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PRESS RELEASE

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Effective environmental engineering from SMS group

Ternium Argentina awards SMS group FAC for successful upgrade of gas cleaning plants

Ternium Argentina, based in San Nicolas, Argentina, has awarded SMS group (www.sms-group.com) the final acceptance certificate for the upgraded BOF gas cleaning plants at its San Nicolas works.

As part of a planned increase in the production capacity of the three 190-ton converters, the gas cleaning plants, installed in the 1970s, were upgraded to the state of the art and now provide far more efficient cleaning results. Offgas emissions were reduced to below 25 mg/Nm³; the legal limit is 50 mg/Nm³.

Cesar Alejandro Parisi, Ternium Argentina, Head of Plant Development Department for Hot Rolling Mill and Steelplant:

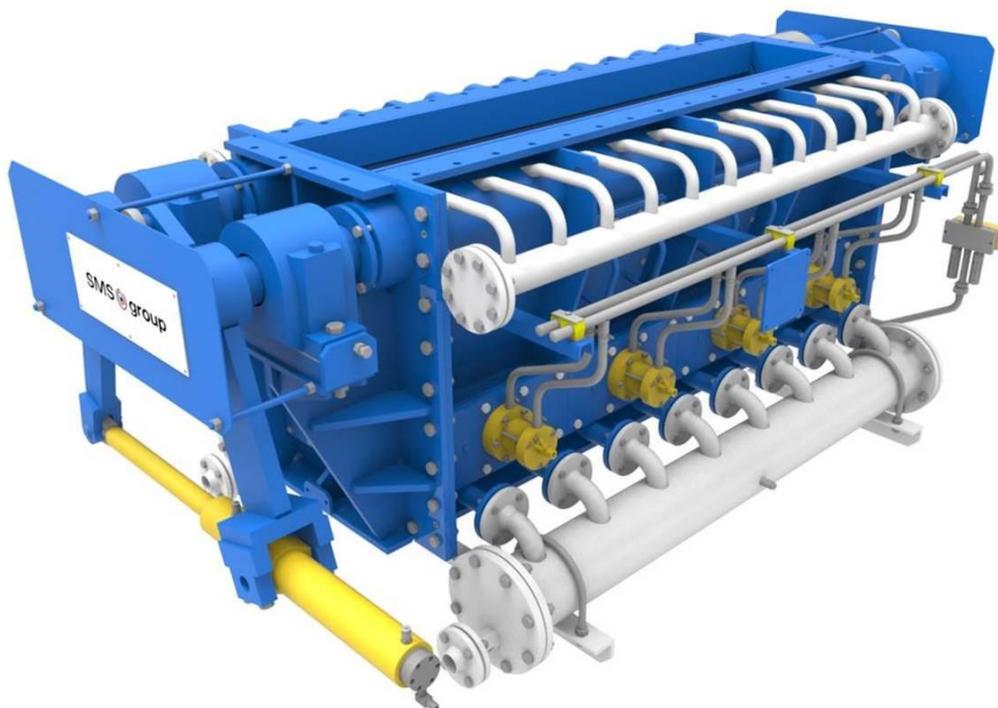
“This upgrade of our gas cleaning plants means we are ideally equipped to meet the environmental challenges of the future. The performance of SMS group’s environmental technology comes up to and even exceeds our expectations.”

For the revamp of the three scrubbers, SMS group supplied key components as well as two main induced-draft fans for gas cleaning. The venturi throat, developed by SMS group, features a new type of

nozzle geometry and arrangement, which ensures extraction of a larger quantity of dust particles.

The scope of supply also included the measuring technology for the venturi scrubber and the whole gas cleaning plant, including the cooling stack, as well as the supervision of the erection work and commissioning.

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The venturi throat from SMS group helps to reduce emissions significantly.

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 14,000 employees who generate worldwide sales of about EUR 3 billion. The sole owner of the holding company SMS GmbH is the Familie Weiss Foundation.