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Primetals Technologies Successfully Completes DC Drives Upgrade for Sterling Steel

- **Primetals Technologies upgraded 16 DC drives at Sterling Steel’s rolling mill, resolving critical obsolescence issues**
- **New drives integrate with Siemens PCS7 automation, improving system support and long-term maintainability**
- **Upgrade boosts system efficiency, reliability, and reduces operational expenditure (OPEX)**
- **Two additional drives installed to support future coil size expansion and ensure access to spare parts**

Primetals Technologies has recently successfully completed a significant modernization project for Sterling Steel Company, LLC, located in Sterling, Illinois, the US. The project involved upgrading 16 DC drives for the company’s rolling mill stands and was officially concluded with the receipt of the final acceptance certificate (FAC).

Improved System Efficiency

Key benefits of this upgrade include reliable technical support, future access to spare parts, and the integration of two additional drives to support future coil size expansion. Sterling Steel will also benefit from improved system efficiency and reliability, helping to reduce operational expenditure (OPEX).

“Primetals Technologies delivered exactly what we needed — a reliable, future-proof solution that integrates with our existing systems and supports our long-term goals,” said Jeremy Heller, Project Manager at Sterling Steel. “Their team’s deep understanding of our operations and rolling requirements made all the difference.”

A Long-Standing Relationship

The scope of supply included engineering, equipment delivery, and commissioning of the new DC drive systems. The upgrade was prompted by the obsolescence of Sterling Steel’s previous DC drives platform, which had become a risk factor due to the lack of spare parts and diminishing technical support. The project met all expectations and was completed on schedule.

Sterling Steel selected Primetals Technologies for this critical upgrade based on a long-standing relationship, a history of successful mechanical and electrical projects, and strong local support. The new solution not only resolves obsolescence issues but also integrates seamlessly with the existing Siemens PCS7 automation platform, enhancing maintainability and system support.



Primetals Technologies upgraded 16 DC drives for Sterling Steel's rolling mill stands.

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