

HOTMAIL

Extensive investment in the special steel plant at Böhler Edelstahl GmbH

A further expansion of the special steel plant was agreed during a meeting of Böhler Edelstahl's supervisory board on 13.09.2005.

The investment, a total of around 22 million Euros, involves two new VAR furnaces and one new protective gas ESR facility.

The investment will enable us to implement our growth strategy for special materials (including nickel base alloys) for the aerospace and power generation industries, as well as fulfilling the increased demand for remelted tool steels and eliminating current capacity bottleneck situations.

The new furnaces will be installed in two new halls, built as an extension to the current VIM hall, covering a total of 6000m². This space is currently occupied by the old steelwork which will be demolished shortly.

A new idea in this investment is a completely new, generously-sized transport path concept in the halls which will mean a safer and significantly more flexible production flow. Environmental considerations have also been taken into account in the implementation of this project—a new, closed, high-tank cooling system means that cooling water must no longer be drawn from natural sources, so eliminating the danger of ecological damage.

The new facilities should be in use by the beginning of 2007. Following this important extension work, Böhler Edelstahl will have a total of 8 ESR and 6 Var furnaces.

Kapfenberg, September 2005