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RHI AG supplies complete refractory systems for Siemens VAI projects in Asia and Russia

- Contract value: EUR 4.5 million
- Delivery of refractory products and system solutions for ladles, converters and taps

RHI AG, the world market leader in refractory products, will supply a wide range of refractory products and system solutions for two major Siemens VAI projects to India and Russia. The contract value totals EUR 4.5 million.

Steel Authority of India Limited has awarded Siemens VAI Metals Technologies with the construction of a new LD converter steel mill in Bhilai, India. The project includes the engineering and supply of three LD converters and will start operations in the second quarter of 2011 with an annual capacity of 4 million tonnes of crude steel.

In the course of this project, RHI will supply the entire refractory linings for the steel mill: a total of roughly 3000 tonnes of refractory bricks and mixes for 8 hot metal ladles, 4 converters and 29 steel ladles. The refractory products required for this purpose (magnesia carbon bricks, ladle purging plugs, converter purge plugs, etc.) are manufactured at RHI plants in Europe and China.

In addition, RHI will also implement a system solution for breaking out and exchanging converter tapholes for the first time in the Asian region. This comprises the delivery of two machines to break out tap holes using the counter-percussion technique and the related ISOJET Type C tap holes.

This system solution ensures a highly efficient replacement of tap holes, thus increasing availability of the converter and consequently higher productivity for the customer.

The second Siemens VAI project comprises the converter revamp at the Novolipetzk steel mill in Russia (NLMK). RHI will supply the machine to break out converter tap holes (TBD) and ISOJET also for this project.

“It was the unique know-how in products and system solutions that was decisive for the choice of RHI as the exclusive refractories supplier in these two projects. The performance-price-component ultimately fully convinced us and our customers,” says Johannes Spieß, head of converter steelmaking of Siemens VAI Metals Technologies.

“We are especially pleased with these two reference contracts as they underline our long-standing expertise in the converter segment and our innovations for converter tap hole solutions on the one hand, and on the other hand they once again prove the excellent cooperation between Siemens VAI and RHI”, comments Andreas Drescher, Head of Process Technology & Systems Solutions Steel at RHI AG.

About RHI

RHI is the world market and technology leader in high-grade ceramic refractory products and services. Its headquarters is based in Vienna, Austria. The Group employs 7,100 people worldwide at 32 production sites and roughly 50 sales offices. In the first three quarters of 2009, RHI generated revenues of EUR 1.0 billion (2008: EUR 1.5 billion). In Austria RHI employs 1,700 people at seven locations. The RHI share is listed as an ATX-share in the Prime Market of the Vienna Stock Exchange.

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