

ABB selected to supply Outokumpu with Surface Imaging System for stainless steel plant

Helsinki, Finland, February 23, 2009 – ABB, the leading power and automation technology group, has been awarded the contract from Outokumpu, one of the leading stainless steel manufacturers in the world. The agreement includes ABB's Surface Imaging System to further improve the quality of manufacturing in Outokumpu's AP2 line at the Tornio Works in Finland.

In order to fulfill increasing customer demands and to further increase quality and quality inspection at the Tornio Works steel production, Outokumpu decided to order another SIS system for the AP2 line next to the existing ABB SIS systems installed in the hot rolling, AP4 and RAP5 lines.

After extensive trials, ABB's HDI800 Surface Imaging System was chosen. This brings to five the total number of ABB SIS units in operation at the Tornio plant. Outokumpu have seen immediate results. Petri Mure, Section Manager, Finishing Lines, at Outokumpu's Tornio Mill comments : "Our customers come to us because they want the highest quality stainless steel and it is our goal to supply our customers with this. ABB's Surface Imaging System has unique features that allow us to detect even the most minute defects that would otherwise be virtually impossible to visualise. In addition, the ABB SIS system allows us to identify where the problem lies so we can take immediate corrective measures - saving us a lot of time and valuable production capacity. It is easy to use and maintain. The system paid for itself in a very short space of time and we are pleased with it. "

The Surface Imaging System HDI800 is an advanced quality management tool for metal strip production lines. It provides 100 percent surface inspection of products at full production line speed. Utilizing the right combination of camera technology, lighting options and software application ABB provides a reliable tool for the quality control of the production

ABB has been delivering inspection systems since 1970.

Located in Northern Finland, the Tornio Works is the world's most integrated single-site operation. The main products produced at Tornio are hot rolled and cold rolled austenitic and ferritic steel coils and sheets. Quality is foremost at Outokumpu and the company supplies its customers with high quality steel products.

ABB (www.abb.com) is a leader in power and automation technologies that enable utility and industry customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impact. The ABB Group of companies operates in around 100 countries and employs about 120,000 people.

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