

Ladle furnace with inverted gantry for limited space conditions but highest productivity standards

Turn-key project for new ladle furnace at BSW as further investment step for capacity increase

In June 2011, BSE was entrusted to develop a concept to replace the single arm ladle furnace at BSW steel plant in Kehl by a new 100 tons ladle furnace taking into consideration BSW's special site conditions and highest productivity standards.

PROJECT TARGETS

The mutually developed solution shall contribute to achieve today's operational targets as well as safety and maintenance targets, yet providing flexibility for the initiated capacity increase:

- Minimised thermal stress to hydraulically moved parts and roller guides
- Increased safety (upper rim of ladle at floor level)
- Improved electrode slipping
- State-of-the-art electrode regulation

BSE SCOPE OF SUPPLY

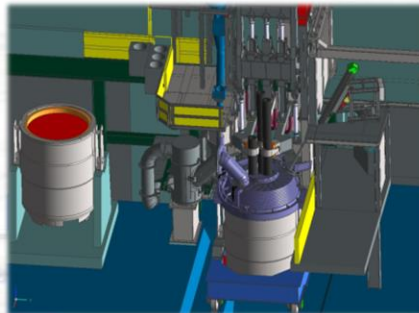
The project was executed "turn-key" including:

- Engineering
- Entire hardware supply
- Modification of automation system
- Installation and start-up

RESULTS / BENEFITS

In February 2012, after a project time of less than six months, the ladle furnace and all components were smoothly and successfully put into operation.

The project was accomplished in budget and in schedule. Also the operative results of the ladle furnace since start-up have fully come up to BSW's expectations.



New ladle furnace no. 2 at BSW – layout, after erection, at start-up

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BSW CAPACITY INCREASE

Since 2008, BSW has been following an investment strategy to step-by-step increase the plant capacity from initially 2.2 million metric tons per year in 2008 to 2.4 million tons per year in the medium term and up to 2.8 million tons per year in the long term.

Beside systematic recruiting, education and training of the staff, continuous optimisation of existing equipment and processes the following capital expenditures were or will be implemented:

- New plant gate, car workshop and dispatch building (2008)
- New CCM no. 2 with now 6 strands (2011)
- Extension to four scrap transfer cars and upgraded railway layout (2012)
- New LF no. 2 (2012)
- New wire rod mill
- Extension of dedusting system

In the framework of the investment program also measures for optimisation in the field of environmental protection have to be realised parallel to the technical upgrade measures.