#### **Durgapur Steel Plant**

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SHRAM VIR

# TRAINING MODULE ON STEEL MELTING SHOP & QUALITY FOR MTT BATCH

BINOD KUMAR PADHI, SR MGR, RCL

# **Product Segment & Key Customers**



#### CONSTRUCTION



<u>TMT Bars</u> Fe500D,550D, 600, SAIL SeQR





#### TRANSPORTATION



<u>Wheel & Axles</u> LOCO, COACH & LHB





#### ENERGY



**INFRASTRUCTURE** 

<u>Light & Medium</u> <u>Structurals</u> Bridge, High rise



For re-rollers : TLT , Wire rods etc



## **Integrated Steel plant process**





#### **Composition of Hot Metal & Steel**





#### **Hot Metal**

- ✓ **Carbon: 4%-5.5%**
- ✓ Sulfur: 300 to 800 ppm
- Phosphorous: up to3000 ppm



Steel (DSP)

- ✓ Carbon: 0.07% to 0.67%
- ✓ Sulfur: 400ppm Max
- Phosphorous: 400ppm
   Max



## The Iron- Iron Carbide phase diagram



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# **Evolution of steel making process**





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# **Evolution of quality steel making** LEVELS OF RESIDUALS (ppm)

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Element	1900	2021
С	2100 (0.21%)	10
O tot	130	5
Η	-	0.8
S	690	5
Ν	35	15
Р	450	<30





#### **Cleanliness Requirements Reported for Steel Products**

Product	Maximum imp	Maximum inclusion size	
Line pipe	Total 0:30 ppm	N : 30 ppm	<b>100 μm</b>
Deep drawn sheet	Total 0 : 20 ppm	N : 30 ppm	<b>100 μm</b>
Heavy plate	Total 0 : 20 ppm	N : 30 ppm	Cluster 200 μm Single : 20 μm
Drawn & ironed can	<b>Total 0 : 20 ppm</b>	N : 30 ppm	<b>20 μm</b>
Wire	Total 0:30 ppm	N : 60 ppm	<b>20 μm</b>
Tire cord	Total 0 : 15 ppm	N : 40 ppm	15 μm
Bearing	Total 0 : 10 ppm		15 μm

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#### **Residuals in Special Steel**



Product	Maximum i	Inclusion volume, %	
	Sulphur, %	<b>Phos., %</b>	
Higher Grade Line pipe	0.0005 - 0.0050	0.004 -0.010 H < 1.5	< 0.15
Deep drawn sheet	0.001-0.005	< 0.015 N :15-25ppm T.O. :20-30ppm	<0.15
Higher Grade CRNO	0.005 - 0.010	< 0.015 N < 40 ppm T.O. :20-30ppm	< 0.2
Defense Grade	< 0.010	< 0.015 H <2ppm	Low Vacuum treated



## Share of steel plant by process

REAL MERS





## SMS shop process overview









## Schematic of BOF Converter







## **Stages of BOF process**







#### **Oxygen Blowing**

Tap Out & Transfer to Ladle Metallurgy Facility



# **GA of BOF converter charging**







## **BOF blowing process**





#### **5 hole supersonic lanced design**





### **BOF technical parameters**



- Fluxes
  - Lime From NLCP
  - CD from NDP
  - Iron Ore

- Oxygen From Oxygen Plant and BOO plant
- Pressure 14 bar
- Flow rate 370-400 nM3/min
- 5 Hole Lances, 1 running & 1 Standby, equipped with emergency Nitrogen lifting







## Concept of automatic steel making process

- Advanced slag control
- Bottom agitation
- Sub-lance
- Waste gas analyser
- Automatic slag detection and arrester
- Post combustion lance
- Slag-less lance



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# Sub Lance

Benefits:

- Online and quick measurement of C, T, O, sample, bath ht.
- Helps to target the tapping temperature without interrupting the steel making process.
- Avoids frequent tilts of BOF Vessel for sample and temperature.
- Reduces tap to tap time

TSC probe TSO probe

<sup>हर</sup> एक काम देश के नाम Temperature only probes



#### NLCP & NDP





- 300 TPD Annular shaft Lime Kilns 3
- 300 TPD Twin Shaft Dolomite Kiln 1
- Conveyor system for the same

