically leading-edge applications on the market, the new configuration will be powered by Siemens SINAMICS S120 multidrives system and brand-new motors modules. The target of the intervention will entail the DC to AC conversion on eight existing rolling stands (3-6, 9-12), providing even lower lifecycle costs and greater power performance, ensuring efficiency for the entire system. The current automation will not be converted and will be integrated into the new layout with the collaboration of the industrial automation company Alping Italia.

Rounding out the package of an estimated 1.6 million value, AIC will provide a turn-key plant.

The customer's main problems in the plant were related to motors obsolescence and the TB reliability. Replacing the obsolete systems will guarantee the utmost accuracy, the quality in the maintenance processes as well as a predictive diagnostic control, getting closer to a 4.0 and data-driven industry. The new design will also mark a rethinking of the whole plant: the flexible configuration will even admit the forthcoming test on motley metallurgical products and will offer greater lean supply management with standardized motors drives along with the TB.

Indeed, AIC and Cogne have already aligned their efforts by safely upgrading the automation on the finishing area for both wire rod and Garrett lines in the same rolling mill at the beginning of 2021.

Proof of the contemporary and renewed trust in AIC capabilities came directly from Lorenzo Viotto (Rolling Line Director, Cogne Acciai Speciali) and Matteo Diani (Plant Maintenance Director, Cogne Acciai Speciali):



"For us, it represents the first and vital stage of our path to novice the entire rollina mill. Choosina AIC was compelled, above all, by the results of previous collaborations: a fruitful technical collaboration was immediately established which allowed, even in the difficulties encountered, to always find an optimal solution. An adaptation to production needs, in order to achieve the set goals, within the set times. AIC team showed their availability and competence throughout the project, both in the preparation and in the executive phase".

Figure 1

Engr. Roberto Migliorati (Commercial Director, AIC) and Engr. Matteo Diani (Plant Maintenance Director, Cogne Acciai Speciali).

This first step is a part of an investment package plan that demonstrates the customer's commitment to a forceful improvement in the rolling process. The commissioning stage has been scheduled for Summer 2022. Once again, we are elated to have been selected as a strategic partner and to field the best of us in bringing off a successful project.



Press Release Doc #2022008-PR-EN Date 21/04/2022 Page 2/2

AIC Capitanio Tailored Automation is a global system integrator that designs, manufactures and commissions turn-key plants worldwide, providing advanced and tailored automation and mechatronics solutions for the steel industry, with the aim to continuously improve both efficiencies, competitiveness and safety of the production processes. With more than 1500 applications worldwide and more than 45 years of history, AIC can boast a unique experience in both greenfield and revamping projects, especially in meltshops and long products rolling mills.

Cogne Acciai Speciali is one of the leading producers of stainless-steel long products. The company includes a steel shop, forging shop, rolling mill, finishing department and machines shop. The production area is equipped with: EAF UHP, AOD converter, RH degassing, continuous casting, blooming mill, integrated mill, CNC machine tools. This allows producing such products as ingots, blooms, billets, round and flat forged, seamless tubes and profiles, bars, wire rods, etc.

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