#### **Reactions during BOF process**







#### **Blowing Pattern at DSP**







## Tap to Tap process at BOF



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#### **Steel Composition change during reaction**

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## **Slag Composition change during reaction**

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#### **BOF converter tapping**







#### **Dissolved Oxygen in Steel**





#### **Dissolved oxygen in Steel**



BOF end of blowing

- Oxygen 800 to 1200 ppm
- Process variable: Reblow/ Overblow

After tapping

- Oxygen ppm 50-100 ppm
- Quality & De-oxidising power of Ferro-Alloys

During Casting

- Less than 50 ppm for semi killed steel
- Less than 30 ppm for killed steel



# **Cleanliness requirement of various steel grades**



Steel Product	Max Allowed Impurity Fraction	Max Allowed Inclusion Size
IF steels	[C]- 10-30 ppm, [N]≤40 ppm, T.O.≤40 ppm	
Automotive and deep-drawing Sheets	[C]≤30 ppm, [N]≤30 ppm	100µm
HIC resistant steel sour gas tubes	[P]≤50 ppm, [S] ≤10 ppm	
Bearings	T.O.≤10 ppm	15 µm
Wires	[N]≤60 ppm, T.O.≤30 ppm	20 µm
Heavy plate steels	[H]≤2 ppm, [N]=30-40 ppm, T.O.≤20 ppm	13 µm
CRNO	[N]≤30 ppm	
Plates for welding	[H]≤1.5 ppm	





## **Mixing phenomena in steel ladles**



Stirring intensity is mainly controlled by gas flow rate



#### **Secondary refining of steel**

#### Stirring Intensity

- Efficiency of De-S also depends upon circulation rate of steel.
- Stirring helps in achieving nearly complete mass transfer between metal, slag.
- Intense stirring helps in increasing the kinetics of desulphurisation reaction
- High level of stirring energy can be achieved by higher argon flow rate and high bath temperature.





#### Ladle Furnaces 130T





Ladle Furnace(1 & 2)	(1 & 2) Furnace Transformer 25 MVA, 1		Danieli
	Crompton Greaves		
Ladle Furnace(3)	Furnace Transformer 25 MVA,	130 T	Eastern Metec
	ABB		
VAD Unit(1 No)	Furnace Transformer 15 MVA,	120 T	MESSO
	Stem Trento.		Metallurgie

## The Iron- Iron Carbide phase diagram



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#### **Continuous Casting plant layout**









#### **BLOOM CASTING MACHINE**





#### **Billet Caster**





Year of start up	1994	
Supplier	CONCAST ZURICH	
Туре	S 15-6	
Heat size (nominal)	120	t
Caster productivity	95	t/h
Number of strands	6	
Distance among stand axis	1100	
Dummy bar type	FLEXIBLE	

#### **Bloom Caster**





#### Sections: 160/210,160/230,200/200,150/300,150/350

Year of start up	2007	
Supplier	DANIELI	
Heat size (nominal)	120	t
Annual production	7,50,000	tpy
Number of Strands	4	

#### **Bloom cum Round Caster**





#### Sections : 240/350, 150/300, Round

Year of start up	2015	
Supplier	DANIELI Centro Met	
Heat size (nominal)	120	t
Annual production	7,50,000	tpy
Number of Strands	4	

# BILLET CASTER SPECIFICATIONS



• Make:

- Machine Type:
- Number of strands:
- Machine Radius:
- Machine Productivity:
- Casting Sections:
- Ladle capacity:
- Ladle Support:
- Tundish Capacity:
- Tundish Level Control:
- Tundish Support:
- Tundish stream Control:
- Mould Tube:
- Mould Lubrication:
- Mould Level Control:
- Straightening:
- Casting speed:
- Cutting:
- Dummy Bar:

Concast standard S 15-6 6 6 m 125-140T/hr Machine 1: 100x100 mm2, Machine 2: 125x125 mm2 130 T (max) [Avg.: 120 T] Ladle turret with lifting system 13 T Load Cell on Tundish Car Liftable Tundish Car (convertible type) plug Multitaper, curved 1000mm long, Oil Radioactive Modular Type (4 modules/strand) 3-3.5 m/min Mechanical Shear (360 T) Not Rigid

# BLOOM CASTER SPECIFICATIONS

Danieli



- Make:
- Machine Type:
- Number of strands:
- Machine Radius:
- Unbending radius:
- Machine Productivity:
- Metallurgical Length:
- Casting Sections:
- Ladle capacity:
- Ladle Support:
- Tundish Capacity:
- Tundish Level:
- Tundish Level Control:
- Tundish Support:
- Tundish stream Control:
- Steel Stream Protection:
- Mould Tube:
- Mould Lubrication:
- Mould Level Control:
- Electromagnetic Stirring:
- Oscillating unit:
- Straightening:
- Withdrawal speed:
- Cutting:
- Cutting Length:
- Dummy Bar:
- Cooling Bed:

3BLC904 4 9 m 16 m 125-140T/hr 25 m 160x210, 160x230, 150x350 (mm<sup>2</sup>) 130 T (max) [Avg.: 120 T] Ladle turret with lifting system 24 T (overflow at 26 T) 800 mm (overflow at 850 mm) Load Cell on Tundish Car Liftable Tundish Car (cantilever type) **Electromechanical Stopper Rod** Submerged Entry Nozzle (SEN) Multitaper, curved 1000mm long, **Casting Powder** Radioactive Positive for future Hydraulic Type Modular Type (4 modules/strand)  $0.6 - 6 \, \text{m/min}$ Oxy cutting torch with sample cutting system 3.4 – 10 m Rigid 28m long, 12m wide



#### **Defects in Continuous Casting**

- Cracks
  - Surface cracks
  - Internal cracks
- Segregation
  - Macro segregation (Centre)
  - Micro segregation (Inter-dendritic, Inter-columner)
- Inclusions & Entrapments
  - Indigenous & Exogenous inclusions(D Reoxidation products, Refractory)
  - Surface Entrapments & Sub-Surface Entrapments (slag, mould powder, refractory etc.)





#### **Quality Issues of Material Origin**

- Manifestation as
  - Surface imperfection visible with naked eye or special test
    - Crack, Lamination, Sliver
- NDT failure : internal imperfection
   Originating from
  - Poor cleanliness : exogenous entrapment or endogenous NMI
    - Related to refining and casting process
  - Surface, subsurface, internal cracks
- लएक काम Related to specific grade & casting process



#### **Measures in Ladle to control Entrapments**

Free opening & slide-gate opening with shroud
 Ar shrouding to prevent O & N pick-up

Ar	30 lpm	~ 10 ppm N
Ar	60 lpm	~ 5
Ar	100 lpm	Nil

 Deep immersion of shroud in tundish
 Detection system to prevent slag carryover Or Enough steel in ladle before change-over





#### **Measures in Tundish**

- Suitable Flow modifier (turbulence inhibitor, argon diffuser etc)
  - Improved flow facilitates NMI floatation

□ Inert lining with better insulation

Tundish stopper with porous plug and Ar

Prevents contamination with clogged Al<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>



#### **Measures in Mould**

**Control of mould level fluctuation** 

- Prevents slag / powder entrapment
- Avoiding sudden change in casting speed
  - Prevents slag / powder entrapment
- Argon shrouding to prevent nozzle clogging





### **TYPES OF INTERNAL DEFECTS**



- 1. Longitudinal corner cracks.
- 2. Longitudinal off corner cracks.
- 3. Halfway cracks.
- 4. Spider cracks.
- 5. Diagonal cracks



# **Defects in CC products: Rhombodity**





### CHARACTERISTICS

- Difference between length of two diagonals > 10 mm
- More pronounced in steel grades with C from 0.15 to 0.30%
- •May lead to breakout in extreme cases



1. LONGITUDINAL CORNER CRACKS ASSOCIATED WITH RHOMBODITY – BILLETS & BLOOMS ..



#### **REMEDIAL MEASURES**

- Correct alignment of liquid stream into mould.
- Check mould tube alignment.
- Replace mould.
- Identical nozzle parameters such as water flow, spray angle and height of all nozzles on each side of the billet.
- Check for clogged nozzles.
- Check nozzle performance.



## Various types of defects in steel billets

















## Shell formation in Continuous casting mould



- $\eta =$ Viscosity
- $V_m =$  Mould velocity
- V<sub>c</sub> = Casting Speed
- **dl** = Liquid slag layer
- $\eta_s$  = Coeff. of solid friction
- **H** = **Ferro-static force**

Powder slag film between strand and mould contribute:

• Liquid Friction : Dominates just below meniscus

 $f_1 = \eta x (V_m - V_c) / dI$ 

• Solid Friction: Acts in lower part of mould

 $\mathbf{f}_{s} = \eta_{s} \mathbf{x} \mathbf{H}$ 



## **Problems associated with weak shell**





Multiple punctures in solidified steel shell, the size of punctures in this strand is larger as comparted to strand-02



# Caster break out & metal splashing in cooling zones



Metal splash found in the mobile sector, just below the mould, in all 4 sides. रूप सेल मेरा आ सेल SAIL



## **Mould EMS in Continuous casting**









#### **Principle of liquid steel stirring** Rotative stirrer

- Rotative stirrer acts like the stator of an asynchronous AC motor and the liquid steel represents the rotor
- Three phase/two phase power supply creates a rotating magnetic field within its pole gap.
- Rotating magnetic field induces a torque in the liquid steel passing through the stirrer
- Liquid steel, under the influence of this force, acts as the rotor of an AC motor and rotates around the axis of the cast product







#### **Principle of liquid steel stirring** Linear Stirrer

- Stator creates a travelling magnetic field
- This magnetic field induces a force inside liquid steel pointing towards the travelling direction
- Stirred zone confined to the length of stirrer



Rotational stirring superior in terms of fluid dynamics & metallurgical improvement



**Steel quality improvement due to Mould EMS in Continuous casting** 

- Internal Quality improved by reduced segregation
- Larger equiaxed solidification structure
- Improved subsurface and internal cleanliness by a modified metal flow pattern
- •Parameters for casting widened (w.r.t. Temperature & Speed)



## VAD process for wheel steel

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## **Process of casting wheel steel**









## Wheel steel making process





**Rejected** wheel at UT stage





**Finished wheel** 

#4



#3





**Molten steel** casting #1

**Block cutting** Wheel forging & rolling #2



#### **Overview of Last Five Year Performance**



No. of Heats Per Day/Converter

#### **Steel Making Operating Parameters : 2019-20**

Parameters	BSP SMS-II	BSL SMS-II	DSP	RSP SMS-II	ISP	TATA Steel LD – 1	JSW SMS -2
BOF Lining Life (avg)	<u>9578</u>	3682.5	6104	6336	3066	5490#	4385#
Avg. BOF Tapping Temp (°C)	1650	1671	1671	1685	1684	1661	1662
Tap to Tap Time (min)	55	56	53	59	80	<u>40</u>	57
BOF Converter Yield (%)	86.30	88.40	91.02	89.64	<u>91.78</u>	-	-
Sp. Oxygen Consp. (Nm <sup>3</sup> /tcs)	62.86	56.02	54.10	50.30	53.42	<u>47.80</u>	50.52
Converter Utilization (%)	78.10	78.22	85.98	89.91	64.17	-	-

#### Rest figures are underlined

#### **# 100% Combined blowing**

# **Continuous Iron ore charging in BOF**





#### Modified design





## **Rolling of TMT bars from 125\*125 concast billets**



#### In-house modification- 25% increase in productivity of billet caster



**Billet caster** 

18T Tundish facility

QNC introduced

Modification in cooling circuits



Merchant Mill

Installation additional cooling pipe

Installation of additional stands

Modification of guides & roll passes



## **BOF converter shell changing project during Covid-19 times**





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## **BOF converter shell changing project during Covid-19 times**



SMS @ group



PROJECT : REPLACEMENT OF BOF CONVERTER SHELLS, PROVISION OF BOTTOM STIRRING AND NEW SECONDARY EMISSION CONTROL SYSTEM AT SAIL DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

CONTRATUAL SHUTDOWN PERIOD - 55 DAYS SHUT DOWN COMPLETED - 40 DAYS (FIRST HEAT) CUSTOMER - SAIL, DSP Durgapur CONSULTANT : CENTRE FOR ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY (CET) CONTRACT PARTNER - SMS GROUP GmbH & SMS INDIA PVT. LTD ERECTION PARTNER - Edifice Engineering, T.M. Electrical, RHI MAGNESITA



## **DSP & ASP collaboration**

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#### **Durgapur Steel Plant**

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